

NORTH LANCASHIRE SWIMMING & WATER POLO
ASSOCIATION

Minutes of the 90th Annual General Meeting

Held on Monday 7th December 2015

At County Hall Preston

Commencing at 7.30pm

PRESENT:

Bob Thompson (President)
Sue Tinkler (Secretary, Life Member)
Kevin Whiteside (Treasurer)
Janice Whittle (Age Group Secretary, Life Member)
Garry Whittle (Vice President, Life Member)
Jane Whittle (Swim League Secretary)

Alan Howarth (Burnley Aquatics, Life Member)
Mary Parkinson (Chorley Marlins)
Jen Barcock (Fleetwood)
Ron Flude (Lancaster)
Helen Jenkins (Southport)
Alison Lawson (Fleetwood)
Paul Kenny (Clitheroe)
Paul Maxwell (Kirkham and Wesham)
Judith Dutton, (Leyland Barracudas)
Samir Ahmed (Preston)
John McGinty (Blackburn Centurions)
Gillian Rankin (Leyland Barracudas)
Jackie Wilkinson (Ormskirk Otters)

GUESTS:

Andrew Gaskell (Leyland Barracudas)
Stephen Davison (Pioneer 79)
Victoria Pickup (Leyland Baracudas)

APOLOGIES:

Malcolm Wilson (Life Member)
Steve Heaps (Preston ASC, Life Member)
Cherry Wilkinson, (Colne ASC)
Pauline Broadbent (Radcliffe)
Andy Timpany (Carnforth)
Lytham St Annes

Presidents Welcome

The President welcomed the delegates together with the club coaches/team managers in attendance for the Swim League fixtures meeting upon conclusion of the AGM.

He also welcomed the team captains from Preston & Lancaster, who were at the meeting for presentation of the Swim League Trophies.

The President made a procedural point that only the delegate from each club, together with the Association Officers are entitled to vote.

MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes of the AGM held on the 1st December 2014 were accepted by the meeting as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

No Matters Arising.

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Having read the minutes from last year in advance of the meeting the President's report was like War & Peace.

You'll be pleased to hear that this year will be considerably briefer.

I am however gratified to note that following last year's trip down memory lane and some gentle poking of fun at certain delegates, that Mary has been on time for every meeting since. Although I've got to say I've got a sneaking feeling that some mad professor in Chorley has cloned Mary but somehow managed to cock-up the gene that is responsible for timing.

It's been a very full year for the Association with both a full level 3 meet & Squadrons in January and the Championships in October, now run as Level 2.

I believe the level 2 meet was well received and we certainly saw a high standard of swimming for so early in the season, as evidenced by around 40 new records being set. The reinstatement of the meet records proved popular and added interest for the swimmers and spectators.

Janice will cover the meets in more detail in her report.

The Swim Camp was extremely popular, if a bit of a challenge to put on as a residential camp for the first time. Most member clubs participated and the feedback from swimmers was excellent and I'd like to put on record our thanks to Sue and the team of volunteers for staging the event.

The Swim League ran successfully but there was considerable delay in getting paperwork to Jane, which, after so many years staging of competition is rather poor and unfair to the League Secretary. The Executive have changed the rules to impose financial penalties for delayed/incorrect paperwork, which hopefully will not need to be imposed.

Again Jane will go into more detail in her report.

Congratulations to the three league winners who will collect their trophies later.

Again I would like to record our thanks to the army of officials and volunteers, including competitors stewards, door stewards, timing suite personnel, etc. without whom we could not stage our competitions. The Association remains a key source of training for officials and this benefits our member clubs and the wider swimming community.

Inter-Association

In mid November the N Lancs team gave L&D team a real run for their money closing the gap from 2014 to finish 2nd only 66 points behind L&D.

The new one day format was well received and there was a real buzz about the place.

Thanks to team managers Andy Timpany & Paul Davison & Jen Barcock for chaperoning and to our team captains Bily Dewhurst & Ellie Molyneux.

