Motion to change Section 4b of the Cambridgeshire Archery Association Constitution

Richard Whiter

on behalf of the committee of Cambridge University Bowmen

September 2014

We propose the following amendment to Section 4b of the Cambridgeshire Archery Association (CAA) constitution.

Current wording:

(b) Each affiliated Club shall pay a subscription, per senior and junior member, to the County, such fee to be agreed at the Annual General Meeting.

Revised wording:

(b) Each affiliated Club shall pay a subscription to the County. For each affiliated Club this subscription shall be per Club Member (senior) and Club Member (junior) affiliated with Archrey GB through that Club or in the case of a Club with en bloc members affiliated with Archery GB, the Club shall pay an en bloc subscription fee to the County. These subscription fees shall be agreed at the Annual General Meeting of the proceeding year.

We propose this amendment for each of the following reasons, each of which will be explained in turn with a special attention to Cambridge University Bowmen (CUB) - the only university club in the county.

- 1. The current CAA county fees are not in line with the other affiliation fees en bloc clubs pay for national and regional affiliation.
- 2. It would be fairer and administratively easier for en bloc clubs to pay en bloc county fees.
- 3. The current CAA fees are not in line with the subscription fees of university clubs to the majority of other county archery associations

1 The current CAA county fees are not in line with the other affiliation fees en bloc clubs pay for national and regional affiliation

Currently university clubs pay an en bloc fee for national (Archery GB) and regional (Southern Counties Archery Society [SCAS]) affiliation for all of its members of £130 and £12 respectively. Junior clubs pay en bloc fees of £65 and £6 for Archery GB and SCAS affiliation respectively and disabled clubs may affiliate all of its members to Archery GB and SCAS free of charge.

In the archery year 2013-14 CUB paid £178 for affiliation to CAA. This is 145% of its current Archery GB affiliation costs and 1483% of its SCAS affiliation costs. In comparison with clubs without en bloc membership, the CAA affiliation costs are 5% of Archery GB affiliation costs and 80% of SCAS affiliation costs for club senior members and 4% and 50% for club junior members. Figure 1 illustrates the discrepency in these affiliation costs. It is therefore shown that for CUB, the only university club affiliated with CAA, that the CAA county affiliation costs in both nature (en bloc or per head) and relative size are inconsistent with that of national and regional affiliation fees when compared with other clubs affiliated with CAA.

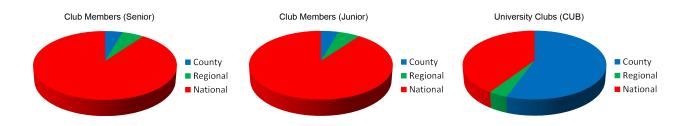


Figure 1: Pie charts showing the relative affiliation fees for national, regional and county archery bodies from Club Members (Senior), Club Members (Junior) and University Clubs that affiliate to CAA.

2 It would be fairer and administratively easier for university clubs to pay en bloc county fees

In university clubs the majority of the members interact with the club on an either short-term or extremely occasional basis and the club membership numbers neither reflect the amount of active archers in the club nor the amount of members with any discernible connection to CAA. Even among active university archers, in most cases the archers are only even present in the county during university terms which for the University of Cambridge is only 24 weeks a year.

In the archery year 2013-14 the average number of archers from CUB which attended British University and College Sport (BUCS) indoor and outdoor competitions and the Varsity match was 12 archers, in no cases was the number attending from the club the maximum set by the event. This number is a good indication of the amount of active archers in CUB. This is because these competitions determine the standing of CUB compared with other university clubs, with the results being the biggest indication of the success of the club's performance each year, which also influences the funding the club receives from The University of Cambridge. The performance of individuals from CUB at these competitions also determines the sporting awards and honours that may be awarded to individuals for their performance in archery by The University of Cambridge.

The number of archers from CUB attending the indoor and outdoor 2013-14 Cambridgeshire County Championships was 3 in both cases. The number for which the club paid county affiliation for was 89. The comparison of these numbers is depicted in Figure 2. It is therefore argued that the membership numbers

of university clubs does not represent a fair number by which to pay county affiliation fees at the same rate as other clubs in the county which are assumed to have a larger fraction of active members to affiliated members.

