

SUSSEX COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

held on Saturday 22 June 2013 at Haywards Heath Town Hall at 14.50hrs.

PRESENT: Mr P McCallum (Chairman) and members as recorded on the attendance list.

APOLOGIES: Margaret Tuppen (Secretary), Michael Elliott (Treasurer), Pauline Draper, Giles Hundleby and Sheila Paice.

Item No.		Action
1/2013	In the absence of the Hon Secretary, the Chairman read the notice convening the meeting.	
2/2013	MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING 2012 The minutes of the ACM held on 23 June 2012, which had been circulated, were offered by the Chairman for approval. This provoked a discussion of item 6/2012 of those minutes, regarding alterations to the Sussex County ASA rules. Ray Barber pointed out that the minutes: • did not include past presidents in the list of people eligible to be on the Sussex County ASA Council (rule 12a); • provided insufficient explication of the changes proposed to rules 18 and 21 for anyone not present at that meeting. (This problem was compounded by the fact that neither the website nor the handbooks are up to date, making it impossible for anyone to check the current rules.) It was proposed by Brian Smith, and seconded by Carol Barber, that the above points should be addressed and reviewed by the Management Committee, and the revised rules sent out as an addendum to the minutes. Subject to these corrections, the 2012 minutes were approved.	
3/2013	MATTERS ARISING FROM MINUTES There were none.	
4/2013	ANNUAL REPORT 2012/2013 The Chairman presented the annual report for the year 2012/2013, which had been circulated, and thanked all those who had contributed to it. The discipline secretaries were asked if they had any comments to make and there were some minor corrections: • David Rosen, Diving Secretary, wished to make clear that the divers from Eastbourne were of course hoping to enter the 2014 national event (rather than 2013). • In the open water events, the Eastbourne 2K will take place on Sunday 11 August (not July, as stated).	

	The topic of the website being out of date was again raised by Ray Barber, who commented that it was clear from the annual report that the various disciplines are doing very well, but that the information they have provided will not be disseminated if it is not published on the website. He felt that the Management Committee was not fulfilling its role in this matter, and that it set a bad example to the County's clubs. The website has been out of date now for over a year and the situation is unacceptable. It was proposed by Ray Barber and seconded by Brian DeVal that the annual report be accepted and this was carried unanimously.	
5/2013	FINANCIAL REPORT	
	In the absence of the Treasurer, the Chairman presented a review of the accounts for the financial year to 31 March 2013, and a statement of the County's financial position as at year end. This report had been circulated. To summarise, the County had made a surplus this year despite anticipating a loss, and was in a strong financial position with reserves greater than the annual turnover. Regarding expenditure on training and development, Glenise Buck commented that the training camp at Moira House, cancelled due to snow, had been rescheduled for May (after financial year end), and so the costs of this will be reflected in the accounts for 2013/2014. Chris Hobbs pointed out that this would also be the case for the courses from the Volunteer CPD day which had to be rescheduled to July. Deedee Pickering proposed, and Chris Hobbs seconded, that the review of accounts be accepted and this was carried by the Council. Thanks were also extended to Michael Elliott for his work as Treasurer.	
6/2013	ALTERATIONS TO SUSSEX COUNTY ASA RULES	
	Rule 2 refers to the objectives of the association. A hard copy setting out the current wording of rule 2, together with the proposed changes, had been circulated as an appendix to the agenda. Brian DeVal explained that he had proposed these alterations to rule 2 in order to tighten it up and to make the goals more achievable. Ray Barber expressed his concern about part c, where it was proposed to change "enforce observance of the laws of the ASA" to "enforce the laws of the ASA". It was agreed that the ASA's role was not to enforce laws, but the observance of them, and so the original wording will stand. Subject to this amendment, the changes proposed by Brian DeVal were seconded by Deedee Pickering and carried.	
7/2013	PRESENTATION OF PRESIDENT'S PLATE	
	The President, Glenise Buck, presented the President's Plate to	