Thanks as ever to Janice for all her hard work in co-ordinating the event including combing through the rankings and liaising with clubs/swimmers, ordering shirts, caps etc.

Once again many of the Association's swimmers were in action on the National and International stages and this is testimony to the depth of talent and coaching within the area.

Sub Committees

Both the swimming and development committees have met several times during the year to ensure that our programme and activities remain relevant to our member clubs.

We continue to support clubs via the coaching grants and hope to do so well into the future.

Executive Meetings

The Executive meetings have been well attended and I'd like to thank our delegates for their attendance and contributions.

I conclude my term of office tonight and I would like to record my thanks to all my fellow officers and the full Executive for their support over the past two years.

I believe there has been some good innovation and steps in the right direction.

The Association will be 125 years old in 2019, that is a fantastic achievement, however in a rapidly changing world it is a constant challenge to remain relevant for our member clubs and we have to continue to innovate and respond to the needs of our members.

There are two people who are stepping down from Executive office tonight and I'd like to record our thanks to both of them.

Sue has carried out the Secretary's role for at least thirteen years that I can see and has carried out the job well and with great good humour, despite health problems in recent years. She's done a sterling job particularly in relation to the Swim Camps, for which we owe her a great debt of gratitude.

We have a small token of appreciation from the Association – fond of Pandora so not knowing which pieces she's got we've bought her a Gift voucher to choose her own.

Kevin has been the Treasurer for two years and is stepping down all too soon.

I'd like to thank him for his support, and say that we'll miss his scouse humour in the meetings, although delegates may be less concerned about the safety of their cars in the car park.

Again we've got a little thank you for Kevin.

That concludes my report.

Thank You.

HON TREASURERS REPORT

The Treasurer reported on the accounts attached as an appendix to these minutes.

- The income from affiliation and league fees are up on the previous year, owing to the fact that four clubs paid in January this year and failed to take advantage of the discounted rate and Lytham joined during the year.
- Open Meets
 - Lower Level three meet October 2014
 - Whilst entries were down on the previous year, so were costs and the meet generated a similar surplus to that in the previous year at £2,348 compared to £2,294.
 - Upper Level three meet and squadrons January 2015
 - Entries for this meet were well up on the previous year with a consequent increase in revenue from £15,303 to £18,930. At the same time costs were lower particularly pool hire and official expenses and because we presented medals not badges.
 - The meet generated a surplus of £9,277 compared to £3,015 in 2014.
- In terms of general expenditure
 - The Swim Camp came in at a total cost of £6,887, more than twice the cost in last year, owing to the residential component. This had largely been budgeted for and was offset by the higher than expected revenue from the January Level 3 meet. We are also grateful to the numerous coaches and helpers who gave up their time to make the camp happen.
 - Ten clubs made claims for coaching grants totalling £4,975, compared to eleven in 2014 at £6,088.
 - The cost of the Inter-Association competition in November 2014 largely owing to a £200 increase in the entry fee and the decision to reimburse the coaches and team managers' travel expenses.
 - Sundries comprises, trophies & engraving £330 and Water Polo Medals for the 2014 winning team at £50,
- The deficit for the year was £2,791 compared to £8,368 in 2014 and total funds at 30th September 2014 stood at £34,884 compared to £37,675.

- I'd like to thank John Armour for carrying out the Independent Review of the accounts.
- I'd also like to and wish you all a Happy Christmas and prosperous and successful 2016, both in and out of the pool.

AGE GROUP SECRETARYS REPORT

Meets

With the changes to the competition structure we had to make changes but with the intention of continuing to provide competition across the differing standards. Thanks to all our affiliated clubs for your patience and understanding throughout this period of change.

The two meets we have held have been successful (January upper Level 3 and September/October Level 2). As predicted the Level 2 wasn't as heavily subscribed but this was mainly due to the raising of the standard to a Level 2. This competition helped swimmers gain short course qualifying times.

