

Penya Blaugrana London

General Assembly 2013



Minutes

Date 1st December 2013
Time 4.30pm to 6.30pm
Location Bar&Co

Atendees; Meeting constituted by 23 members out of 132 at this moment in time.

1. **Introduction** - The order and rules of the Assembly Meeting and how to vote the proposals is shared with the attendees.
2. **Board Changes** – Votes for new members;
 - a. James Morris (Social Area Delegate) – 23 votes in favour
 - b. Geoff Williamson (Social Area Delegate) – 23 votes in favour
3. **Social Area** – Review of activities from the beginning of the season and also explanation on the future activities planned for the rest of the season. A video with all the great moments of the Penya this last year is shown. Overview of membership numbers; last year we focused on recruiting new members and this season we are trying to retain these members providing them with social activities outside our headquarters and trying to reimburse them with fun.
4. **Treasury** – Explanation and breakdown on the budget from last season and prediction for next season.
 - a. Budget approved – 23 votes in favour
5. **Board Proposals** – Please see below
6. **Member Proposals** - None
7. **Questions and Answers** – Members raised questions with regards to the Official Penyista member card that we have just received and they are waiting to know the benefits of this card when they are announced.

Rules of the General Assembly

All members 16 and above have the right to vote at the General Assembly, and you will need to show your membership card when registering at the Assembly (please contact a board member if you still don't have this year's membership card). Members that cannot attend are able to transfer their representation to another member, as long as this request is formalised in writing to the secretary, and signed. A member attending the General Assembly can only represent a maximum of one member. You can submit this request at the General Assembly or by email to admin@pblondon.org.

All members 16 or over have the right of one vote. Regular agreements are adopted by simple majority of members that vote (1/2 + 1 votes in favour). Changes to the statutes require 2/3 of votes in favour. Only votes in favour and votes against are taken into account. Neutral votes are counted but do not impact the voting.

Members are welcomed to add proposals to the Agenda. As per Article 12.3 of our statutes, the following must be observed:

- The proposal needs to be backed up by at least **12** members (10% of the current membership)
- This request must take place before **3 November** (first 1/3 period from the official announcement to General Assembly).
- After this date, this same number of members can still request to include one or more items, but these items will need to be approved by a majority of 75% or above.
- Member proposals need to be clearly worded in a way that a YES/NO vote should suffice to pass them.
- Member proposals need to be emailed to admin@pblondon.org, CCing all proposing members, and including their names and PBL membership numbers.

Penya Data Protection Procedures

The General Assembly 2012 raised concerns about the data protection procedures of the Penya, and the board was tasked in reviewing them and report back to the General Assembly.

The board can now guarantee the Penya is compliant with the UK Data Protection Act. In a nutshell, the penya guarantees the security of the personal details held from all its members, and will not share this information with third parties except with FC Barcelona. Full details of the Penya Data Protection procedures can be read here: www.pblondon.org/dataprotection-form.pdf

Members were asked last year to sign a paper to agree with the Penya Data Protection procedures.

Board Proposals

1. FC Barcelona penya census and Data Protection Procedures

Description

The penya census is an initiative of FC Barcelona to better understand the penyistic movement and how many penya members exist worldwide. Also, the census will assist to weed out “ghost penyas” (i.e. non active penyas with very few members whose only purpose is tickets for important matches). Penya Blaugrana London is required to register all penya members with the club. The club in exchange will issue an official penya membership card to the members, and has promised to offer other benefits and discounts.

All members are required to agree with the penya data protection procedures. This is necessary as the Penya needs to store some personal details of its members.

FC Barcelona has also confirmed that the number of tickets made available to penyas will be determined by the number of members registered by each penya. This means that only those members that have agreed to be registered with FC Barcelona will contribute towards the number of tickets that the penya will receive from FC Barcelona. Therefore it is reasonable that members that have agreed to register with FC Barcelona should have preference over tickets.

