

## BRIDGE OF DON ASC AGM

### MINUTES OF MEETING ON 18<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 2014

#### 1. Presidents remarks

Thank you all for attending the clubs AGM tonight here in the Balgownie Community Centre.

2013 into 14 has been a very busy year for the coaching team and committee. Meetings galore for one reason or another and we are all working hard to ensure that our club is in the best position to grow and develop.

We saw a restructure of the squads after Summer break which was necessary to prepare for when the swim school merged with Sport Aberdeen this happened in October last year. We secured the best possible outcome we could for the club with joint delivery lessons at the stage before swimmers join us in the development squads.

Club membership numbers have remained steady and we have set targets as to how many swimmers we need to continue feeding in from the SA lessons to sustain the current levels.

The main cost to the club is pool hire, it was necessary to increase the hourly rate in summer across all club members to £1.70 per hour in the water. We had been able over the previous few years not to increase fees due to the swim school income cushioning the cost.

Lots of work goes on in the background of our club. There are fun things to arrange like our Christmas theatre trip and the photographer, there are galas to arrange in April, September and December. In addition to these events, there are many day to day duties carried out by the committee, I would like to thank everyone for their hard work during my term as president, our club does not run on its own. I'd also like to thank parents not on the committee that have offered their skills to assist us, every little helps.

The coaching team are about to take part in a training week at the new Aquatics Centre organised by Sean Dawson in his role for Scottish Swimming. We are very lucky at the club to have the support of Sean and we appreciate his advice and guidance for Bridge of Don ASC, thank you.

Sadly Kevin our Head Coach has resigned and I'd like to take this opportunity to thank him for his help to me personally in my role as president over the last four years. An advertisement has been placed on Scottish Swimming's website for the vacant post and we hope to appoint a coach in the next few weeks.

Every one of our coaches deserve thanks and appreciation, we have a young coaching staff and the committee will continue to support them in their professional development. Gillian, thank you from the committee and coaches for being "coaches representative" at committee meetings over the last year, not the easiest of jobs. Given that not one session has been cancelled due to a coach not being able to cover a squad, I'd say a job well done!

My term as president has come to an end, I will always be a supporter of the club and the work that the committee do, I would encourage more parents to get involved and help out, it really can be fun.

There are people involved in Bridge of Don ASC that I admire and respect greatly and without their commitment to the club my job would have been a real uphill battle at times, a special mention must go to Alison and Elaine, thank you.

The opening of the new Aberdeen Aquatics Centre is so exciting for everyone involved in any

aquatics discipline, having had a sneaky visit I can honestly say I have never been so impressed with a facility, and it's in Aberdeen! It is absolutely state of the art! Alison is arranging a session for the club during the trial phase for club swimmers, once confirmed we will let the squads all know. The Scottish National Age Groups will be held there in June and I would encourage the club to arrange a trip for our young swimmers to go down and watch a finals session, cheer on all our local swimmers. You never know it might just spark the passion, drive and determination in a young swimmer to reach an Olympic dream.

Look out for a few of us from the club at the Commonwealth Games, Kevin will be FINA starter and you may just get a glimpse of a few other faces you recognise round Tollcross.

Finally, thank you all for my term as president of the club, I have thoroughly enjoyed my time over the years, not only being president of the club but my years before on committee fulfilling other roles. I have met many friends here at the club and so have both my children, I will always look back on my involvement with happy memories, I wish the new committee and the club every success in the future.

Thank you Audrey

## 2. In Attendance and Apologies

Present- Audrey Deans, Lesley Beveridge, Colin Downie, Kevin Paterson, Cindy McIntosh, Mike Pratt, Elaine Cruickshank, Nikki Perry, Alison Macdonald, Sean Dawson , Debby McIsaac, Gillian Main ,Louise Muirhead, Tracy Nichol, Stephanie Brands, Pippa Ward, Hazel Fowler, Pauline Bremner, Gareth Bristo, Martin Gillan, Nichola Dinnie, Michelle Hall, Victoria Emslie, Keith Thomson and Fiona Leith

Apologies -Jill Dewsbury, Michael Macdonald, Dianne Smith, Ellis Paterson, Ruth Paterson, Joan Paterson and Nicky Scorgie

## 3. Approval of previous Minutes and matters arising

Proposed by Sean Dawson and Seconded by Elaine Cruickshank

There were no matters arising

## 4. Meet Secretary Report

Firstly I would like to thank Joan for all the help and advice that she passed on during our handover period and also to Kevin for the “always there” support that they both continue to provide, because Team Manager and Meet Manager always seem to have “little” surprises lurking just when you think you have it sussed!!