	Rod Miller of Eastbourne Swimming Club, referring to his long involvement with the club and his distinguished career in open water swimming. He has also been a County Masters swimming coach for approximately 20 years and the County Masters Swimming Secretary, and is a life member of the Sussex County ASA. The President also presented Andrew Rigg, last year's recipient of the President's Plate, with a small replica as a memento.															
8/2013	INSTALLATION OF PRESIDENT FOR 2013/2014 The Chairman read a short biography of Carol Barber, from Chichester Cormorants, covering her lifelong interest in swimming and athletics and her commitment to passing these skills on to others, being a qualified PE teacher, a British Gymnastics Coach, a Level 3 Swimming Coach and an ASA Judge. The current President, Glenise Buck, installed Carol Barber as President for the coming year, and presented her husband Ray with the consort's medal. The newly installed President said that she was honoured to fulfil this role and briefly stated her aims for the year. She was keen to effect an improvement in communication between the association and its clubs: an issue that has come to the fore recently. She also declared herself an advocate of the continuation of the County Development Meet as it provides all swimmers with an opportunity to take part in a County event. The President aims to improve standards and performance at every level, whilst still ensuring that the most talented swimmers have access to appropriate support. In particular, she was looking forward to having greater involvement with the different disciplines within the County. The President then presented Glenise Buck with her Past President's ribbon.															
9/2013	ELECTION OF VICE-PRESIDENT FOR 2013/2014 The Chairman read a résumé of Anthony Gimson, the incoming Vice-President, who is a life member of Watford SC, Mid Sussex Marlins and the Sussex County ASA, is on the SER Masters Management Group and still enjoys Masters swimming. The newly appointed Vice-President said that he would do his best to follow "in the stalwart steps" of his predecessors.															
10/2013	ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND OFFICE HOLDERS FOR 2013/2014 The following persons, who had been proposed and seconded, were elected en bloc: <table><tr><td>Chairman</td><td>Mr Peter McCallum</td></tr><tr><td>Hon Secretary/Data Controller</td><td>Mrs Margaret Tuppen</td></tr><tr><td>Hon Treasurer</td><td>Mr Michael Elliott</td></tr><tr><td>Development Hon Secretary</td><td>Mr Brian DeVal</td></tr><tr><td>Diving Hon Secretary</td><td>Mr David Rosen</td></tr><tr><td>Masters Swimming Hon Secretary</td><td>Mr Chris Luesley</td></tr><tr><td>Swimming Hon Secretary</td><td>Mrs Deedee Pickering</td></tr></table>	Chairman	Mr Peter McCallum	Hon Secretary/Data Controller	Mrs Margaret Tuppen	Hon Treasurer	Mr Michael Elliott	Development Hon Secretary	Mr Brian DeVal	Diving Hon Secretary	Mr David Rosen	Masters Swimming Hon Secretary	Mr Chris Luesley	Swimming Hon Secretary	Mrs Deedee Pickering	
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Swimming Hon Secretary	Mrs Deedee Pickering															

	Open Water Swimming Hon Secretary Mr Ivan Horsfall-Turner Synchro Hon Secretary No nomination Water Polo Hon Secretary Dr Roger Edmondson Welfare/Workforce Co-ordinator Mrs Christine Hobbs Non Management: Disability Hon Secretary Mrs Pauline Draper Trophy Hon Secretary No nomination It was noted that there has been no trophy secretary in office for many years and that the responsibility for this onerous task should perhaps lie with the Swimming Committee rather than with the Secretary until a person can be appointed.	
11/2013	ELECTION OF COMMITTEES FOR 2013/2014 The following were proposed, seconded and then elected: Management Committee Mr G Hundleby Mr A Putland Mr A Rigg Mr P Williams Atlantis ASC Eastbourne SC East Grinstead SC 1066 Swimmers Swimming Committee Mr A Lobley Mr B Smith Mr P Williams Atlantis SC Brighton SC 1066 Swimmers Alan Putland, on behalf of Eastbourne Swimming Club, then nominated Chris Hobbs as a member of the Swimming Committee in addition to her other role as Welfare Co-ordinator, and Audrey Taylor seconded this.	
12/2013	APPOINTMENT OF QUALIFIED ACCOUNTANT It was proposed by Chris Hobbs and seconded by Ray Barber that Mr Stewart Rose be reappointed as our qualified accountant. The proposition was unanimously agreed and a vote of thanks was given to Mr Rose.	
13/2013	ELECTION OF HON LIFE MEMBERS There were no nominations for life members.	
14/2013	ANY OTHER BUSI NESS There had been no notice of any other business. Ray Barber, however, wanted to raise the issue of the mid-term meeting which was cancelled this year on the grounds of a perceived lack of interest from the clubs. RB reminded the Council that one of the association’s rules was that the meeting should be held – and the appropriate paperwork should be sent out to clubs in good time to facilitate their participation.	

	There being no further business the meeting closed with a vote of thanks to the Chairman at. 16.12hrs.	
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Signed.....Chairman Dated

Proposals for Sussex County Championships 2014

Subsequent to the Annual Council Meeting, Phil Williams outlined the proposals for alterations to the Sussex County Championships 2014.

He explained that as part of the Swimming Committee he had observed the changes taking place at national level, and also the decline in popularity of the County Development Meet, and a working group had been selected from members of the committee to review the Sussex County swimming competitions.

Several ideas were under consideration, but the most significant changes recommended were

- the running of the County Championships long-course
- the introduction of a short-course winter championships
- the cessation of the County Development Meet.

The only firm proposal of these was the first. Full information about all the proposals is already on the website, leading some people present to feel that the changes are inevitable, but Phil Williams emphasised that these are only suggestions and their implementation will be subject to the feedback received from the whole swimming community. At present there seems to be a split between the views of swimmers and parents, on the one hand, and coaches on the other. Brian Smith confirmed that the informal feedback he had received from coaches was that long-course was the way forward as swimmers cannot enter national events without long-course times.

Phil Williams distributed brief details of the proposals and forms requesting feedback, but asked that all feedback be returned electronically where possible and by 21 July. After this consultation phase, the proposals would have to go through the Swimming Committee and then through the Management Committee, with a target implementation date of the 2014 championships.

The presentation concluded at 16:40.