

MIDDLESEX COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION



NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE

ANNUAL COUNCIL MEETING

WILL BE HELD AT PERIVALE COMMUNITY CENTRE
HORSENDEN LANE SOUTH, PERIVALE MIDDLESEX

THURSDAY 19th NOVEMBER 2015 AT 7.00PM

TO TRANSACT BUSINESS AS PER AGENDA HEREWITH

Dated this twenty-seventh day of October 2015
Florence Barnes, Secretary,
293 Bilton Road,
Perivale,
Middx. UB6 7HH.

Club delegates must report to the Verification Officer to hand in the Verification slip and for the purpose of having this notice stamped after qualification to vote has been verified.

NOTICES

REPRESENTATION

Clubs are entitled to representation to the council meeting as set out below:-

Clubs with more than 250 members – 3 delegates

Clubs with 50 to 249 members - 2 Delegates

Clubs with less than 50 members – 1 Delegate

Club Secretaries, unless delegates from their Clubs, are not allowed to vote

I would ask you to forward the enclosed Notice of Meeting to your delegates.

AGENDA

1. Notice convening the meeting.
2. Apologies for absence.
3. Minutes of the Council Meeting held on Thursday 20th November 2014
4. Report of the Executive 2014/5.
5. Accounts 2014/2015
6. Election of Officers, Office Holders and Executive 2015/6 (see below)
7. Constitutional Amendments -
8. Appointment of Independent Examiners.

Middlesex County Amateur Swimming Association
(www.middlesexswimming.com)

Minutes of the Annual Council Meeting held on 20th November, 2014

Those present: -

Tony Burton (President & Brent Dolphins), Len Badcock (PP), Florence Barnes (Ealing SC),Natasha Coupland (Harrow SC), Pam Crofts (PP & Haringey Aquatics), Norman Edwards (PP & Heston SC), Susan Fletcher (Ealing)), (Trevor Hyde (PP & Ealing), Colin Jones, Brian Kapp (Haringey), Charlotte Lea (Seymour), Suzette Muhammed (Harrow S C), Nuala Muir Cochrane (CSC SC), Leah Pullen (Ealing), Mark Riskse (C&W SC), Ralph Shortland, (PP) H M Waller (Enfield Water Polo), Samantha Whitmore (Ealing SC), Andy Woska, (PP) and for the Presentations- Richard Waller & Yaron Gerber & their families.

1. Convening the Meeting

The President, Tony Burton, opened the meeting.

The President then welcomed everyone to the ACM. Trevor Hyde read out the Nomination form from the Water Polo Committee outlining the achievements of Richard Waller. (see Appendix A). The President then presented the Ron Turner Trophy for Water Polo's most improved player for 2014 to Richard Waller.

The President then presented the A Van Beets trophy for Boys to Yaron Gerber in recognition of his achievements during the year. (see Appendix B)

The A Van Beets trophy for Girls was awarded to Georgina Boyle (C & W) who had sent her apologies. The trophy will be presented at the next County meet.(see Appendix C)

The President then presented the President's Plate for 2014 to Pam Crofts in recognition of her loyalty and hard work, particularly with the effort needed to find Officials for all the County events.

Len asked that a small replica of the President's Plate be made and given to past recipients and he also asked for cloth badges be made to give to Past presidents. The secretary to implement.

Len proposed that the notice convening the meeting was taken as read.

2. Apologies for absence

Apologies were received from Maria Abrams, Stephen Baker, Richard Lerman (Haringey Aquatics), Gillian Neal (Seabyrds),Daphne Short (PP)Hugh Turner(Otters SC), Tom Walsh (Treasurer), Katie Ward (Hackney Aquatics), the Committee of West London Penguins &WPC ,

3. Minutes of last Council Meeting – November 21st 2013

Proposed by Ralph Shortland and seconded by Trevor Hyde. Adoption of the minutes was agreed subject to the following amendments : 'support and Enfield SC' be inserted and Ealing be changed from Harrow for Ralph Shortland.

4. Matters arising –

There were no matters arising

5. Report of the Executive 2013/14

Len commented that some of the reports varied in the yearly events they mentioned. After some discussion it was agreed that the Accounts were to 31st August and Len Badcock therefore proposed "All sections should submit their accounts to the Treasurer by 31st July as little happens in August apart from the Water Polo overseas competition. Water Polo should submit their accounts as soon as possible after the competition but before 30th September"

Len's 2nd proposal was "All general information from sections should be a summary of what has happened during the current year up to the due date for submission of the report to the Secretary."

