

Middlesex County Amateur Swimming Association

(www.middlesexswimming.com)

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 16 September 2021

By Zoom

Those in attendance: Brian Kapp (President), Flo Barnes, Leah Pullen, Phillip Prentice, Frances Prentice, Gillian Neal, Colin Jones, Pam Crofts, Jeanette Edmiston, Jo Martin, Marc Barrot, Tony Burton, Maria Abrams and Fred Willey

Apologies for absence: Ian Woollard, Suzette Muhammad, Andy Woska, Tasha Coupland, Ralph Shortland, Wayne Hirst, Trevor Hyde and Susie Breslin

No:	Matter:	Action:
XC21/041	Brian opened the meeting at 7.30pm	
XC21/042	<p>Matters arising from Minutes</p> <p><u>London Strategy Meeting</u></p> <p>Gillian Neal confirmed that London Region had approved Tony Burton attending the London Strategy meeting.</p> <p><u>Welfare</u></p> <p>Maria Abrams was asked if, following the last Exec meeting, she had been able to contact the welfare officers at the clubs. Maria said that Swim England had already done a lot regarding mental health etc and it was, therefore, probably not necessary to make further contact. It was generally felt that Maria's response was satisfactory and there was nothing more for the Exec to do at this time. Maria confirmed that there are now more people working at Swim England to assist if necessary.</p> <p><u>Constitution</u></p> <p>Brian Kapp apologised for not moving this forward. He has had some personal issues which have taken up his time.</p> <p>Leah Pullen queried whether the constitution had to be agreed before the upcoming ACM. Pam Crofts stated that Swim England would probably want references from ASA changed to Swim England too.</p> <p>Frances Prentice commented that she felt Tony Burton had exceeded his brief regarding amendments and that there were some very contentious points. Pam Crofts agreed with Frances and confirmed that the amendments needed to be agreed by the Exec. Brian stated that it had been his idea to look at the constitution and update / amend. Gillian Neal suggested that as this was a big point, perhaps we should have a meeting just for the constitution. Everyone agreed and a meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, 22 September at 7.30pm by Zoom. Leah will send out the invites and Gillian confirmed she will send out the constitution as received from Pam. Subsequent to the meeting, LP sent out the invitation and Gillian sent the constitution.</p> <p><u>Trophies</u></p> <p>Pam Crofts queried the missing trophy. Brian Kapp confirmed it still</p>	<p>LP / GN</p>

	<p>had not been returned and the parents were not being helpful in getting it back to the County. Frances Prentice said that she knows where the swimmer lives and, as it is not too far for her, will try and get the trophy back. Everyone agreed and thanked Frances for the offer.</p> <p><u>Perivale Library</u></p> <p>Flo Barnes was asked whether there was any update on us using the library. Flo confirmed that she had merely let the Exec know that it was possible to hire the library but she had not done anything further in this regard.</p> <p><u>ACM</u></p> <p>It was agreed that we should do this in person and that we should go back to the Residents Association. Flo will make the booking for Thursday, 25 November 2021 at 7pm.</p> <p><u>Len Badcock Memorial Meet</u></p> <p>Brian Kapp stated that he had been in conversation with the Chair of the East Region regarding a joint East and London Region para event. It was stated that they were doing nothing for para swimming until Spring of 2022.</p>	FB
XC21/043	<p>Correspondence</p> <p>None received.</p>	
XC21/044	<p>County Coach</p> <p>Jeanette Edmiston confirmed 4 coaches had shown interest:</p> <p>Chris Reekie – Hillingdon; Chris Pullen – Ealing; Jamelia Bentley – Barnet; and Mo Mohammed – Chelsea & Westminster.</p> <p>Jeanette had had a Zoom call with 3 of the coach – Chris Reekie had had to work and she spoke to him separately.</p> <p>Jeanette stated that she believed the 4 would work well together. Chris Reekie, being the most senior and most experienced, would probably take the lead.</p> <p>Frances Prentice queried why it is now a team of coaches. Jeanette confirmed that she had attended a meeting about 2 years ago with the Swim England Talen Management who oversee County Development Camps and they said other counties all had a team of coaches as they felt it was too much for one person. It had been discussed in the Swimming Committee and originally we had agreed there would be 2 coaches (one of whom would be a deputy) but this time 4 good candidates applied so it was decided to use all 4.</p> <p>Frances asked if one person would be head and take control of the other coaches in the County. Jeanette said that Chris Reekie seems very helpful and accommodating and will take charge.</p> <p>Brian Kapp thanked everyone for their help in getting this sorted and stated that it should not be a problem regarding the constitution.</p> <p>Phil Prentice queried the fact that the County Coach gets an honorarium (£125.00 p.a.) and who would get that now. Pam Crofts said that at the Development Day, all the coaches get a financial payment from the County. Rather than giving the honorarium,</p>	

