

**Winsford ASC Committee Meeting**  
**Tuesday 18<sup>th</sup> January 2022**  
**Winsford Lifestyle Centre**

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Apologies</b>
Barry Keeling – Chairman (BK) Sarah Carss – Treasurer (SC) Lee Turner – Secretary (LT) Sue Wright – Gala Manager (SW) Claire Turner / Julie Grindley – Juggernauts Squad Representative (CL/JG) Steve Lloyd – Development Representatives (SL) Michael Secker – Coaches Representative (MS) Abbey George – Voice of the Swimmer Representative (AG) Claire Brown – Team Manager(CB) Lisa Ball – Promotions (LB) Liza Fitzgerald – Swim England Representatives (LF) Dan Goodwin – Head Coach (DG) Nickie Ma – Coach (NM)	Catharine Line – Welfare Officer
Notes	

BK opened the meeting welcoming all present and noting a number of agenda items that were to be covered;

### **New Starting Blocks**

BK stated that he had been contacted by HS Sports as a cold call to ascertain if the club required any further equipment, BK outlined that WASC was looking to fund raise and to purchase new starting blocks to which HS Sports identified that they manufactured starting blocks.

Following initial discussions H S Sports have provided an estimate of £6.5k for the purchase of new blocks and associated fittings

From recent fundraising there is already over £2k in existence to meet the costs of new blocks, BK had earlier in the day held a conversation with Kiera Hall from Swim England North West who had suggested that WASC apply for grant funding from SENW for new blocks.

Any shortfall between costs and funds raised could be met with both a 'Just Giving' page seeking opportunity for parents to contribute further to the purchase of the new blocks, any outstanding amount could be taken from WASC capital funds and then paid back once further fund-raising events are undertaken.

DG outlined the huge improvement to the swimmer's opportunity by the purchase of new blocks which should include the purchase of backstroke ledges.

H S Sports are to be invited in to meet BK & DG with a sample block to undergo a site survey.

The old blocks appear to belong to WASC and could therefore be sold to recoup some of the outlay of the purchase of the new blocks.

### **Survey Discussion**

A brief discussion was undertaken regarding the result of the recent survey, the coaches have already begun to respond to some of the points raised, NM suggested that any future surveys should only allow closed answers to questions outlining whether participants agree or disagree and to what degree with the posed questions, this would allow for a more focussed approach, opportunity would be permitted at the conclusion of the survey for further comment to be made.

LT outlined that there are companies who will devise and manage the survey including the production of infographics for little cost.

The coaches are to hold bi-annual meetings with individual swimmers to provide feedback on progression and what swimmers need to concentrate their efforts on.

The Chairman, Treasurer and Club Secretary will also meet with parents and members of WASC bi-annually to field questions and seek views of how the club is performing and any additional improvements that are sought.

LT outlined that overall, the survey was extremely positive in its content and demonstrated the passion both of the coaching team that was clearly recognised by those who completed the survey but also the level of support from parents who are keen to support the club and provide opportunities for continuous improvements.

### **Swim Camps**

Both Senior and Junior Swim Camps have been confirmed as going ahead, swim times and agendas have been arranged and agreed with respective venues, the transport for the senior camp will leave Winsford Lifestyle Centre at 08.00 hours on Sunday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2022.

The Junior swim camp is being run by Michael Secker and Mollie James, there is a requirement for two additional Team Managers to be present, initial suggestions as to who could attend were made and BK is to make contact with these individuals to ascertain if they are willing to assist in the Team manager role.

The Junior Swim Camp will be held at Moreton Hall between 11–14 April 2022

A parents' meeting is being held at 19.30 hours on 24.01.2022 between MS, CB & SW to finalise plans for the senior camp.

### **Social Committee Formation**

CT reported that a Social Committee has now been formed, members include CT, JG, Amanda Harrison, Michelle Inch and Carol Fletcher.

Following the success of this year's presentation evening CT is to make further contact with the venue and explore opportunity to increase the foot print for next year to allow for more attendees. The suggestion will be that guests bring their own food as per 2022 but it is like that Winsford Academy will want to provide a bar. Tickets will be again sold online and the start time of 16.30 hours will remain the same, the initial suggestion for next year's event will be Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> January 2023.

The social committee are also looking to organise a summer BBQ for the club which hopefully will be held in a field owned by Amanda Harrisons parents, further details are yet to be finalised and the initial date of 13<sup>th</sup> June 2022 was suggested although AG identified that this was probably during GCSE Exam period. CT identified that the swim calendar is quite full which provides little time outside of this date but will revisit the calendar and then liaise with DG to establish a potential alternative date for the BBQ.

The social committee are also looking to organise a winter event, previously the club has hired and attended at Water World in Staffordshire, and this may be an opportunity going forward.

### **New Logo Offer**

LT informed the meeting that he had received an offer from Mr Bloor to devise a new club logo, he had produced an example which was shown to committee members. There was concern that any new logo would involve the purchase by all members of new swimming equipment to replace existing and old items brandishing the old logo which could prove expensive.

