

Team Sydney Inc – Board Paper

This board paper is submitted by: Geoffrey Radford

For acceptance as an agenda item in the meeting to be held on: 14 September 2006

Date: 14 September, 2006

Title: Position with Federation of Gay Games (FGG)

Portfolios involved:

Proposed duration: 15 minutes

Estimated financial impact: US\$200

Proposed activity or matter for discussion:

Background

As advised to the Board by email August 29 I felt that there were a lot of unanswered questions with regard to Team Sydney's position with the FGG and also in the light of some rumours that are circulating with some general members and not knowing what might or might not come up at the AGM I thought it would be a good idea to have an informal meeting with Richard Hogan to clarify where things stood. Also we changed the wording on our website to take away any ambiguity that may have been there.

Meeting with Richard Hogan (current FGG Director and life member of Team Sydney)

This was very positive as both Dave and I were able to raise our concerns with Richard who offered to contact Rich Williams, FGG Governance Committee Co-Chair.

Matters raised

1. Clarification from Dave that Team Sydney had not resigned from FGG. Once we have answers to our questions we will consider our renewal at that time.
2. Richard requested FGG for permission to provide us with a copy of the Organisational Development Proposal which at the time of issue was covered by a Confidentiality Agreement as well as some other relevant background material. This was granted and we have that material. The report came under that agreement as the e vote had taken place and that they will become effective at the conclusion of the FGG AGM.

A One e-vote question was withdrawn on provisional membership programme and the other three motions were passed with 94%, 78% and 84% answers in agreement.

Q. Does Team Sydney have to be represented at the FGG AGM in November for renewal of our membership. Rich Williams responded:

"The effect of the board's affirmative vote on motion one was to replace the old director renewal process with the new one as outlined in the proposal of June 13 2006. The June 13 proposal did not mention any need for presence of delegates at the annual meeting, and as such organizations up for renewal may effectuate continued directorship without having delegates present in Lyon. However, we strongly urge you to send delegates to this meeting. Your input and participation would be of great value. For more information about registering for the annual meeting in Lyon, please go to <http://www.fgg2006.com/>. Please keep in mind that the current bylaw proposal includes a provision which would preclude any organization whose affiliation terminates during the four year period prior to a Gay Games site selection from voting on that site selection. If Team Sydney terminates its status as board member but rejoins as a Category I member before the 2009 Annual Meeting, your delegates might be precluded from voting for the host of Gay Games IX."

- 3 We requested and received a copy of the proposed FGG Bylaw changes. These have been passed by the Governance Committee and the Strategic Planning Committee. It is subject to changes and amendment up until the AGM when it will be voted on. They

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ATTACH IT TO AN EMAIL ADDRESSED TO ALL CURRENT TEAM SYDNEY DIRECTORS
AT LEAST ONE WEEK BEFORE THE NEXT MEETING.**

have been agreed by the solicitor and no amendments or proposals are under consideration which would negate or detract from the motions passed earlier this year.

4 Question of confidentiality agreements.

All voting delegate are asked to sign a CA for that particular confidential document that is under discussion.. These CA's do NOT include all matters coming out of FGG as we had been led to believe, only specific items been discussed. We have been provided with a copy of one of these CA's which of course our then delegates should have shown the Board what they were been asked to sign. Rich Williams responded:

"All delegates of director organizations must agree to the confidentiality agreements. The confidentiality requirement applies to all sensitive and proprietary information, some of which is explicitly noted as confidential, some of which is downloadable only after acknowledging the confidentiality, and some for which the delegate must exercise reasonable judgment. There exist volunteers who are not directors or delegates who have intranet accounts and who can participate in the Sports Committee discussion area, for example.

As long as Team Sydney does not have delegates bound by the confidentiality agreement, they will have limited access to information. For example, they will not automatically receive notices that go to the "fullboard" list serve, and they will not have access to the directors and delegates-only areas on the intranet.

The 2005 Organizational Development Proposal was marked "Confidential," but once approved became semi-public. The 2006 Organizational Development Proposal package including the bylaws was circulated to the board with the understanding that delegates would be careful how they handled it. Although it was quite reasonable for some to exercise judgment in not circulating the 2006 proposal further, even to their organizational boards, it was not explicitly prohibited. I am copying Dave and Geoffrey on both proposals via this email"

This basically comes down to the fact that if Team Sydney want to remain a Cat. 1 member ie a voting member then they have to appoint a delegate who they can trust to work in the interests of TS and not their own personal agenda. Until such time that we appoint a delegate we will only get limited access to material.

5. The revised Member Handbook yet to be ratified does not include a committee service requirement or a strict CA
6. Anyone can volunteer to serve on a FGG committee.
7. FGG code of conduct does not preclude Team Sydney or eg Frontrunners from being a member of GLISA.or any other organisation such as New Mardi Gras.

Summary

We have managed to clear up a lot of issues. It seems that that we have the following options.

- 1 Renew as a cat 1 member by the AGM in November (fee \$US200).
- 2 If we want full voting rights then we have to appoint a delegate/s. These delegate/s should be someone who will work in the best interests of TS and not their own personal agenda.
- 3 It is not necessary for TS to attend the AGM in November to renew.
- 4 If we go ahead then as RH suggests we should:

The key is to select individuals you trust to act as Team Sydney's voting delegates to the FGG. As I have said for many years now, there should be a set of rules and guidelines for the delegates which clearly outlines Team Sydney's board's expectations in regard to voting, reporting and other activities of the delegates. A document of this nature could be used for any delegate representing Team Sydney, including GLISA, New Mardi Gras and any other organization.