The proposals were seconded by Tony Burton and unanimously agreed

There was a comment that we had 'Draft Accounts' and Norman explained that they are 'Draft' until they had been approved at the ACM. It was agreed that in future the Executive

would approve the accounts at the October meeting and then submit independently examined accounts to the ACM.

Each report was then open for comments and/or questions.

Annual report - none

President's report – none

Swimming Committee - Pam commented that some records had not been included in her report. The secretary would include them before the Annual report was put on the web site.

Masters - none

Synchro - none

Water Polo - none

Swimming Officials - none

The report was adopted.

6. Financial report

The Annual accounts were available for comment.

Individual entries on the Income and Expenditure Account were commented on.

The difference on the BagCats income included some income from last year because they were not available last year.

Len asked for the breakdown of figures for each individual competition, which had been available at the October Executive meeting, to be included in the Accounts for general interest.

The matter of collecting fines was discussed and agreed that Clubs who do not pay the fines be referred to the Disciplinary Committee by the Promoter.

The issue of investing some of the cash assets was left to the Treasurer to investigate together with the matter of a second account so that we can have a County Credit or Debit card.

Norman mentioned that at the last meeting of the Finance Committee, it was recommended that the rule of 2 signatures on cheques over £2000 be dropped. It was agreed that this be discussed at the next Executive meeting.

7. Election of Officers, Office Holders and Executive for 2014/2015

The President then installed Ralph Shortland as President for 2014/15. The new President then presented the Past President's Jewel to Tony.

The new President then took the Chair.

There was one nomination for President Elect – Wayne Hirst proposed by Gillian Neal and seconded by Colin Jones.

Wayne Hirst was duly elected President Elect for 2014/15

There had only been one nomination for the following posts and Ralph read the list:

Secretary – Flo Barnes (Ealing)

Hon Treasurer – Tom Walsh

Assistant Secretary – Gillian Neal (Seabyrds)

Assistant Treasurer – Norman Edwards (Heston SC)

Swimming Competitions Co-ordinator – Leah Pullen (Ealing SC)

Secretary Masters Committee – Ian Woollard (Barnet Cophall SC)

Secretary Swimming Committee – Pam Crofts (Haringey Aquatics)

Secretary Swimming Officials Committee – Ralph Shortland (Ealing SC)

Secretary Synchronised Swimming Committee – Charlotte Hedge (Seymour Synchro)

Secretary Diving Committee – Richard Lerman (Haringey Aquatics)

Secretary Water Polo Committee – Trevor Hyde (Ealing SC)

Secretary Disability / Open Water Committees – Brian Kapp (Haringey SC)

Welfare Officer – Maria Abrams (Ealing SC)

These were agreed and elected 'en bloc'

Trophies Secretary – Natasha Coupland offered to liaise with Sarah Miller with a view to taking over this post.

It was proposed by Len Badcock, and unanimously agreed that the following posts be deleted from the list:

Medical Adviser and Legal Advice Officer

The following were re-elected to the Executive Committee
Colin Jones (Seabyrds SC), Stephen Baker (W.London Penguins & WPC), Susan Fletcher (Ealing SC), Suzette Muhammad (Harrow SC), Hugh Turner (Otters)
Nomination was received for Samantha Whitmore (Ealing SC) to join the Executive, this was agreed.

It was agreed that Natasha Coupland be co-opted onto the Executive Committee at the next meeting.

8. **Constitutional Amendments –**

The item regarding the Trophies had been proposed by Len Badcock in agreement with the individual sections. This proposal was seconded by Andy Woska was agreed unanimously

9 **Appointment of Independent Examiners**

It was unanimously agreed that Smith Malhotra Limited be appointed as the County's Independent Examiners for the forthcoming year.

10 **AOB**

a) On behalf of Chelsea & Westminster SC, Mark Riskse asked for some clarification on the new proposed meet calendar changes from British Swimming.

Ralph explained that the County had taken into consideration the proposed changes following the late notification from the ASA that it was a decision to be made locally whether to adopt the changes as of 1st January 2015 or 1st January 2016 as Regions/Counties/Clubs etc may have already had to make arrangements for pool hire, meet dates etc.

