

Aquae Sulis Performance Swimming Club
Annual General Meeting (AGM)
22nd October 2015, 6.30pm

Minutes

Amanda Turner (Secretary) opened the meeting and thanked members and parents for attending. .

1. Chairman's Report

Delivered by Mark Lawton – See attached.

2. Treasurer's Report

Delivered by Mark Lawton on behalf of Anne Lawton (Acting Treasurer) – See attached

3. Head Coaches Report

Delivered by John Dougall – See attached

4. Election of ASPSC Management Committee Members

The Following were elected, by the meeting, to be members of the ASPSC Management Committee for the next 12 months.

Post	
Chairman	Mark Lawton
Treasurer	Vacancy (Anne Lawton covering temporarily until permanent member found)
Secretary	Amanda Turner
Welfare Officer	Liz Metcalfe
Open Meet Secretary	Sean Grothier
Workforce Development	Karen Bowen
Communications Manager	Matt Lawman
Membership Secretary	Steph McFarlane
Fund Raising Manager	Emma Head
SWIM 21 Co-ordinator	Sylvia Sinclair

5. Thanks to Retiring Committee Members

Mark Lawton thanked the following committee members and volunteers who have stood down;.

Nick Press – Open Meet Promoter

Marion McNab – Welfare

Jo Dixon – Communications

Donna Whiting – Workforce Co-ordinator

Kate Veakins - Competition secretary

Tracy Curry – Kit manger

6. Aquae Sulis Constitution

The revised Aquae Sulis Constitution dated 2 Feb 2015 was presented. This has been approved by both the Somerset ASA and a meeting of the Network Committee meeting and was approved by the members present at the AGM.

Attachments

- ⤴ Chairman's Report
- ⤴ Treasurers Report
- ⤴ ASPSC March 2015 Accounts
- ⤴ Head Coaches Report

Amanda Turner
Secretary

Aquae Sulis Performance Swimming Club

Annual General Meeting – 22 October 2015

Chairman's Report

Once again, I find myself reporting on an eventful year for the Aquae Sulis Performance Swimming Club. The challenges this club has faced over the last 2-3 years, many clubs don't face in 20 years. We are very lucky to have a dedicated and committed coaching team and Committee, without whom I doubt the club could have navigated its way through this turbulent period.

The good news is that we hope it has given us a sound base from which to build a stronger Performance swimming club into the future.

On 1st April 2014, we took the bold step to leave B&NES and become self-financing. B&NES had been funding the club approximately £40,000 per annum prior to that point and so 2014/15 was our first year as a stand-alone club. Pleasingly, we reported a £6,000 surplus for the year.

This was also the year in which we appointed John Dougall as our permanent Head Coach (on 1 September 2014). John has made a huge impact since he has come on board in the performances of the swimmers and the professionalism of the coaching team. The most exciting development of which is the appointment of Suzi Bowen as our Assistant Head Coach this year.

We also faced the challenge of the University pool closure. The pool closed for 6 months last year, and our squads trained in eight different pools across the surrounding area. It was impressive just how well everyone supported the club through this turbulent time.

On return to the University we have restructured our training squads to have two performance squads and a small Development squad. Our challenge this year is to grow the membership of our younger squads where we are running with a shortfall in numbers.

Last year saw the introduction of our new land training programme – based on a programme developed by the English Institute for Sport. Our Strength & Conditioning coaches became an important part of the set up, and we are continuing to look to develop this programme into the current year.

We also saw all the changes to the British Swimming competition calendar, which are currently being introduced. This has resulted in our November meet being changed to a Short Course Open Meet and the introduction of new Summer qualification Open Meet.

Your Committee is committed to ensuring that we have a strong club, not just for this generation of swimmers, but for the next generation too. Some of the highlights of the last year were:

- The recruitment of a new Assistant Head Coach, Suzi Bowen. Suzi has taken over management of the Junior Performance and Development squads and has made a very positive impact so far.
- The introduction of Swim Camps. The squad trained away in Cardiff last year during the October half term and is going to Torremolinos next week. We hope to expand this opportunity next year to take a larger number of swimmers away.
- The introduction of a social calendar with Summer and Winter whole club social events involving swimmers, parents and coaches
- The continuation of a fundraising programme. This programme helps to bring the swimmers together outside of training in activities such as bag packs, car washing and assisting on the Development camps.
- Supporting the Somerset ASA Young Volunteer programme. Some of our swimmers are le

- Developing our coaches. John and Suzi are both involved in the British Swimming talent programmes. Meanwhile, Liam and Sylvia are both in the process of gaining their Level 2 coaching qualifications.

Finally, I need to draw out the huge amount of effort that goes on behind the scenes from your committee and from the other volunteers that make this club tick. Your committee put in 100s of hours of their own time to support this club and I am hugely thankful to all of them for the efforts they make on your behalf.

There are a number of them retiring this year:

- Nick Press resigned as our Open Meet Promoter. Nick dedicated many hours to our Open Meets and is the main reason they are as successful as they are. Sean Grothier has stepped into that role for the coming year.
- Marion McNab resigned earlier this year and Liz Metcalfe has taken on the Welfare role.
- Jo Dixon has resigned as our Communications Officer, and Matt Lawman has agreed to take over.
- Donna Whiting resigned as our Workforce coordinator, and has been replaced by Karen Bowen. Consequently, Karen Bowen has handed over the Swim 21 Coordinator role to Sylvia Sinclair.
- Kate Veakins looked after meet entries last year and has resigned. Jamie McNeil has taken over that role.
- Tracy Curry has handed over the club kit duties to Caroline Walker.

If anyone would like to get involved in helping to run the club please let me know as there are roles that still need to be undertaken.