As promised there will be a Level 3 meet in 2016. This will be run as the meet we used to have in October. The meet is scheduled for Saturday and Sunday 23 & 24 July. This is our development meet and swimmers can achieve times to gain entry into Level 2 meets.

The Squadrons was successful and in 2016 will be in the Level 2 meet in October.

The Championship events will be included in the Level 2 meet as this year.

Thanks to all those who were involved in the organisation of the meets, those who officiated and those who helped in the timing suite and with the catering. We do encourage officials to attend our meets as this also helps when trying to mentor those in training. This year we were able to offer mentoring to trainee officials. If we do not have the required qualified officials the meets cannot take place. Thank you to all the clubs for fulfilling their allocated roles at the galas. This does help considerably with the running of the events.

Inter Association

As with our own meets with the competition structure changes, the Inter Association competition had to change. The competition was held at Wigan on one day with a change to the programme as reported during the year. The competition proved very successful and to date the feedback has been very positive with associations happy with the one day event rather than a weekend. The competition was changed to a Level 3. In order to run a Level 2 at this time of year (as it is the L2 qualifying period) a full programme of events has to be offered. The competition is moving to an earlier time of the year (Sunday 26 June) for 2016. The host is Central Lancashire and again will be held at Wigan.

The Inter Association committee will be meeting early in 2016 to review the competition and make any changes necessary for 2016.

The competition this year was again won by Liverpool who swam a strong team. North Lancashire finished in second place but we did close the gap on the Liverpool team. Well done to all the team. Special thanks to team Captains Elodie Smallwood (Pioneer 79) and Billy Dewhurst (Preston) who both led the team by example. Thanks also to team managers Paul Davison and Andy Timpany and to Jen Barcock who was chaperone.

Paul has indicated that this was his last year as team manager. Thanks to Paul for his work over the years. I know Paul has enjoyed the role and the encouragement he has given to all the swimmers.

Thank you.

Janice Whittle

The President proceeded to present the Bob Marshall Trophy to the men's and ladies captains from Preston Swimming Club, the winning team from the level 2 Championships held in October.

HON WATER POLO SECRETARY'S REPORT

The President pointed out that we had not received a formal report from Zak Sly the WP Sec., however, he had received an e-mail explaining that he'd had great difficulty receiving responses to communications with WP Clubs and any results from matches played, despite the provision of the triplicate, carbonised results sheets provided.

At this stage it is not clear who has won the League, nor how many matches were actually played. For these reasons Zak indicated that he did not wish to seek re-election as WP Sec.

The President expressed his disappointment at the attitude of the WP clubs and had thanked Zak for all his hard work. He urged the Chairpersons of the WP playing clubs to liaise with their WP secretaries with a view to improving communication with the League.

A more detailed discussion of Water Polo, including the appointment of a replacement WP Sec. was deferred to the February Exec meeting.

HON SWIM LEAGUE SECRETARY'S REPORT

2015 has certainly proved to be an interesting and at times challenging season in my first year as Swim League Secretary.

I would like to thank all teams/personnel who took part in the league this year and for the support I have received during this year. May I pass on my congratulations to Lancaster, Preston B and Preston A, the respective Division Winners of the Swim League this year.

There have been some issues this year mainly in relation to paper work. On reflection, I have now changed the format of the team sheet for submission in a way that I feel is easier for Team Managers & Referee's and I to look and gather information from. This new form will be used for the 2016 season.

Other changes that have been brought in are in relation to penalties for late submission of paperwork etc. I will be sending out an update of these rules along with the fixtures information gathered at the meeting after the AGM tonight.

Unfortunately, Southport has decided to withdraw from the league for 2016. However, I am pleased to welcome Blackburn, Pioneer 79 and Kendal into the Swimming League for 2016.

In looking forward the Swimming Committee have met to discuss how we can move the league forward in a time where Club's competition Calendars are increasingly full. It has been mentioned that there is still a real need for the Swim League but the current structure needs 'tweaking'. The proposed changes will have to be brought to the Executive Meeting next year for discussion before they can go ahead.

