



Date AGM held: Wednesday 25th November 2020
Time: 7:00pm
Location: Zoom online video conference

1. Welcome

AJ McEver opened the meeting and welcomed the attendees.

(A list of attendees can be found at the end of these minutes (appendix 1).

2. Apologies

None

3. Approval of last year's Minutes

Proposed approval by AJ McEver, Seconded by Marc Barrot
2019 AGM minutes were approved.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising.

5. Chair's Report

The Chair's report can be found at the end of these minutes (appendix 2).

6. Treasurer's Report

Constantine Thanassoulas presented the accounts for the year.

The accounts were approved.

7. Approval of Independent Examiner 2019-20

AJ McEver proposed the independent auditors for the club remain the same as the previous year. Seconded by Andreas Utermann. This was approved.

8. Head Coach's Report

Adam Taylor's Head Coach Report can be found at the end of these minutes (appendix 3).



9. Election of 2019/20 Committee

Marc Barrot –Chair
Philip Jones -Vice Chair
Constantine Thanassoulas –Treasurer
AJ McEver –Secretary

Louisa Fielding -Squad Rep Coordinator
Sarah John -General Member
Simon Porter -Officials Coordinator
Jane Rudko -General Member
VanessaTassara-Burini -General

Alifa Charania agreed to remain on the Committee in the non-elected role of Welfare Officer.

CSCSC Advisory Committee:

Jo Friston
Will Mathers
David Niotakis
EithneO’Sullivan

11. AOB

None

12. Closure of Meeting

AJ McEver closed the meeting at 7:30pm.



Appendix 1 – Meeting Attendees

1. AJ McEver
2. Mitchiko Divet
3. Constantine Than...
4. Barbara Faissola
5. Marc Barrot
6. Alifa Charania
7. Vanessa Burini
8. Tom Watson
9. Alex Coci
10. Adam Taylor
11. Kylie Bland
12. Adam Taylor
13. Krista Bibbings
14. Simon Porter
15. Philip Jones
16. David Niotakis
17. Eithne O'Sullivan
18. Andreas Utermann
19. William Mathers
20. Robin Brantley
21. Neal Harris
22. Marc DaSilva
23. Bianca Mogan
24. Vanessa Burini
25. Sarah John
26. Jo Friston
27. Amir Castronovo
28. Marina Castronovo
29. David Jospehs
30. Maximillian Zinin
31. Karen Bellass
32. Akiko Kikuchi
33. Henrietta Nurney
34. Rachel Roberts
35. Natalia Shchepovskikh
36. Jane Rudko
37. Karen Addington
38. Louise Ruzzaman
39. Paras Singh
40. Marina Chetinalp
41. Louise Holden
42. Clara Samson
43. Michele Chui
44. Darius Dragasius
45. Stuart Quin



Appendix 2 – Chair Report

Welcome to the Annual General Meeting, and thank you for attending and continuing to support your club. It's been a really crazy year for everyone and meeting this way, via Zoom, is definitely a first for the club. Please be patient as we make our way through this new meeting format.

For those members who are new, or not familiar with all aspects of our Club, I want to give you a brief overview to provide some perspective to the yearly reports that will be provided by the Treasurer and the Head Coach.

This time last year we announced that Camden Council had awarded the borough's Learn to Swim Programme to GLL as part of the new leisure centre contract. The club had negotiated with GLL to transfer the Learn to Swim programme in exchange for significantly reduced pool hire rates and the ability to do 3 home swim galas per year.

Prior to 2020 the club's aquatic model was based on delivering the Learn to Swim Programme with surplus supplementing membership fees to cover all club expenses. The more surplus the club experienced the lower the membership fees needed to be. Over the past 3 years GLL has significantly increased our pool hire rates to a level that the Learn to Swim Programme no longer provided enough financial support to keep membership fees as low as we all would like.

In March 2020 we were expecting to move to our new pool hire rates but obviously nothing went as expected once the world went into lockdown. The club was faced with a difficult decision on how best to handle the situation. There was great concern that a lengthy closure would permanently damage the club's ability to deliver its swimming programme. The decision was made to keep the club partially open to keep members engaged via online zoom workouts and other social activities. In exchange for this online service we offered a discounted monthly rate to members. The club also allowed members to cancel their membership if needed so they wouldn't suffer additional expenses during that difficult time.

We received an overwhelming amount of support from those members that continued their membership for which the club is very grateful. The Camden Swiss Cottage Swimming Club has no other external funding support. Camden Council doesn't provide any monetary support and GLL doesn't provide any monetary support. Our members are the sole reason that we still have a club.