The decision had not been taken lightly knowing there was going to be some disappointment whichever year we decided upon. The Swimming Committee, in liaison with the County Coach and other coaches, had recommended that we implement as of 1st January 2015 and this was agreed by the County Executive Committee

There being no further business to discuss, the President closed the meeting at 8.55pm
Date of next ACM Thursday November 19th 2015. Venue to be decided.

MIDDLESEX COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION



ANNUAL REPORT 2014/15

As you will see from the reports, the members of the County have again enjoyed the various activities in all disciplines. It has been a great pleasure to see Diving continue with the annual competition and congratulations to Richard and his team.

We have run the usual speed swimming competitions and championships and thanks go to Leah Pullen who has been the main organiser. As anyone involved in running Aquatic events will know, they do not just happen. There are so many people behind the scenes – our thanks go to the committee members, officials, coaches and, of course, the swimmers without whom they would not happen! I would also like to thank the many parents who transport and support their families.

Once again Allan Thornton, our County Coach, and his team ran a very successful Development Day which is proving very popular with swimmers and coaches.

Finally, I am very grateful to Ralph and all the members of the Executive for their continued help and advice and look forward to another successful year.

*Florence Barnes
Hon Secretary.*

Please find below the Reports from the Secretaries of the individual Disciplines that have been submitted to me.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT 2014-2015

It was with great sadness that the County lost three prominent people during this year.

Len Badcock, an Honorary Life President sadly passed away following several years of ill health, despite which he continued to support County, Regional and National events. His knowledge of swimming and water polo was immeasurable and he is sadly missed.

Mick Blunstone, also an Honorary Life President, passed away peacefully after a long period of illness.

Steve Carter, a County Referee, sadly passed away in September.

Our thoughts are with the families.

All aquatic disciplines continue to flourish in the County with a noticeable increase in the interest in Open Water swimming. Further details on the individual disciplines are given in the following reports from each section.

The year has not been an easy one for swimming, being the first year of the new National Calendar. This proved to be a reason why not so many of our clubs participated in some of the County events, but in fairness, some had already made their plans for this year prior to the new calendar being introduced.

The County calendar of events for 2016 has been finalised, dates of which are available on the County website. Venues for Long Course meets continue to be an issue. Booking of Crystal Palace is a problem being experienced by Clubs, Counties and Region alike, which the relative parties are trying to resolve. The cost of hiring the London Aquatics Centre at Stratford is also an issue, to which efforts are in place at higher levels to resolve. It is almost certain that any Long Course meet in 2016 therefore will be returning to Luton or Guilford.

Plans and consultation processes are in place for proposed new pools at Barnet and Ealing (Gurnell) and we wait to see what final plans are agreed and look forward to seeing these new pools in the coming years.

It was my pleasure and honour to represent Middlesex at the recent National County Team Championships at Ponds Forge, Sheffield on 18th October. Middlesex continued their success, continuing to be the highest ranked Southern team, in finishing 5th overall. The mighty Lancashire, Yorkshire and Somerset, once again produced strong teams and we were only narrowly beaten by 1 point by Northumberland and Durham in fourth place. This was an excellent performance from our swimmers, many of whom were swimming in this competition for the first time. It shows the strength in depth across the County given that some of our senior swimmers were not available.

Congratulations to all the swimmers in the team and thanks also must go to Allan Thornton and his team of coaches, Anabel Varela Carver (team manager), Andy Scott and Peter Clark our officials.

I am also very proud and honoured to have been elected as Vice President of London Region for 2015-2016.

The County Development Day continues to be a very enjoyable and successful day for the selected swimmers and coaches. Apart from pool sessions, the swimmers also benefited from sessions on Yoga, a talk by Georgina Boyle and a quiz on swimming rules. Thanks to Allan Thornton and his team for organising yet again a successful day.

I would like to thank the dedication of all coaches, team managers, swimmers, technical and non-technical officials and poolside volunteers who have assisted the County throughout the year, without whom, we would not be able to organise and run successful events.

And finally, I wish Wayne Hirst a successful and enjoyable year as President of Middlesex County in 2015-2016

Ralph Shortland
President
2014-2015



Financial Report 2014/15

The accounts for the year to 31st August 2015 will be available at the ACM

Tom Walsh
Treasurer



Swimming Committee

Swimming Committee Report 2015

This has been a busy and sometimes difficult year for the Swimming Committee. The Committee has held regular meetings with a lot to discuss in order to ensure we adhered to the latest requirements of British Swimming both with the calendar and the competitions. Although we had some absences, we have always managed to be quorate.