In Brief these changes would see the Swim League run with 2 Divisions comprised of 8 teams. Three gala dates would be selected by the Swimming Committee in which there would be two galas running back to back for each division. The proposal would see Palatine, Darwen and Salt Ayre used for these fixtures. A Referee would be appointed by the Swim League Secretary for each of these galas. More information will become available after the Swimming Committee Meet in 2016.

Many Thanks

Jane

The President Presented the Swim League Trophies to the following League Winners:

Swim League

- Division 3 The John Wilding Trophy presented Lancaster
Division 2 The Clitheroe & District ASC Trophy presented to Preston B
Division 1 The Darwen ASC Trophy presented to Preston A.

GEORGE HARRIS SALVER

The President had put forward a nomination at the October Executive meeting which had been unanimously approved.

This was presented to Sue Tinkler, who has served as Secretary to the Association for over 13 years. Sue has done a great job when not always in the best of health. She has done a sterling job organising the Swim Camps, which have been greatly enjoyed by hundreds of swimmers over the years. She remains a Life Member of the Association and will no doubt continue to attend and contribute to the Association meetings.

The Salver (together with a replica for retention) was presented to Sue Tinkler in recognition of her services to the Association.

The President also presented a small gift to Kevin Whiteside, upon his stepping down from the role of Hon Treasurer.

Election of Officers

Office	Name	Proposed	Seconded
President	G Whittle	Elected as VP in 2015	
Vice President	A Gaskell	G Rankin	M Parkinson
Secretary	B Thompson	M Wilson	K Whiteside
Treasurer	G Rankin	A Gaskell	Janice Whittle
Champ. & A/G Sec.	Janice Whittle	S Burrows	M Parkinson
Swim League Sec.	Jane Whittle	E Bonsell	M Parkinson
Water Polo Sec.	No Proposal – delegated to the first Exec meeting in 2016		

The nominations above were unanimously approved.

Bob Thompson presented the chain of office to Garry Whittle, the incoming President who assumed the chair for the remainder of the meeting.

CHANGE OF BANK MANDATE

The President pointed out that it was necessary to change the bank signatory mandate, given the election of new officers and that such a change required the approval of the Council in General Meeting.

All cheques/payments require two signatories from three possible signatories. It was proposed that:

Bob Thompson will remain a signatory.

Garry Whittle & Gill Rankin will be added to the mandate

Sue Tinkler & Kevin Whiteside will be removed as signatories.

The proposal was unanimously agreed and the Hon. Treasurer authorised to liaise with the Bank regarding the necessary changes.

CONSTITUTION

The President advised that the new constitution had been circulated prior to the AGM and had been discussed at length by the Executive. The changes are largely to terminology and to reflect the changes to the management structure within the ASA. There are also additions to deal with inquorate meetings and appeals procedures, where the previous constitution was silent. All drafting has been undertaken with the help and advice of the NW Region Rules Committee.

The Association can only amend its Constitution with the consent of the full Council in general meeting. It is the clear recommendation of the Executive that the Council adopt the new Constitution to come into effect subject to final ratification by the Swim NW Rules Committee in the New Year.

Garry thanked Bob for the work he had put into the redrafting.

The meeting unanimously approved the recommendation, the new constitution was adopted and the Hon. Secretary tasked with liaising with NW Region Rules Committee regarding final ratification.

EXECUTIVE CALENDAR 2016

Fixtures Meeting	After AGM
Executive Meetings	Monday 8 th February 2016
County Hall Preston 7.30pm	Monday 18 th April 2016
	Monday 6 th June 2016
	Monday 12 th September 2016
	Monday 24 th October 2016
AGM	Monday 5 th December 2016
County Hall in Preston 7.30pm	

Bob Thompson thanked everyone for attending and wished everyone a Happy Christmas and Prosperous 2015 both in and out of the pool.

The Meeting closed at 8.30pm

Signed.....

Date.....

