



**Bio & Policy Statement from
A Nominee for Associate Member Governor
Board of Governors 2017-2018**

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MANIFESTO

My name is Kevin Egan. I am a barrister by profession. I have been a member of the FCC since 1980 and I have served on the Board of Governors (BOG), with some breaks, for over 20 years.

Some of those opposing me will say that that is too long. They will argue “give someone else a chance”. Sorry but that is nonsense! This is not a school playground where teachers supervise and ensure equal time on the swings and roundabouts for all the kids. The FCC is a company. All BOG members are directors of that company. By both statute and common law we directors owe fiduciary duties to both the company and YOU – its members.

I bring to the Board, as its longest serving member, the experience and wisdom of previous Boards. I know the history, conventions and previous decisions of those Boards that are useful guides for our deliberations. As a lawyer I know how to interpret our Articles of Association, our Bylaws and the statute law that we need to obey.

As our immediate past President (Tara Joseph) said upon her retirement – “Kevin, we need a lawyer on the Board, are you going to run again?”

In last year’s manifesto, those of you that read it will recall how I highlighted the fact that we, as Associate members, are not treated as the equals of Correspondents and Journalists. We join a 3 year long queue to get into the Club – they “jump” the queue. We pay \$25,000 to join and the full \$1100 monthly dues immediately upon joining – Correspondents pay \$2000 to join, Journalists pay \$1000 and both pay monthly dues of \$250 in their 1st year, \$500 in their 2nd, \$750 in their 3rd year and only begin to pay the full monthly dues in their 4th year. And so it goes on.

We Associates, on the other hand, put most of the money through the bars and restaurants that keeps this Club going. Without our financial support the FCC would not be able to accommodate itself in our present splendid premises or support the 100+ staff that we currently employ.

I mention these matters to highlight the need for Associate Governors to stand up for and jealously guard the rights of Associate Members. Just ask anyone who has served on the BOG - no-one speaks up for the Associate Members as loudly as I do!

One final matter – SPORTS BROADCASTING!

For the past 20 years a sensible system of Sports Broadcasting has operated in this Club and indeed in the recent Main Bar renovations all 4 broadcasting monitors were upgraded to produce better quality sound and pictures.

We have also been mindful of the fact that not everyone wants to watch sport. To this end the 4 monitors have been programmed as follows – NW corner – BBC; NE corner – Instant News (in Chinese); SE corner – CNN; SW corner – sports. We also have the Main screen that can be lowered on the Western Wall for major events (Not limited to Sport!)

There is growing concern among the dedicated sports lovers in my “constituency” that an “unseen hand” (the Sports Scheduling Committee) is exercising increasing control over the content of the Sporting Schedule and/or their capacity to enjoy the sport shown. Watching the Masters golf on the small screen without sound or the Shanghai Grand Prix with the same restrictions is a little bit like taking a shower wearing a raincoat and gumboots is the complaint! The main EPL games were also missing from last weekend’s schedule. These restrictions did not exist before so why are they necessary now?

Can I therefore challenge those running for the Board this year to state where they stand on this issue. If it is your intention to interfere with or curtail the current system of Sports Broadcasting that has operated for 20 years then put that in your manifesto and run on that platform and let the members be the judges of your electoral fate. If you don’t – and are re-elected – then you will have no such mandate to interfere!

Thank You,
Kevin Egan
(LA 3110)