The committee has organised four competitions throughout the year, the Winter Development Meet in October 2014, Age Groups and Youth Competition in January/February 2015 (the BAGCATS are no more), Spring Development Meet in March 2015 and a Long Course Open Meet in May 2015 which, like last year, had to be located outside the County. Yet again, it has been an uphill struggle to staff the meets. In spite of valiant efforts by the Swimming Officials Committee our new officials often have a short 'shelf life' and, sadly, we have lost some of our older ones for various reasons; the call of the coast or pastures new mainly.

The Long Course Competition venue had been booked long before British Swimming revised the calendar and, as the date fell in the Regional phase, we had to hold this as an Open Gala in order to still

hold the Meet. Unfortunately, there were some problems with the pool admin prior to the event and the timing equipment on the day. However, the coaches have asked that the County do hold another Long Course event in 2016 – planning this is proving difficult at present due to fitting in with London Region.

The other meets all ran very well and were well supported by most clubs in the County.

Our current President, Ralph Shortland, has visited a number of clubs to present trophies that we were unable to present at the actual Championships trophies as well as certificates to all who have achieved a new County record during the year. We will be holding a presentation evening for the Age Group Championships in 2016 to, hopefully make things simpler.

Our County Coach, Allan Thornton, has, once again, organised a number of County swimmer-pathway events:-

At the annual Inter-Counties Teams Competition in Sheffield in October 2014 the team were fourth. This year another team of 24 swimmers once again travelled to Sheffield and achieved 5th place – top club in South East and London.. The team was accompanied by the County President, Ralph Shortland with coaches Allan Thornton, Bram Montgomery, Lawrence Northover, officials Peter Clark(Ealing) and Andy Scott (Staines). Anabel Varela Carver was an excellent Team Manager.

The team was: - Anton Akopian, Zoe Beaulieu, Georgina Boyle, Rory Burdin, Miles Clark, Lucy Drinkall, Harrison Filby, Sophie Fussell, Yaron Gerber, Julia Jaworksa, Brodie Judge, Alesha Kelly, Josh Kirlew, Isabel Moffat, Jahrel Murphy, Reece Nicholls, Sam Pereira, Dillon Roglic, Gaurika Singh, Anna Smail, Lena Soulas, Ewan Taylor, Aurnyn White, Spencer Williams.

The County Training Day in September, with 45 young swimmers from around the County, was a great success again. The day was held at Barnet Cophall pool and swimmers took part in a day filled with two separate training sessions, stretching and land training sessions, an introduction to Yoga specifically for their age group, a quiz and a talk with question and answer opportunities by one of our County swimmers, Georgina Boyle, who had recently returned from the Commonwealth Youth Games where she had represented England and had won a gold and a silver medal. She reminded the swimmers attending that, just a few years ago, she had been one of the swimmers sitting where they were today.

The event also incorporated a very successful session of mentoring for Judge level 1 candidates as well.

The County, again, held an Open Water Championships as part of the London Region Open Water Championships and a number of our swimmers carried away honours from London Region as well as from the County.

Finally the Swimming Committee, on behalf of the County offers congratulations to the following County swimmers who achieved National and International success this year as listed below.

Pam Crofts
Secretary, MCASA Swimming Committee

International Selections

Georgina Boyle – England Team for Commonwealth Youth Games.
200m Freestyle - Gold medal - 2:00.72
400m Freestyle - Silver medal – 3.11.95

Ekaterina Avramova – Selected for the World Championships in Kazan, Russia for Turkey.

Brodie Judge , Sophie Fussell, Anna Smail – all selected for the England talent Team for 3 nations international in Italy.