	<p>maybe give them some recompense for each job they do. Flo Barnes said that she does not think that the 4 applicants know anything about the honorarium – we can decide what to do later.</p>	
XC21/045	<p>Elected Offices / Roles</p> <p>Flo Barnes was concerned about succession of all roles within the Exec. She suggested that at the ACM, it would be a good idea if all people who have a specific job wrote a description of what they do and then, at the ACM, ask for people to become a deputy so they can learn the role and we then have succession in place.</p> <p>Brian Kapp felt that it was a good idea to have planned succession.</p>	Exec Job Holders
XC21/046	<p>Treasurer’s Report</p> <p>Following Phil Prentice’s report, Pam Crofts had a question regarding the expenditure so far – she could not make sense of the figures. Brian Kapp also had a query regarding the JIM accrual – what is it?</p> <p>Phil confirmed that it was for people who were due a refund but had not claimed it yet from the July meet.</p> <p>Pam said that at the top of the page, follow the column itself down or the one to the left of it – she still could not find anything relating to £22,652 (top of page 3).</p> <p>Phil explained it is the expense of the gala plus the accrual, plus admin expenses, competition expenses down to that figure. Pam queried whether it included £19,370 shown as expenditure under “status” but then commented that it still does not add up. Phil confirmed that that was a part of it and what Pam was talking about was not the final figure – still need to take off some income figures. Phil confirmed that he rounds figures up to the nearest £ on the draft accounts. Pam stated that, according to her calculations, it is still £600 adrift.</p> <p>Leah Pullen queried whether Phil had tried to get any money back from Southbury Road as we did not use the sports hall. Phil confirmed that he did not and could not see why he should. He had sent 3 messages before he paid the bill asking if there was anything he should know before paying – easier not to pay than to try and get it back. Only got a response from Jeanette. Leah said the decision was made with the manager of the pool regarding the changing of rooms 2-3 days before the meet. Pam confirmed the meeting was at the pool between Brian, Gerry Gillespie, Pam and the manager a few days before. Phil wanted to know why he was not included for the meeting. Pam confirmed it was not a finance meeting but a Covid meeting. Gerry suggested we could get a better 1-way system if they used the gallery for the swimmers instead of the sports hall. Pool manager was happy to do this. The decision was made after we had already paid the bill. Phil wanted to know if a refund was discussed at that time. Pam confirmed it had not been mentioned. No reason why we cannot ask for a refund as it was not used. Phil questioned why he was not told before he paid the bill. Leah said that Southbury was the only pool that had asked for payment 2 weeks ahead of time. Not much we could do if they changed things 2-3 days before the meet. Brian asked whether the invoice had a separate figure for the hire of the sports hall. Leah said it did. Brian asked for a copy of the invoice and he would go to</p>	