There were a number of suggestions that instead of devising a new logo Mr Bloor could perhaps devise a logo for certain events that take place during the year that would not involve wholesale change of existing paraphernalia, e.g. Swim Camp Logo, etc.

Following discussion it was agreed to establish if Mr Bloor could look at the existing logo and maybe produce something similar which would replicate the design but bring it more up to date along with the design of a logo for events as outlined above.

Committee members remarked that the notice board on the balcony could become the responsibility of the social committee to ensure content is up to date and relevant.

### **Finance Position & Training Cost Increase**

SC provided a brief update on the current financial position within the club.

- Club is now turning a monthly profit although small, overall financial year to date there has been a £7k loss but this is a hangover from Covid, between the months of August and September the club started to break even.
- SC will provide a full detail of club finance at the impending AGM
- SC identified that whilst the club only turns a very modest monthly profit, Gala's provide a better opportunity to improve the overall finances of the club.
- In line with annual cost Brio has increased pool hire costs by 8.7%, this is probably due to the overall increase in energy costs.
- Brio have increased their costs for swimming lessons
- One of the requests during the recent survey was for additional coaches to be present poolside to enable more focussed feedback to individual swimmers.

SC outlined those coaches have not received a cost-of-living rise for over 12 months and with the above increased costs and additional coaching requirements unless the club increases their own training costs WASC would be in monthly deficit and could not survive.

SC & MS have been in recent discussion regarding an increase to the training costs and how this could be implemented which would be fair for all concerned, SC produced a spreadsheet identifying the new costs which are directly linked to the number of hours different squads swim.

Even with the increase to training costs the club would only be making approximately £150 per month profit and would need to continue to rely on open galas to increase credit balances for any future capital expenditure.

The proposal was agreed by the committee and will be presented at the AGM for future discussion and approval.

### **Gala Lead Official**

SW outlined that as Lucie George no longer wishes to undertake the position of lead gala official that position is vacant and will require filling to ensure that all the relevant responsibilities that the role determines are complete.

The three main areas of business are.

1. Promoter
2. Application of Licence
3. Organiser of officials roles on gala day

LT & BK agreed to undertake the responsibility for 1 & 2, suggestions were made as to who could undertake the main Gala Lead Official role and BK will make contact with that individual to ascertain their appetite.

### **Any Other Business**

- CB & DG identified that several clubs had now dropped out of the Crusader League, the current organiser no longer wishes to carry on with their role and there is real concern that the competition will no longer be viable going forward. DG identified that he wishes to enter two teams from WASC into the Arena League which would provide much more opportunity for swimmers to compete within a team event, the teams would be placed in the Premier League and for the first year the Minor League with hope for promotion. The suggestion was welcomed, and CB stated she were alert the league and also identify team names for the two WASC teams.
  
- BK informed the group that there was real desire for the North Midlands Competition to go ahead later in 2022

- NM enquired as to why the Cheshire Championships were not held in a 50m setting when other county championships were, BK suggested that it was due to a lack of 50m pools within the county, it was suggested that Stockport pool could be used and for the matter to be raised with the Cheshire Championship Committee
- The committee discussed the opportunity of reintroducing face to face land training and then for it to take place on Knights Grange in the warmer months

No.	Date	Outstanding Actions	Owner	Update
1.	18.01.2022	HS Sports to be invited into Winsford Lifestyle Centre for a site visit and discuss options with BK & DG ref: starting blocks.	Barry Keeling	
2.	18.01.2022	Complete grant application to Swim England Northwest for starting block funding	Barry Keeling	
3.	18.01.2022	Ascertain from Brio when Sunday training times would resume to previous times	Barry Keeling	
4.	18.01.2022	Ascertain from Brio when the pool will be available for Time Trial for MS	Barry Keeling	
5.	18.01.2022	Contact be made with two parents to ascertain if they will undertake the role of Team Manager during the Junior Swim Camp	Barry Keeling	
6.	18.01.2022	Prospective future dates to be discussed with Dan Goodwin for summer social	Claire Turner	
7.	18.01.2022	Explore the opportunity of Mr Bloor redesigning current logo close to current design and potential for logo design for other annual events e.g., swim camps	Lee Turner	

8.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	Notice board to be brought up to date and revamped.	<b>Social Committee</b>	
9.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	Brio to be consulted to identify potential times when land training and gym sessions to be undertaken	<b>Barry Keeling</b>	
10.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	A parent is to be approached to ascertain if she will undertake the role of Lead Gala Official	<b>Barry Keeling</b>	
11.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	Arena League to be notified of the intention by WASC to field two teams,	<b>Claire Brown</b>	
12.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	New team names for WASC Arena Team entrants to be created.	<b>Claire Brown</b>	
13.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	Adam Frost to raise opportunity for future Cheshire Championship to be held within 50M pool	<b>Sue Wright</b>	
14.	<b>18.01.2022</b>	Brio to be consulted on availability of room for AGM on 18.02.2022 and then advertised on WASC website	<b>Barry Keeling / Sue Wright</b>	