Because we were operating a limited staff during lockdown meant we were prepared when the government eased restrictions on leisure centres. This proved most advantageous, as we were one of the first clubs to return to swimming. I might point out that sadly some clubs have yet to re-open. Unfortunately, the Learn to Swim Programme was not allowed to re-open and GLL would not honour the new pool hire rates until the Learn to Swim Programme commenced. From a financial position this meant we were paying undiscounted pool hire rates while receiving zero money from the Learn to Swim Programme. Only as of last week, GLL has agreed to start the new rates once this current closure has completed. This will be a huge lift for the club but will still fall short of covering all of our operating costs. Once things return to normal and the club can operate its own swim galas, we will be in a much more financially secure position. In the new year the club will most likely need to raise membership



fees to bridge the gap until swim gala's are safe to return. Like always the membership fees are representative of how much the club needs to break even. The club's aim has never been to profit from its members.

At this time, I would like to highlight that, even though this has been the most difficult year in memory, the Camden Swiss Cottage Swimming Club was once again certified as a Swim Mark Essential Club, confirming that our Club operates at the highest of standards and is acknowledged as one of the best Swim Clubs in the UK. We should thank our Head Coach, Adam Taylor, and the rest of our coaching staff for providing the highest level of training for all of our members. Also, special thanks to our office manager, Krista Bibbings, who organised and led the effort for certification.

This is my last day serving as the Chair of the Swiss Cottage Swimming Club Committee. I just want to say it's been a privilege to serve the club in that capacity over the past 3 years. We've certainly had our share of challenges, but what I'm most proud of is that we have made it through each obstacle as a team. With the Leadership of our Head Coach and the assistance of our committee we are on the brink of bringing competitive swim galas back to central London. That's something to be very proud of and something that will benefit the club and competitive swimming in London for years to come. I hope you all will continue to support the club in this endeavor and be there to volunteer when that day comes.

In closing, I would like to thank and acknowledge our two outgoing committee members Mitchiko Divet and Barbara Faissola for their years of service to the club. They have been very valuable contributors to the committee and they will be sorely missed. Even though they are both stepping down from the committee, they will still be helping out the club by officiating when available. If you see them poolside please thank them for all that they have done for the club.

Again, I would like to thank everyone for attending this meeting and for supporting your Club tonight.

Many thanks,
AJ McEver
Chair – Camden Swiss Cottage Swimming Club



Appendix 3 – Head Coach Report

Firstly, I would like to thank you all for the vast amount of support and loyalty you have shown the club during the last 9 months. The pandemic has had a devastating effect on the swimming world and we would certainly not be here without our membership.

I want to extend a heartfelt thank you to the CSCSC committee and staff. As without their tireless effort to help run the club, we would not be as successful as we are.

CSCSC successes during the 2019/2020 season:

- Middlesex Records (1) – Jackson Olin (200 Backstroke)
- London Record (1) – Jackson Olin (200 Backstroke)
- Club Records, too many to mention.
- International Competition (Performance Gold travelled to Luxembourg International Open)
- 1 of 10 clubs chosen nationally to pilot and run the Level X competition scheme
- Alex Coci was chosen as a skills coach for the Swim England National Development Camps (Lucas Bohm and Nicholas Finch were also invited as swimmers for these camps)
- Adam Taylor was chosen as a skills coach for the Swim England National Event Camps
- Ines Guimond-Beetham and Llewellyn Porter were selected for the Swim England London Development Camps
- Kylie Bland, Tom Watson and Tom Brommage along with 4 of Camden's brightest young stars were selected for the Middlesex Development Camps (Unfortunately these did not proceed due to COVID).
- Adam Taylor, Alex Coci were selected as part of the coaching staff for the London Region Team competing in Barcelona.
- Anna Podurgiel, Lauren Brantley, Alexis Lambropoulos, Jackson Olin, Amir Castronovo, Donatas Dragasius were the largest cohort selected for the London Region Team competing in Barcelona.
- CSCSC are proud to have helped 11 swimmers continue their swimming journey at Prestigious College/University programmes this year.
- CSCSC qualified for the National B Final for a 3rd consecutive year finishing a valiant 3rd, behind Welsh Performance Centres Cardiff and Swansea. We collected the trophy for overall relay champions – a first for the club.
- CSCSC again qualified for a 3rd consecutive visit to the National Junior League final where we placed 3rd behind giants City of Leeds and Guildford. Our Junior section continues to progress and impress on the National scene.
- To top off 2019 – Anna Ntountounaki had confirmation from Greece that her outstanding performances at the summer world championships had earned her selection for Tokyo 2020, along with Gaurika Singh collecting a record medal haul from the South East Asian Games for Nepal – granting her Olympic selection for the second time.

A hugely successful 2019/2020 season for Camden despite the restrictions and challenges faced. We now look forward to daring to dream again and pursuing excellence once more.