Also a big thanks to Anne Hendry who has been very supportive during our club meets and has guided me through the smooth running of these events.

This year 93 of our swimmers have attended 45 meets in total since the 2013 AGM. Medals, records and numerous PB's have all been achieved.

These have been a mixture of short and long course, National, District and Club meets including our own Splash and Time Banded, Beta Leagues Time Trials and Club Champs.

Our 2nd Spring Time Banded Meet is fast approaching and will hopefully continue the success of last year's event.

I would like to extend a big thank you to all our coaches, STO's and parent volunteers who without whose help it would be impossible for our swimmers to swim both at our own meets but

also the others that our Club attends.

I would also like to thank Catriona for all her help and supporting me in my role as Meet Secretary.

I have enjoyed my first year as Meet and would be happy to continue in the role for a further year.

Colin Downie  
Meet Secretary  
Bridge of Don AS

#### 5. Honorary Secretary Report

I have enjoyed my first year in the role as secretary and most things have gone relatively smoothly. I have had a couple of hiccups along the way but all issues were resolved without causing any delays. I would like to pass on my thanks for the expert guidance from Lesley Beveridge, previous year's secretary for passing on her knowledge and expertise and assisting me in my new role.

Most of the mail/post is now dealt electronically by email, all pool & room bookings are now applied for also by email and this makes the role easier to manage as information can be distributed and rapid responses submitted allowing items to be dealt with efficiently.

The main duties of the secretary's role involve:

1. Handling incoming mail and distributing to relevant committee members & coaches, sending out replies/ correspondence to incoming mail on behalf of the club & administrative club duties e.g AGM organisation.
2. Booking the pool time for the squad training and swim galas.
3. Booking of rooms for land training, gala's and committee meetings.
3. Applying for the licence for swim galas and our Club Championships so that our meets are accredited by Scottish Swimming.

This year, instead of a gift of a selection box at Christmas the committee agreed to fund a club outing to the pantomime at the newly refurbished Tivoli, which all swimmers in the squads and their coaches were invited to attend. I helped organise the trip and after a few stressful minutes on arrival at the Tivoli - checking all were present and I had all the tickets, we went on to have a great evening.

Debby McIsaac Club Secretary 2013/14

#### 6. Coach Report

It's been 4 years since I took on the role as Head Coach (which has passed really quickly). With the new 50m pool planned for opening in April, the club will be hoping to utilise this with some long course training (this will save trips going to Stirling).

#### **Swim School**

The Swim School was passed to Sport Aberdeen from October 2013 with over 130 swimmers moving into their programme, along with a waiting list.

I would like to thank Alison Macdonald and Ruth Stewart for the smooth running of the Swim School up to the hand over. Audrey, Alison and myself attended a lot of meetings over the last year with regards to the Sport Aberdeen programme. The best outcome was that we as a club deliver the levels 7 & 8 for Sport Aberdeen, this allows the club to monitor & coach the swimmers that are looking to join the clubs JD1 squad. The first 2 week free trial will be in

April, hopefully we will get swimmers wanting to join as we need to keep numbers up.

### **Club**

Throughout the year the Club swimmers have attended many meets from Beta League matches to National competitions. Swimmers have performed great with PB's and Medals.

There was also the Summer Challenge Relay which had 12 teams (JC1 - Coast) and a coaches team. It is great to see the swimmers mix and swim their hearts out for their team and to try and beat the coaches.

All the squads have worked hard throughout the year working on technique, building stamina which has all paid off with tumbling pb's. Attendance has been an issue with some squads. The morning sessions are better than they were.

There has been a drop in the number of Swimmers attending Meets over the year, I would like to encourage swimmers from Bronze -Masters to try and attend meets as this is what all the hard work and training is for as we are a competitive swimming club. I would like to thank all the swimmers for their hard work and enthusiasm, you are a great credit to the club and it makes all the hard work worthwhile.

