

The Birmingham Anglers Association Ltd. has been in existence (In one form or another) since June of 1883. In its current incarnation, it is a fishing club of individual members, who are the sole proprietors of the limited company, with each member owning an equal share of its assets. The company employs a board of directors to manage the running of the Association, made up of the President and five Vice Presidents, all of whom are nominated and elected into post by the membership. Board members receive only nominal expenses by way of remuneration. In addition, a full time General Secretary and one part time office assistant (membership secretary) are also employed. The company Head Office and administration centre is based in Hagley, near Stourbridge in Worcestershire.

In addition to the paid officers, the Association relies heavily on volunteer members who carry out work on behalf of the association, including Fisheries work parties, Bailiffing, promotion & events team, etc. and without those volunteers, the Association could not exist.

The other and possibly the most vital component of the Association's administration, is made up by the Executive Committee. This body is the "Engine" which drives the Association forward and has responsibility for setting the rules and general strategies, which govern the club. It is the sole right of the Executive to determine byelaws, set subscription rates, to decide on whether to issue day permits or night permits and to control which waters the association acquires or relinquishes. Members of the Executive also act as representatives on behalf of the Association at other institutions including Fisheries Consultatives, C R T (BW), and Angling Trust etc.

The role of the Executive is enshrined in our Constitution and allows for a committee of up to 36 members, drawn from the general membership and elected into post at the A.G.M. Members may also be "co-opted" on to the committee pending their formal nomination in due course. Currently, Executive Committee membership falls well short of the permitted strength and new blood is needed to keep the committee active and healthy.

In recent times, since we re-vamped our website and set up a "Members Forum", members have taken advantage of social media to voice their opinions, criticise, or to make constructive suggestions on how the Association is run. With over 8,000 members, it is next to impossible to satisfy everyone's individual requirements, however the Executive does its utmost to run the Association in the best interests of the corporate entity which is the BAA and which has withstood the test of time for the past 133 years.

From within our 8000 members, there must be those amongst us who care enough to want to put something back into the sport that we all love. One way of doing this is to consider volunteering your services to sit on our Executive Committee.

I make this appeal to all BAA members out there who care – put your heads above the parapet and help us run this long standing and proud organisation.

More information can be obtained by contacting our office at Hagley.

Ian Rees
President
October 2016