London Region team in 2015, comprised 26 swimmers of which 17 were from Middx clubs:
Ekaterina Avramova, Lucy Thornton, Maisie Jameson, Erin Nabney, Ben Levart, John Britton (all Ealing) ,
Isabella Hindley, Chloe Close, Alex DeTullio (C & W)
Megan Byrne, Karis Fuller, Yaron Gerber (Barnet)
Loulou Vos, George Taplin, Melanie Hall, Leon Berchie (Hillingdon)
James Adams (Teddington)

NEW COUNTY RECORDS to DATE 2015

George Taplin Boys' 200m Back Short Course Hillingdon 2.04.90 Middlesex County Championships
Barnet 19/01/15

George Taplin Boys' 200m Free Long Course Hillingdon 1.56.65 South Region Zonal Meet London
31/01/15

Sophie Fussell (13yrs) Girls 50m Breast Long Course Teddington 32.98 South Region Zonal Meet
London 31/01/15

Jahrel Murphy Boys' 50m Back Short Course Ealing 27.09 Middlesex County Championships
14/02/15 Enfield

David Bloomfield Boys' 50m Breast Short Course Brompton 30.72 Middlesex County Championships
Enfield 15/02/15

George Taplin Boys' 400m Free Long Course Hillingdon 4.02.94 British Championships 2015
14/04/15 London

Georgina Boyle Women's 200m Free Long Course Chelsea & Westminster 2.00.47 British
Championships 2015 18/04/15 London

George Taplin Boys' 200m Free Long Course Hillingdon 1.56.03 British Championships 2015
18/04/15 London

Paige Powell Girls' 50m Fly Short Course Ealing 29.23 Ealing L3 April Open Meet 2015 18/04/15
Northolt

David Bloomfield Boys' 50m Breast Long Course Brompton 30.68 London Regional Championships
30/05/15 London

George Taplin Boys' 200m Free Long Course Hillingdon 1.55.88 British Summer Championships
28/07/15 Sheffield

Alfie Collins (14yrs) Boys' 400m IM Long Course Hillingdon 4.39.34 British Summer Championships
28/07/15 Sheffield

Brodie Judge (13yrs) Girls' 50m Fly Long Course Ealing 28.74 British Summer Championships
28/07/15 Sheffield

John Britton Men's 400m IM Long Course Ealing 4.31.16 British Summer Championships 28/07/15
Sheffield

Georgina Boyle Women's 200m Free Long Course 1.59.72 British Summer Championships 28/07/15
Sheffield

Mens 4 x 100m Freestyle Relay Long Course Ealing 3.28.83 British Summer Championships 28/07/15
Sheffield Benjamin Levart/ Cristian Rotundu/Alexander Farrell/Ziggi Franchi-Webster

David Bloomfield Boys' 50m Breast Long Course Brompton 30.67 British Summer Championships
29/07/15 Sheffield

Georgina Boyle Women's 100m Free Long Course Chelsea & Westminster 56.02 British Summer
Championships 30/07/15 Sheffield

Mens 4 x 200m Freestyle Relay Long Course Ealing 7.50.92 British Summer Championships 30/07/15
Sheffield Benjamin Levart/ John Britton/Ziggi Franchi-Webster/Tudor Puszet

Isabella Hindley Women's 50m Free Long Course Chelsea & Westminster 25.68 British Summer
Championships 02/08/15 Sheffield

Georgina Boyle Women's 400m Free Long Course Chelsea & Westminster 4.13.55 British Summer
Championships 02/08/15 Sheffield

Pam Crofts
Secretary MCASA Swimming Committee



Swimming Competitions Secretary

Report 2014/15

Competition has gone well this year and the combined Age group and Youth County Championship 2015 was a success and the use of automatic and conditional entry times worked very well so well that we intend to repeat this in 2016. None of the development meet has been full and could do with more support and I would like to put forward the idea of allowing Time Trials for the development meet

only. To my knowledge we have not made any losses on any of the meets. The Long Course Open was disappointing as I was under the impression that the clubs really wanted the meet and had expected it to be full, but when it came to it many Middx clubs did not enter. We broke even because it was opened to outside clubs who entered and thereby ensuring that the standard of competition was good.

We are now gearing up to the 2016 Age group and Youth County Champs which will take place over 3 weekends in January and February, the forms have gone off to Jean Scott to be licensed and I am awaiting her reply.

We have had issues with Southbury Road Pool, the timing system is on its last leg and we have meetings with the duty manager to see what can be done. Clearly it is not good enough to hold any other meets above level 3 at present and even then it is fraught with problems. Middx desperately needs a decent pool to base itself and unless Southbury road spends money on a revamp I cannot see us staying there for much longer, but where to move to will be an issue.

Leah Pullen
Competition Secretary



Masters

MCASA ACM

November 2015

Inter-County Masters competition November 2014.

Unfortunately, we were unable to field a team in the 2014 competition hosted by Kent last year. We were not the only team to have this problem and I understand only five counties competed in the South-East Regional heat of the competition.

