

# Winsford Amateur Swimming Club AGM

7.00pm Friday 17th May 2019  
Winsford Lifestyle Centre

	Comments	Action
<b>1</b>	<p><b>Chair's welcome and Apologies</b> Chair welcomed everyone to the Club's Annual General Meeting. Apologies from Adam Parkinson and Catharine Line</p>	
<b>2</b>	<p><b>Chair's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An eventful year, unfortunately dominated by the chlorine issue. Thankfully this has now meant we have a pool that all feel the benefits of - Brio, the wider public and the club.</li> <li>• The Chair thanked our young teachers, who are all swimmers or ex-swimmers. A big thanks also to Michael Secker, who plays a key role in the club, our initial stroke coach, preparing our swimmers for their journey through the squads.</li> <li>• Thanks too, to our coaching team, in particular Nigel Woodbridge, who played a very big role in resolving the pool issues.</li> <li>• The Chair finally thanked the Committee and all parent volunteers, who all contribute to making the club so successful.</li> </ul>	
<b>3</b>	<p><b>Treasurer's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whilst not quite as good as 2017, FY2018 has still been a strong year financially, with around £15k profit.</li> <li>• Fundraising raised an amazing £9k after costs - galas, time trials, sponsorship etc and another £4k from Barclays fund matching, presentation night, green tokens, Bags of clothes, raffles etc.</li> <li>• Pool hire has increased to £6.5K and teaching/coaching costs have increased by £1K</li> <li>• Investments have been made in new lane ropes (£4K), and to increase coaching salaries. The Committee also agreed that no increase in membership fees was needed this year.</li> <li>• Net assets of the club of are circa £55.5K.</li> <li>• Treasurer also thanked all the behind the scenes volunteers - Kate, Sarah and Debra for keeping on top of membership fees, Suzanne, for chasing up starter fees and ASA registrations, Steph for fundraising and the expansion of the club shop and Sue and Oli for the new gala entry system. All have meant our club is now doing so well financially.</li> </ul>	
<b>4</b>	<p><b>Coaches Reports</b> Juggernaut Squad - Dan Goodwin. Dan unable to attend – Head Coach's Report attached Appendix 1</p> <p>Development Squad - Alex Law.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Another great year for the Dev squad. The new system of</li> </ul>	