Proposal

Amend Article 6.5 (duties of association members)

6.5 Members have the duty to communicate any changes to their personal details (address, name, etc) so that the association has up to date information **in order to comply with UK Data Protection laws**

Add Article 6.7 (duties of association members)

6.7 Members need to agree in writing with Penya Blaugrana London Data Protection Procedures. Penya Blaugrana London is compliant with UK Data Protection laws.

Add Article 5B.1.e (ticketing rules, member eligibility)

5B.1.e) Have consented and provided all information necessary to be registered as an official penya member with FC Barcelona

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Agree | 23 |
| Disagree | 0 |
| Neutral | 0 |
| Result | Approved |

All members understand the changes and the importance of signing the Data Protection form and therefore this proposal.

2. Number of members required to add items to the General Assembly agenda

Description

Currently a member can request a proposal to be added to the General Assembly only if it has backing from 10% of the membership base. As member numbers increase, this means that it will be harder to present proposals to the General Assembly to be discussed and if applicable approved.

Proposal

Amend Article 12.3

12.3. A group of 5 members with right of vote representing at least 10% of the total membership can request to the governing body to include one or more items to the agenda. If the General Assembly has already been announced, this request must take place within the first 1/3 period from the official announcement and the date of the General Assembly. This same number of members can also request to include one or more items to the agenda at the General Assembly, but these items need to be approved by a majority of 3/4 or above.

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|---------------|-----------------|
| Agree | 19 |
| Disagree | 1 |
| Neutral | 3 |
| Result | Approved |

There were some discrepancies between members who thought that 5 members were not enough to propose something as someone regular could easily get the backup of other members during a match. The Board explained this is only in order to propose and then gets voted at the General Assembly.

3. Tickets always belong to the penya

Description

FC Barcelona has very strict guidelines how penya tickets are used. Should the ticket end up in the wrong hands, the penya will be made responsible of gross misconduct and potentially lose the official status. We therefore need to take a lot of care when distributing penya tickets and know at all times the whereabouts of each ticket. Also, now that the penya is more popular and more people find out that they can obtain tickets via the penya, we need to make sure we know the members that have been awarded the ticket.

Proposal

Add introductory note to Article 5B – Ticketing Rules

Penya tickets are the property of Penya Blaugrana London at all times. Members pay for the right to use the ticket under the rules in this article, and this does not imply ownership.

Add Article 5B.1.f (ticketing rules, member eligibility)

5B.1.f) **At least one board member must have been acquainted with the member**

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Agree | 21 |
| Disagree | 0 |
| Neutral | 2 |
| Result | Approved |

Some questions around the fact that someone could use the ticket in a wrong way and end up where it should not, need to be clarified. The Board explains that sometimes members are joining the Penya sending an email and paying the fee but we do not actually know them therefore we need to ensure the members are trustworthy and reliable but they understand the tickets belong to the penya and not to the individual.

4. Kinship with other penyes

Description

Across the penyísic movement, some penyes have a special mutual relationship based on a common understanding and attitude towards FCB and the penyísic movement. There is a trend in the penyísic movement to make this special relationship public and well known to other penyas. This special relationship is called "Kinship" ("Hermanamiento").

Benefits of a Kinship with another penya are many (but not limited to the list below):

1. A Kinship relationship with an influential and powerful penya will increase the visibility and reputation of our penya
2. We will have an allied and advisor that will help us resolve issues that might be relevant to the penya
3. When travelling to the kin penya, the host penya will offer same hospitality as if our members were their own

Proposal

Add Article 16.m (Duties of the Board)

16.m) The board has the authority to establish a Kinship relationship with another penya. This decision needs the agreement of 2/3 of the board, and will need to be ratified at the next General Assembly by simple majority. In a nutshell, a Kinship relationship is a special mutual relationship with another penya on the basis of common understanding and attitude towards FCB and the penyísic movement. Kinship relationships are made public and usually well known by other penyas.

| | |
|---------------|-----------------|
| Agree | 22 |
| Disagree | 0 |
| Neutral | 1 |
| Result | Approved |

One vote has been neutral as the member thought this would depend on the kind of kinships the Penya is 'signing'. The Board clarified that the kinship relationship would be used responsibly and without being abused.