As you can see from the Treasurer's report, we continue to need your help fundraising to finance the club. Please can I ask you all to do your best to work with Emma Head and Wendy Hood to develop our fundraising income streams?

Many thanks for all your support over the last year. I look forward to another successful performance swimming season in 2016.

Mark Lawton

Chairman

October 2015



Patron: Sharron Davies MBE

Aquae Sulis Performance Swimming Club

Annual General Meeting – 22 October 2015

Treasurer's Report

Attached you will find the accounts for the year ended 31 March 2015. The club made a surplus of £6,182.27 thanks in no small part to the efforts of the Open Meet Committee (£30,352.37), the Fundraising Committee (£8,721.08) and the Grants, Sponsorships and Donations we received (£8,142.00).

It's still early in the current season, but we are currently running behind our full year budget:

	6 mths to 30 Sept 2015	Budget to 30 Sept	6 mths to 30 Sept 2014
Fees	£42,019	£49,740	£35,552
Open Meets	700	12,000	439
Grants	1,550	1,250	1,000
Sponsorship	-	2,500	250
Fundraising	1,521	4,250	5,568
Coaching	(28,819)	(30,475)	(21,137)
Pool hire	(33,544)	(38,205)	(26,573)
Other	(1,253)	(750)	(729)
	(17,816)	310	(5,630)

Last year we raised income of £47,000 from Open Meets, Fundraising, Grants, Sponsorship and Donations. This year we have a target of £40,000, but so far have just raised £4,000. We need your help to try to increase this figure.

We have three Open Meets this season: November, February and April, and we are planning Development Camps in February Half Term. However, we need everyone's help in meeting these targets.

Anne Lawton

Acting Treasurer

October 2015

Aquae Sulis Swimming Club
AGM 2015
Coaches Report

Last years report started off highlighting that AS would be without their main pool at the University for the majority of the season. Many would have seen this as a huge negative and allowed this to influence the season that followed.

Thankfully, this wasn't the case for AS and we found adequate pool time to sustain the training needs of the squads throughout the closure. Recognition for this should be made to Anne and Mark Lawton for tirelessly approaching all the pools we eventually used, also to Emma Head for brokering the land training space we used at Ralph Allen School, which enabled AS to launch its new land training programme. Additional thanks must go to John Watson (Bath NTC) for devising the plan and to Mellissa Hardern, George Buckney and Mike Muckelt for the delivery of this programme in assisting the swimmers development.

Where a reduction in pool time may have proved a disaster for some programmes, we supplemented these hours with the land training and had tremendous success in the competition arena. Aquae Sulis had 6 swimmers qualify for the British Champs, with 5 competing. We had 3 swimmers make Junior finals with 3rd, 4th and 5th place finishes, all in pb times, a tremendous set of achievements.

This carried through the Regional and National/Home Nation Champs as well. Aquae Sulis was well represented on the medal podium and in final placings. It's worth noting that from the summer competitions we achieved a British, Scottish, English, Welsh and New Zealand national champions!!

We also broke new ground towards the end of last season in employing Suzi Bowen as our new Assistant Head Coach. Suzi comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and a proven track record with in age group swimming. Suzi will take charge of the Junior Performance and Development squads, where she will be assisted by another new member of staff in Liam Willcox.

Results summary:

- ♣ 3 Medals at British Summer Champs – 1 gold, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze
- ♣ 5 Medals at English Home Nation Champs – 1 Gold, 2 Silver, 2 Bronze
- ♣ 1 Medal at Scottish Home Nation Champs – 1 Gold
- ♣ 10 Medals at Welsh Home Nation Champs – 3 Gold, 4 Silver, 4 Bronze
- ♣ 3 Medals at New Zealand National Champs – 2 Gold, 1 Silver
- ♣ 3 British Champs Junior finalist
- ♣ British Summer Champs finalists
- ♣ English Home Nation Champs finalists
- ♣ Scottish Home Nation Champs finalists
- ♣ Welsh Home Nation Champs finalists
- ♣ 1 selection for England Talent Programme
- ♣ 2 selections for AASE Programme

In addition, I have recently been selected for the England Programmes Talent camps. We also have 1 assistant coach who has completed the UKCC Level 3, 2 other assistants currently on the course, as well as 1 assistant completing their UKCC Level 2 and another about to complete the same course.

Special mentions and thanks

A large amount of recognition needs to go to all the coaches that provide cover either in my absence or as part of our volunteer network. Thanks to Andrew Turner, Richie Lamb, Chrissie Lamb, Jamie Forrest, Matt Puddy, Jonny Carlisle, Susie Hann, Liam Willcox, Helen Ward, Gina Curry, Charlotte Stubbs and Sylvia Sinclair.

Continued huge thanks to the Aquae Sulis Committee and recognise the tireless work by Mark Lawton, Anne Lawton, Emma Head, Amanda Turner, Liz Metcalfe, Nick Press, Karen Bowen, Jo Dixon, Sylvia Sinclair, Jamie McNeil, Jenny Foster, Kyp Harrison, Sean Grothier, Rebecca Marshall, Wendy Hood, Nat Gordon, Tracy Curry, Steph McFarlane and Chris & Caroline Walker. Without their hard work, we wouldn't have pools to train in, competitions wouldn't run and we would have no income from fundraising, sponsorship or grants.

I would also like to thank all our volunteer officials and parental helpers at all meets we run and attend.

I would like to thank Bath University for their support and use of facilities, to Lindsay Dunn and Emily Taylor at the ASA for their support and guidance and to all the Network Clubs and Coaches for their continued support.

John Dougall

-End of Report-