	<p>sharing Bronze with Michael is working well.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Always a challenge with swimmers ranging in age from 8-22</li> <li>• The extension of the Thursday night session has been really beneficial for Gold. Platinum is starting to become a much more competitive squad, just on the edge of Juggernauts.</li> <li>• Overall aim is to keep the sessions fun, whilst getting the swimmers fully prepared for Juggernauts.</li> <li>• The new Tues night land training is also going really well. Alex stressed the importance of good pre-pool, stretching and mobility practices.</li> <li>• Dev squad was our largest squad at The Cheshires - great achievement.</li> <li>• Swim camp was also a huge success, enjoyed by all.</li> <li>• Alex thanked Claire Brown and Sophie Grindley for their help poolside, Sue, Julie and Michael for swim camp and the gala team for organising all the gala opportunities for the swimmers.</li> </ul>	
<b>5</b>	<p><b>WASC Presentation Evening</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Due to the unavailability and limited size of the Middlewich British Legion Club, Claire Turner has been busy searching for a new larger venue.</li> <li>• With thanks to input from members, following discussions, we agreed upon The Lostock Club in Northwich, which has around a 500 person capacity.</li> <li>• Issue was raised by Lostock owners with respect to catering liabilities</li> <li>• The Committee thanked Claire for all the legwork.</li> </ul>	<p>1. Lucie George to liaise with venue re hygiene/allergen policies. 2. Claire to book.</p>
<b>6</b>	<p><b>Scoreboard Repairs</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quotes of around £390 + VAT for the scaffolding and £695 + VAT for the repairs. This would need to be done over the Christmas shutdown, in agreement with Brio</li> <li>• Due to many associated scoreboard issues, It was agreed that further discussions were needed to determine whether we repair the scoreboard, or invest in a new, more modern system. Members brought forward a number of helpful suggestions and options. It was agreed to look into grant funding and other revenue options to help with this</li> </ul>	<p>3. Committee to examine further</p>
<b>7</b>	<p><b>Swim Camps 2020</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Senior swim camp to be held in Spain in Feb 2020. 33 going. A couple of spaces left - potentially offered to Gold squad members about to move up to Juggernaut. Sue, Claire, Alex, Dan and Dan to attend.</li> <li>• Overseas swim camp is proposed to be every 2 years.</li> <li>• Will ensure adequate coaching cover for swimmers remaining at Winsford.</li> <li>• Junior swim camp. Nothing booked as yet, but hope to plan another next Easter. Helen Jones happy to book this, but would need a volunteer to be the parent liaison etc as Julie did this year.</li> </ul>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parent volunteers to attend due to Sue/Julie children having moved squads. It is important that we have parents of the junior squad members attending Team Manager courses etc to ensure a steady flow of support through the squads, enabling swim camps to be possible.</li> <li>• Many thanks from the Chair for all involved in the camps.</li> </ul>	
<b>8</b>	<b>Morning Sessions</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unfortunately numbers have been declining dramatically, with zero swimmers turning up for 1 Monday session - this is demotivating for coaches and waste of the club resources, with pool hire and lifeguard cover to be paid for regardless</li> <li>• The Club is struggling to secure further pool availability, and so it is critical to the Club's success to increase morning attendance, particularly with the younger swimmers. Quieter morning sessions can be tailored more to individual swimmers and can be more technique based.</li> <li>• Alex reinforced that morning sessions are the core of swim training at all clubs, with evening sessions being additional opportunities, not the other way around.</li> <li>• Many clubs make an attendance mandatory for the top squads, including previously at Winsford.</li> <li>• It was agreed to that further discussion is required with swimmers, squad coaches &amp; parents on this topic.</li> </ul>	<b>4. Chair and coaches to discuss further</b>
<b>9</b>	<b>Technique Session Feedback</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Positive feedback. Looking to hold more sessions in the summer holidays.</li> <li>• Feedback from Dave Petengell was that it would be better to split the swimmers into age groups to make coaching easier and more beneficial to all.</li> <li>• The club broke even on costs for these sessions</li> </ul>	<b>5. Chair to explore opportunity for more sessions</b>
<b>10</b>	<b>Dev Squad Land Training</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mostly covered under Alex's report. Some children unable to attend Tuesday session, so may look into an alternative if room availability.</li> <li>• Juggernaut squad land training was also raised, in particular, concerns that some swimmers were unable to swim after the session. Discussions need on this with Dan.</li> <li>• Alex reinforced the need to re-instate pre-swim warm up routines, perhaps led by the older swimmers. It is clear that good mobility/stretching practices have slipped by the swimmers on poolside prior to sessions. These are vital and should become second nature.</li> </ul>	<b>6. Chair to discuss with Coaches</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>Committee Roles</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Chair went through all the current volunteer roles, again thanking the many volunteers that enable the Club to be run so well</li> <li>• Alison Oliver steps down as Club Secretary - to be succeeded</li> </ul>	<b>7. Chair to resource Presentation Medal Co-ordinator</b>

	<p>by David Cushen. Dave will also take on some of the Chair's responsibilities, such as SwimMark Accreditation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Club Secretary will also absorb the role of Press Secretary with Erika Howman stepping down from that role.</li> <li>• With Erika leaving, the role of Co-ordinating the Presentation Night medals becomes vacant. Volunteers are invited to discuss with Chair</li> <li>• Chair paid thanks to Erika &amp; Phil Howman for their many contributions to the club over the years.</li> <li>• Helen Jones is continuing for another year as Treasurer. It was agreed to advertise for this role, later in the year with a view to ensuring a good transition period.</li> <li>• 2019 Committee in Appendix 2</li> </ul>	
12	<p><b>AOB</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Stephanie Cushen had brought in some of the new Buccaneer clothing range for parents to view. The full range is available via the link on our website. This is a great range. Thanks very much to Steph for all her time spent poring over the catalogue, and liaising with Buccaneer on the new designs</li> <li>• Repairs needed to one of the starting blocks, which is chipped.</li> <li>• Queries made about young volunteers. Any interested parties to liaise with Barry.</li> </ul> <p>The Chair closed the meeting by thanking all who attended.</p>	

