

**Winsford ASC Committee Meeting
Sunday 11th January 2026
Winsford Lifestyle Centre**

Attendees

Barry Keeling – Chairman
Rob Hancock - Treasurer
Jacqui Jones – Secretary
Nickie Ma - Volunteer Coach
Michael Secker - Coach
Stuart Fraser - Lead Official
Leanne Webster - Swim England Membership
Sue Wright - Gala Committee
Danielle Stonier - Team Manager and Arena League coordinator
Claire Turner - Social Committee
Lisa Ball - Membership
Lucy Lee - Welfare
Cally Buso - Welfare

Apologies

Ali Brennan - squad representative

Barry opened the meeting welcoming all present.

1. AGM 2026

We are due to hold the AGM in March. Due to other items on the calendar we fixed the date as Sunday March 15th.

Actions

Jacqui - circulate an email to committee members to check if they are willing to continue in their roles for another year

- publish the date with a request for anyone wishing to stand for the committee, or wanting to add agenda items, before February 15th
- book the dance studio at Brio

Michael/Rob - agree squad fees and communicate to the committee prior to the AGM

2. Plan for older swimmers

- Barry introduced the topic which affects young adult swimmers who wish to continue swimming with the club during regular sessions. Swim England defines swimmers aged 18-24 as "Senior swimmers", and Masters are 25+. There are no specific requirements from a Safeguarding perspective but clubs which have adults and children swimming in the same lanes must include this in their risk assessments and take into account swimmers' ages, gender and size.
- As a club we have a capacity issue in the evenings and so the coaching team had suggested to our senior swimmers that they stop coming to the evening practices. This was not well received and it was agreed to bring it to the committee.
- Barry noted that as further education evolves including staying at home for degree courses and apprenticeships we may find the number of full time senior swimmers increases.
- Members of the committee noted that the senior swimmers have contributed and continue to contribute enormously to the club, as role models, helpers, mentors, coaches etc and did not want to remove sessions from these swimmers, particularly those continuing to compete at a National level.
- For the purposes of this discussion it was agreed that regular swimmers would be up until the completion of A levels or equivalent, plus a gap year, and senior swimmers are post gap year to age 24.
- The capacity issue on a Wednesday evening cannot be solved by removing the senior swimmers, and so a squad rotation was proposed whereby every 3 or 4 weeks one section swims on the Wednesday morning instead
- In order to address the potential safeguarding concerns the use of 16+ lanes was discussed so that young adults would only swim with children 16 or older. This is a potential issue on Monday nights where swimmers elect which stroke they wish to work on, meaning older and younger swimmers are more likely to be in the same lane. It was therefore proposed to exclude senior swimmers from Monday nights.**
- Masters swimming is available during all morning sessions in the masters lane. Brio Masters also trains on Tuesday night and Sunday morning at Winsford, and on Thursday night at Northwich. Senior swimmers who are not intending to compete at National level should be encouraged to train with the masters instead, at a significantly reduced fee.

****Update post meeting:** following a conversation with the head of Safeguarding at Swim England we are going to pause on the age-related topics, i.e. senior swimmers will not be excluded from Monday night practices, pending further guidance from Swim England on the issue.

Actions:

The coaching team will communicate the squad rotation for Wednesdays.

3. Photography and filming during galas and swim club sessions

- Sue has received complaints from parents due to filming and photography happening during galas and training sessions:
- Brio has a no photography and filming policy and we need to adhere to that during our training sessions
- Galas are considered closed events and so filming and photography is allowed. The committee agreed that restricting filming and photography is very difficult to monitor, and that instead the gala licensing conditions should include the statement that filming and photography may take place, and that no material should be shared on social media.
- It was noted that coaches may use filming as a training tool, with permission. Videos are shared with parents and then deleted from the coach's device.

Actions:

Welfare to communicate the photography and filming policy to members (completed 15/1/26)

4. Volunteer for hat ordering

Zoe is looking to step down from ordering club hats and so we are looking for a volunteer to replace her.

Actions:

Jacqui to find a volunteer to take this on

5. Heart rate monitors

- Molly has asked to buy ~20 heart rate monitors @ £30 each for use with the National Performance squad as an additional training tool. Using an app on the iPad coaches will be able to see the heart rates of the swimmers which will help them to train at the target intensity.
- Some committee members expressed concern that this could be used in a negative way, especially if heart rates are naturally lower it may look like a swimmer isn't pushing hard enough.
- The committee agreed to purchase up to 3 as a trial, and wanted to make sure there was appropriate training in place on their thoughtful use.

Actions

Jacqui to communicate to Molly that 3 may be purchased for a trial, and make a plan for training and feedback

6. Junior Arena League

The club has entered the Junior Arena League which is a semi-virtual league to be run over 3 galas. We intend to host one in May for 3 teams, and will attend two other galas in the local area in June and July.

Barry thanked everyone for their continued support and attendance, meeting closed