### **COAST**

Coast had some changes with the loss of the AGP coach (still to be resolved). We have 18 in total over the 3 squads. We have 5 swimmers in the Coast development squad in which club swimmers train once a week with a Coast Coach. Coast will be moving into the new 50m pool on the 21st April with all squads training there.

### **Masters**

Masters started in August 2013 and at the moment we have 10 swimmers (glad to see some parents attending). We also had swimmers attend the Silver City Blues meet, so a step in the right direction. Hopefully some will attend the Scottish Masters that are being held in the new pool at the Sports Village.

### **Beta Leagues**

We have had some great matches against the other clubs although it was sad that Bon-Accord had to pull out, this left us with a free date and we have arranged a friendly with Dyce who are looking to join.

My thanks to Tracey Nicol and Jill Dewsbury for all their hard work in arranging these matches.

### **DRP**

Bridge of Don had a number of swimmers attend the 3 day District regional squads.

### **Clubs Champs**

As I missed the camps for the first time in 11 years as I was attending a small meet in Glasgow (Duel in the Pool).

I was told it was a great success although it was the last weekend before Christmas. There was a great atmosphere and some hard racing, there was a good number of records broken. It was great to see all the swimmers taking part including the new JD1s and JD2s, another great day.

### **Future**

This will hold some challenges (keeping the number of swimmers entering the club)

Finally I would like to thank the lead coaches, coaches, teachers, Assistants and Committee for making this year's hard work smooth & enjoyable. The Meet Secretary for arranging all the Meets & Time Trials that we attend. Gillian Main for all her hard work and sending out all the emails and for arranging coaches meetings, Meet Cover and keeping the teachers and coaches up to date with information.

After a lot of thought I have decided to stand down as Head Coach of Bridge of Don Swimming Club. This is due to work and other swimming commitments, I can no longer give the time needed to carry out the work needed for this post. I will always look back on my 4 years (one I never thought I would have been in when my girls started swimming) in this position with enjoyment. There have been some real highs (Swimmers achieving their goals) and some lows (loosing what we worked really hard for, the Swim School).

I would like to thank all the coaches that have put up with some of my ideas (some that worked some that didn't) and the swimmers for always making me smile with their stories and hard work. I would like to thank the parents for their commitment in bringing their children to training because if you didn't there would be no club.

A special mention has to go to Alison Macdonald who was always there to help, listen and cover when needed.

I wish the club and committee all the best and hope the club will continue to achieve.

Kevin

#### 7. Financial Report

No one present



#### 8. Membership Fees for the year

As there were no audited accounts available at this time it was agreed to keep fees at the current level, but it was observed that this may be subject to discussion once the accounts are available

May need an EAGM to change date of accounts

#### 9. Proposed changes to Constitution

Those circulated prior to the meeting were agreed

#### 10. Election of Management Committee

The following members were elected as follows

Positions	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
President	Lesley Beveridge	Debby McIssac	Audrey Deans
Vice President			
Treasurer	Vicky Emslie	Michelle Hall	Tracy Nichol
Secretary	Debby McIssac	Audrey Deans	Nicky Perry
Assistant Secretary	Pauline Bremner	Tracy Nichol	Vicky Emslie
Assistant Secretary			

Positions	Nominee	Proposed by	Seconded by
STO Convenor	Kevin Paterson	Sean Dawson	Audrey Deans
Social Convenor	Nicola Scorgie,Louise Muirhead,Stevie Brands		
Child Protection Officer	Elaine Cruickshank	Audrey Deans	Lesley Beveridge
Equipment Convener	Michelle Hall	Vicki Emslie	Nikky Perry
Coach Coordinator			
Membership Secretary	Pippa Ward	Gill Dewsbury	Nikky Perry
Meet Secretary	Colin Downie	Phil Nicol	Dianne Smith
News Editor	Gary Bristo	Nikky Perry	Vicky Emslie
Assistant Meet Secretary	Jill Dewsbury and Tracy Nicol	Colin Downie	Dianne Smith

11. Approval of Management Committee and ,Auditors

The foregoing election of the committee members were approved by those present ; the new Committee will appoint and instruct auditors to inspect the Accounts , once available .

12. Life Membership Awards

Audrey Deans Proposed by Kevin Paterson

13. Other relevant business

It was agreed that Kevin Paterson will be the Club's Coast representative  
The 3 North District Delegates appointed were Kevin Paterson, Lesley Beveridge and Sean Dawson.