

Winsford ASC Committee Meeting Sunday 26th July 2025 Winsford Lifestyle Centre	
Attendees	Apologies
Barry Keeling – Chairman Rob Hancock - Treasurer Jacqui Jones – Secretary Michael Secker - Coach Claire Turner - Social committee Leanne Webster - Membership	Nina Jackson - Lead Official Nickie Ma - Coach Ali Brennan - squad representative Sue Wright - Gala committee Lucy Lee - Welfare

Barry opened the meeting welcoming all present.

1. Review of AGM actions

Committee roles and responsibilities

These were circulated via email but the committee agreed to add to the website with details of who does what, in particular for membership which involves several people and hand-offs

Action:

Barry will create a flow sequence and committee members will add to it as appropriate

Coaching staff bios and email address

Some coaches have submitted a detailed bio along with description of roles and responsibilities. The email address has been created and is on trial use with the Thursday squad.

Action:

Michael will add the bios to the coaching area of the website and will communicate the coaching email address to the rest of the club when ready to expand its use.

Pool time

We revisited the issue of pool time; splitting the Juggernauts squad at the weekend has helped those sessions but Wednesday nights in particular are crowded, also because the blocks are in use. Can be managed to a certain extent by the type of practice.

Longer term Christleton is an option but not until the renovations at Northgate Arena are completed, so still probably a year out. A collaboration with Northwich was also discussed but not a solution at this time, possibly in the future.

2. Lanzarote swim camp 2026

This discussion focused around the financial implications of the trip. The £200 non-refundable deposit did not cover the cost of the flights, so the club is out of pocket for those that dropped out after flights were booked. Of those that dropped out we have different levels of payment made: no deposit, £200 deposit, and one has paid £600. Need to agree how to handle these cases and in the meantime look to fill the now vacant slots. The committee agreed that an international camp puts pressure on some families, particularly those with more than one child eligible to go, and the strong recommendation from the committee is to go back to alternating between international and UK-based camps and that any future surveys will go to parents not swimmers. Additionally the committee recommended that in the case of international trips the deposit should cover the cost of the flight.

Actions:

Jacqui to pull together the sub-committee for the Lanzarote camp to agree on payments/refunds for those that have dropped out, and ensure all planning is in place leading up to the trip.

Jacqui to set a preliminary meeting before the end of the year to discuss options for 2027, considering the recommendation for UK-based.

3. Cardinal Performance Swimming

Cardinal performance swimming is supporting our club in three ways:

- Personalized training through the cardinal app for the performance group of swimmers on an opt-in basis, costs covered by the swimmer
- Gym programs for the junior swimmers provided free of charge which Michael has modified so they are suitable for the target age-group and posted to the website
- Four webinars a year available for all members of the club to attend, and recordings posted to the website.

The committee agreed that this information needs to be available on our website, along with planned dates for the webinars since the last one was given with very short notice.

Actions:

Barry will contact Clive at Cardinal to create this website post and plan dates for the future seminars

Michael will sort out the website to have a main page with introduction to who Cardinal and subsections for the three areas noted above

4. Financial update

Currently we are £9000 down on the year but this is primarily due to having to pay Swim England up front for the entire year. We should get £2000 back from them for errors in the membership accounting

We discussed the issue of paying the £30 Swim England membership for swimmers who then don't actually start at all and therefore don't pay anything leaving the club out of pocket. This is primarily applicable to lessons not squads. We discussed charging the £30 as a joining fee to secure the place, and then subsequently applying a discount eg after 6 months of lessons.

Actions:

Michael and Leanne need to clear the system in September to ensure we do not carry memberships for those that have left the club.

Rob to look at a joining fee for new applications for lessons, Michael and membership team to support

Brio discounts: four years ago we had a 40% discount with Brio which has been tapering every year and now down to 10%. This needs to be considered in next year's fees adjustment.

5. Level 3 training for Molly

Molly is registered for level 3 training which is a one year course at a cost of £2100. Most of the cost will be covered by the club; we can apply for coaching bursaries from SENW, Cheshire and North Mids, and Molly will contribute a small part TBD. We will also build in a retention incentive in case Molly is approached by another club.

Ethan Wright is also going to join the coaching team and is looking to do an L1/L2 combined course if possible.

Actions:

Jacqui to apply for the coaching bursaries

Rob agree on Molly contribution and retention plan

6. Volunteers

We have 9 new timekeepers and training is planned for July 30th. Some of these are swimmers and we are always in need of new volunteers. The committee discussed ways to involve new parents as they join the club who may not know how to get involved eg through meet and greet events.

Actions

Start with the presentation evening, **Barry** to do his usual plea for volunteers, **Jacqui** to discuss becoming a J1 official (not as intimidating as it might look) and **Michael** will demonstrate timekeeping.

7. Presentation evening

The presentation evening is set for 6th September at Crewe Alexandra FC. Claire will ask for the room from 6pm to start at 6:30. Once confirmed with Crewe a message will go out on the website

8. Other business

Underwater incident

There was an incident earlier this month during an extended underwater exercise. The swimmer had to be pulled from the water but regained consciousness and made a full recovery. The incident is currently with Brio health and safety and there can be no extended underwater practice until we hear back from them

Lead Official

Nina Jackson is stepping down as Lead Official and will be replaced by Stuart Fraser. Many thanks to Nina for all she has done for Winsford and welcome Stuart to the team.