## Appendix 1: Winsford Head Coach Report – AGM May 17<sup>th</sup> 2019

Winsford Swim Team over the last 12 months have performed to an exceptionally high level with Winsford being ranked as top club in both Cheshire West and East, top club in the north Midlands and top 2 club in Cheshire County. Winsford again continue to go from strength to strength with more and more swimmers reaching higher levels.

Over the past 12 months some of the more notable highlights:

- Top Club – North Midlands, 3x the amount of points from the second place team.
- Top 2 Club in Cheshire County.
- Top 8 Club – North West of England.
- 3 North West Winter Regional Junior Champions: Ethan Jones, Jay Cushen, Henry Oliver.
- Crusader League Champions for 5 years on the bounce.
- NW Arena Premier League for 7 Years, of which making the A Final in 5 of those. This year finishing our highest place ever 7<sup>th</sup>. Only club in Cheshire East & West in Premier League.
- Best National Championships ever, with 5 English Medals from 4 different swimmers (Ethan Wright, Izzy Kay, Jay Cushen, Finn Armitt).
- Welsh and English Summer National Medallists and Champions and British Finalist.
- Izzy Kay on England Talent team, Finn Armitt, Marcus Cook on DISE Program.
- 2 British National Qualifiers: Will Murray, Jay Cushen.

As you can see our success over the last 12 months has been nothing short of phenomenal, with Winsford Swim team punching well above its weight, time and time again. We have had much success over the last decade but I think this last year has been our best ever, ranking second in Cheshire, gaining our best position in the Arena League, and having our most successful National Championships ever being the stand out achievements. Success doesn't just arrive through chance, it is planned for. Success only comes about through hard work, commitment and a first class attitude.

Many thanks to all our swimmers who contributed to our clubs success over the last 12 months; we have without a doubt some of the best swimmers in the NW of England. The attitude when at training is second to none with all swimmers training with great focus and determination.

I would also like to thank all coaches and teachers who have spent many hours on pool side trying their very best to help our swimmers to improve. We have a superb range of coaching and teaching staff that make such a valuable contribution to our club and our swimmers. Special thanks to Daniel Stone, Alex Law, Michael Secker, Nigel Woodbridge, Claire Brown and Jenny Zwijnen who are so valuable to our swimmers and our programme. What is also very pleasing to see is so many of our swimmers helping out on the teaching and coaching side of things, giving back to the club and our younger swimmers, thanks to all those who volunteer on pool deck.

I would also like to thank Barry and all the Committee who make my life very easy, by allowing me to get on with my job of coaching, whilst they do the difficult parts of running a swimming club with hundreds of members. Not only would I like to thank the committee but also all parents who give up their free time to help our club, volunteers are the back-bone of our club, and it is these people who help our club to be so successful. Winsford Swim team is without doubt the best-run club I have ever been a part of and a leading example of how clubs should be managed. Thanks to all who have contributed in any way to our success. The last 12 months has been a record breaker in more ways than one, and one to look fondly back upon. But now we look forward to the next 12 months, I am sure it will be another fantastic year for our swimmers and our club.

Dan

Chairman	Barry Keeling
Treasurer	Helen Jones
Club Secretary	David Cushen
Membership Secretaries	Debra Thompson (A-F)
	Sarah Carss (G-N)
	Kate Adamson (O-Z)
Club Welfare Officer	Catherine Line
	Sarah Keeling
Swim England Registrations	Suzanne Wilson
Parent Representatives	Adam Parkinson
	Sue Wright
	Julie Grindley
	Angela Moss
League Gala Team Manager & 50m Training Co-ordinator	Claire Brown