North Lancs Swimming & Water Polo Association

Accounts 12 months Ended 30th September 2015

	Notes	30.09.2015	30.09.2014
			£
Affiliation & Swim League Fees		£415	£345
Lower Level Three Development Meet	2	£2,348	£2,294
Level Three Meet & Squadrons	1	£9,277	£3,015
Bank Interest		£12	£87
Swim Camp Net Expenditure	3	(£6,887)	(£3,113)
Coaching Grants	5	(£4,975)	(£6,947)
Insurance		(£353)	(£331)
Inter Association Competition	4	(£1,789)	(£1,371)
ASA Affiliation Fees		(£30)	(£30)
Seminar		-	(£488)
Water Polo Results Sheets		-	(£215)
Postage & Stationery		(£16)	(£75)
AGM & Committee Expenses		(£413)	(£397)
Equipment		-	(£455)
Miscellaneous		(£380)	(£687)
Net (Deficit) for Year		(£2,791)	(£8,368)
Funds B/Fwd		£37,675	£46,043
Funds C/Fwd		£34,884	£37,675
Represented by:-			
Bank Current Account		£9,264	37,512
Reserve Account		£25,004	-
Petty Cash		£616	163

Total Funds	£34,884	£37,675
<p>K Whiteside Hon. Treasurer 06.10.2015</p> <p style="text-align: center;">John Armour Independent Examiner</p>		

Notes to the Accounts	2015	2014
1 Upper Level Three Meet & Squadrons		
Entry Fees/Coaches Passes	13,996	10,715
Spectator Fees	4,934	4,588
Total Income	18,930	15,303
Pool Hire invoice	(5,229)	(5,612)
Officials Expenses	(1,656)	(2,217)
Catering & Refreshments	(592)	(604)
ASA Levy to be paid	(663)	(588)
Medals & Trophies Running Imp	(833)	(532)
Badges	-	(1,514)
Printing Post & Staty (incl Progs)	(680)	(1,007)
Wristbands	-	(73)
Sundry	-	-
Polo Shirts	-	(141)
Total Expenses	(9,653)	(12,288)
Net Surplus	£9,277	£3,015
2 Lower Level Three - Development Meet		
Entry Fees/Coaches Passes	4,930	5,427
Spectator Fees	1,868	1,954
Total Income	6,798	7,381
Pool Hire	(2,052)	(2,933)
Officials Expenses	(733)	(889)
Catering & Refreshments	(223)	(218)
Medals	(545)	(408)
ASA Levy	(288)	(313)
Wristbands	(158)	-
Polo Shirts	(129)	-

Printing Post & Staty (incl Progs)	(322)	(326)
Total Expenses	(4,450)	(5,087)
Net Surplus	£2,348	£2,294
3 Swim Camp		
Contributions	9,060	3,020
Coaching	(2,300)	(2,250)
Room & Pool Hire	(2,824)	(2,621)
Accomodation & Lunches	(9,349)	(289)
Therabands	(335)	(300)
Log Books & Printing	(164)	-
T Shirts	(550)	(364)
Admin, Travel, etc	(425)	(309)
	(15,947)	(6,133)
Net Cost	(£6,887)	(£3,113)
4 Inter Association		
Swimming Caps	(415)	(359)
T Shirts	(405)	(412)
Entry Fee	(800)	(600)
Travel	(169)	-
Net Deficit	(£1,789)	(£1,371)
5 Coaching Grants		
Blackpool Aquatics		(600)
Burnley	(600)	(395)
Chorley	(395)	(395)
Clitheroe		(395)
Colne ASC		(600)
Fleetwood	(395)	-
Garstang	(600)	(805)
Great Harwood		-
Kendal	(395)	
Lancaster	(600)	(600)
Leyland	(395)	(598)
Lytham	(395)	
Ormskirk		(500)

Pioneer	(600)	(600)
Preston	(600)	(600)
Safegurading - Chorley		(459)
Safeguarding - Burnley		(400)
	(£4,975)	(£6,947)