	<p>the pool and ask them to re-issue the invoice.</p> <p>Phil confirmed that at the moment we still owe the pool over £7,000 so we could use that as bargaining power.</p> <p>Jeanette Edmiston said that at the Swimming Committee meeting, there had been a discussion about the AOE equipment. There was a query regarding us paying the pool even though the AOE was nothing to do with them. Leah confirmed that Richard McGonagle had always invoiced the pool. Leah said that she had an e-mail from the pool which states that we do not pay for using the AOE. Phil said he believed that all timing equipment now belongs to Enfield SC, not just the scoreboard. They charge us £150 per day to use their equipment and this fee was arranged by Len Badcock. Leah confirmed the use of the Daktronics equipment is paid through the pool and the scoreboard is Richard McGonagle's. Enfield want us to pay separately for the use of the scoreboard. Brian stated that we need to have clarification about what we are actually paying the pool for – does it include the timing equipment? Richard McGonagle does not own the equipment now – it all belongs to Enfield SC.</p> <p>Phil asked whether it is OK to send the draft accounts to the accountants. Pam said that subject to her question to Phil, she had no problem with getting the accounts ratified – just need to get the figures confirmed – it might just be a typo. Subsequent to the meeting, PC happy to accept figures were correct and accounts have been sent to the auditors</p> <p>Flo Barnes stated that she was at the Finance Committee meeting and she is happy to have another look at the figures to make sure that there are no errors which may have been missed.</p> <p>Phil asked Pam to send him an e-mail explaining the problem and he will sort it out.</p>	<p>PC / PP</p>
<p>XC21/047</p>	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p><u>Swimming Committee</u></p> <p>Jeanette Edmiston confirmed that Minutes from the last meeting have gone out. A lot was learned from the meets in July and we ran 2 successful days.</p> <p>Frances Prentice queried the Autumn County Qualifier. 4 full days at Southbury Road is not really a County qualifier. It is supposed to be a pathway for those close to qualifying for the Counties. It is a huge change – it is buried in the 9 September minutes. Lower limit times will be scrapped. Suggesting it is a bean feast for making money from swimmers who are not anywhere near making the times. Autumn meet for those who are near; Spring meet for those who did not qualify for Counties. That has always been the structure. This is a massive change – it will be an enormous meet. It is a crazy idea. Did this a few years ago and it was a disaster – Richard Whitehead was there and it was embarrassing.</p> <p>Pam Croft said that Frances was not giving any faith to the intelligence of the Swimming Committee. The name has changed but the object of the exercise has not changed. Still aimed at kids to qualify for the Counties. Initially sent out with upper and lower but the coaches felt it was too hard to qualify with a lower limit as kids have not raced. Still have limited space so swimmers will be</p>	

	<p>scratched. Not close to having swimmers with water wings!</p> <p><u>Water Polo</u></p> <p>Fred Willey said that Water Polo is back. There is a hybrid league: North London teams play each other and South London teams play each other. He is hopeful things will start as normal in November. Some clubs are struggling – Hatfield (not Middx) has packed up; Hertford pool has shut. So far, Middx clubs are OK. However, we have lost a lot of juniors – 45 down to 15. Some have gone to Uni others have quit.</p> <p>London Region U-14 boys are competing this weekend.</p> <p>Fred stated that there is a new club which wants to get going – he has had a letter from Yvonne Stead: Elite (North London) at the Britannia Centre (Islington area). No further details as yet.</p>	
XC21/048	<p>London Region</p> <p>Flo Barnes confirmed that London Board had had its ACM and she is now President Elect for 2023.</p> <p>Nothing received from Ralph.</p>	
XC21/049	<p>Welfare</p> <p>Nothing further to report from Maria Abrams.</p>	
XC21/050	<p>AOB</p> <p>(i) Colin Jones gave an update from July – he now has former members at Hillingdon, Forward Hillingdon and Feltham. Unfortunately, two further clubs in the area have folded: Hillingdon South (a social swim club) and Hayes & Harlington.</p> <p>(ii) Flo Barnes was curious as to the Trophy Secretary slot – she felt we did not seem to have one at the moment. Jo Martin confirmed that Brian Kapp was currently doing the job but that he would be handing it over to her once the outstanding trophy had been dealt with.</p> <p>(iii) Pam Crofts stated that Swim England has now issued new conditions for assessing trainees etc. She has sent this to Leah Pullen to put on the website.</p> <p>(iv) Fred Willey queried information regarding the “stronger affiliation”. He said that his club had been asked to go through the process again and did anyone have any idea as to why and are they unique. He said there are 5 elements which are due for re-validation. Leah Pullen confirmed with Fred that affiliation had to be renewed annually, then every 2 to 3 years there was the bigger renewal. Fred thanked Leah.</p>	
	<p>There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 8.50pm</p>	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday, 22 September 2021 @ 7.30pm via Zoom to go</p>	

	through constitution only. Any changes will be notified.	
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Signed _____ Date _____

President