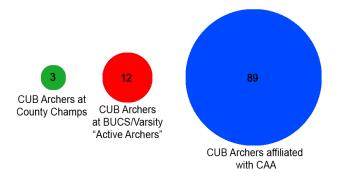


Figure 2: Diagram depicting the average number of archers from CUB which attended County Champs, attended BUCS/Varsity Events and were affiliated with CAA. The area of the circles corresponds to the number of archers in each case.

With regards to administration of the fees, for CUB term starts normally in the first week of October after which the club holds two have-a-go sessions in the following two weeks and the beginners course of the club starts the week following that. It is only practical to collect club membership fees for all members after the start of term. This means it is impossible for the vast majority of members to be affiliated before November, especially since the majority of members of the club are new members each year. This means that the club's county fees come late in comparison with other clubs, while the CAA Annual General Meeting (AGM) is held in October this also means the majority of the members of the club are not affiliated at this time and have no representation. This year the club has on a trial basis, before the start of term, affiliated a number of archers from the 2013-14 year which have given an intention of continuing before collecting membership fees. With an en bloc county fee then university clubs could make an en bloc payment for the start of each archery year removing some of these problems.

The fact that university clubs pay en bloc fees to national and regional bodies as detailed in Point 1 and in the majority of other counties university clubs pay en bloc county fees as detailed in Point 3 is believed to show that the wider archery community supports that it is fairer and more sensible for university clubs to pay en bloc fees.

3 The current CAA fees are not in line with the subscription fees of university clubs to the majority of other county archery associations

From those we were able to find, Figure 3 shows the en bloc subscription fees other county archery associations offer for university clubs, with the amount CUB paid for 2013-14 also shown for comparison. The average fee paid for university clubs in the counties listed in Figure 3 is £38. We furthermore draw attention to the fact that some of the counties with the largest numbers of active university club archers are paying some of the smallest fees. Nottinghamshire, Hampshire and Oxfordshire with en bloc county fees of £25, £30 and £20, had at BUCS Outdoors 2014 an estimated 11.5%, 8.1% and 5.4% of the total number of university archers taking part respectively. In comparison Cambridgeshire had 1.9% of the archers taking part.

Based on this comparison, showing that en bloc fees are in place for the vast majority of county archery associations which have a large number of university student archers, as well as that the subscription fees for university clubs of the majority of other county archery associations are much lower than what CUB pay to CAA, we are therefore unable to understand the justification for the CAA subscription fees of university clubs.

		University
County Archery Association	Abbreivation	Club Fee (£)
Oxfordshire	COAS	20
Warwickshire	CWAA	100
Durham & Northumberland	DNAA	10
Hampshire	HAA	30
Leicester and Rutland	LRCAA	49
Northamptonshire	NCAS	25
Nottinghamshire	Notts	25
Yorkshire	YAA	50
Cambridgeshire	CAA	178

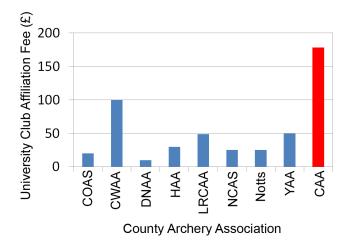


Figure 3: Table (left) and bar chart (right) showing the affiliation fees of university clubs to various county archery associations. In the chart the bar for CAA is shown in red.

Concluding Remarks We have shown that the current CAA fees for university clubs are not in line with national, regional or other county archery bodies; neither in being per head instead of en bloc nor for the overall value currently paid. CUB wishes to remain affiliated with CAA and has been proud to have archers from the club winning medals at CAA County Championships and having archers selected to compete for the CAA team this summer. Despite this, with the current fees it is difficult to objectively justify CUB continuing to affiliate with CAA when, despite the geographical location, CUB could choose to affiliate with a different county archery body. For example neighbouring Northamptonshire has fees that would be just 14% of what was paid last year by CUB to CAA (over £150 cheaper). We therefore hope members of CAA will address this issue at the AGM and introduce an en bloc fee that is in line with other archery bodies.