This year, Middlesex have been asked to host the 2015 competition and I have made reservation for Barnet Copthall pools for Sunday 15th November 2015. Warm up 12 noon for a 1pm start. We have hopes to have a strong team as hosts and intend to lift the Tony Warne trophy once again.

MCASA Masters Competition

Sunday 7th June 2015 – Barnet Copthall Pools

This year's competition was hosted at Barnet Copthall on Sunday 7th June 2015. There were small changes at the top of the rankings this year with Cally Masters Islington becoming the top scoring women's team.

“As usual”, the Otter men's team overpowered everyone else with a points total that was three times more than the second placed club. Not only with the number of swimmers but also with some excellent swimming performances led to their men dominating the competition. Otter retained the mens and overall top team trophies. The Otter women's team finished second by 30 points behind the women's top team, Cally Masters Islington.

There were some great performances from many swimmers from all the competing clubs and a very healthy competition was enjoyed by everyone. Top individual performance came from Ted Evans, (Otter SC) who broke the men's British Record in the 80 -84 age group. Congratulations Ted. Well done. His time of 52.30secs was ratified shortly after the competition.

15 clubs took part this year.

As always, it is difficult to find enough officials for masters events and I would like to say a very big "thank you" to the officials and helpers who gave up their time to help run the competition. Some swimmers stepping in to help as substitute timekeeper whilst the official timekeeper was actually swimming! I know the Masters swimmers of Middlesex appreciated everybody helping at the competition and they really do appreciate the time given by officials involved in promoting and running the competition.

– Thank You.

Congratulations Otter SC (Top Men's and Top Combined teams).

Congratulations Cally Masters Islington (Top women's team)

The points and ranking positions are listed below for the respective categories.

Team Rankings

Women - Team Scores

Place	Team	Points
1	Cally Masters Islington	330
2	Otter	300
3	Camden Swiss Cottage S. C	126
4	Hackney Aquatics	119
5	Barnet Cophall SC	97
6	Ruislip and Northwood Swimming	67
7	Teddington SC	43
8	London Borough of Hounslow	24
	Total	1,106.

Men - Team Scores

Place	Team	Points
1	Otter	471
2	Out to Swim	150
3	Cally Masters Islington	142
4	Teddington SC	130
5	Camden Swiss Cottage S. C	127.50
6	Hackney Aquatics	124
7	Barnet Cophall SC	71

8	Ruislip and Northwood Swimming	55
9	Broomfield Park SC	52
10	Enfield Swim Squad	42
11	London University Swim Team	29
12	Serpentine SC	24
13	London Borough of Hounslow	16
14	Westminster Tiburones	9
15	Hillingdon S C	6.50
	Total	1,449.00

Combined Team Scores

(includes scores for mixed relays)

Place	Team	Points
1	Otter	865
2	Cally Masters Islington	572
3	Hackney Aquatics	291
4	Camden Swiss Cottage S. C	273.50
5	Teddington SC	195
6	Barnet Cophall SC	168
7	Out to Swim	150
8	Ruislip and Northwood Swimming	146
9	Broomfield Park SC	52
10	London Borough of Hounslow	50
11	Enfield Swim Squad	42
12	London University Swim Team	29
13	Serpentine SC	24
14	Westminster Tiburones	9
15	Hillingdon S C	6.5
	Total	2,873.00

2016 will see the European Masters Championship take place in London at the Aquatics Centre in May. I am currently considering when to arrange a date and venue for our County Masters event in 2016. Unless the HyTek licensing arrangement has changed, we will probably need to hold the event at Barnet Cophall. I will keep everyone informed as soon as I have dates and venue confirmed.

Thank you for your support and assistance over the past year.

Wishing all swimmers, officials, coaches, clubs and supporters of Middlesex ASA greater success in 2016.

Ian Woollard
Masters Sec.



Synchronised Swimming

Report to follow

Charlotte Lee
Synchronised Swimming Secretary



Water Polo

The County has had a mixed year in the discipline of Water Polo.

In the first place we must give our congratulations to our women players who gained International selection. We had 3 players from Otter who went to the Inaugural European Games in Baku, representing Great Britain ----- they are Mhairi Nurthen, Kathy Rogers and Izzie Dean who was honoured with the Captaincy of the team. In addition to these players, the Otter coach, Nick Buller, was also chosen as the GB Team Coach. Brooke Tafazolli (Otter) joined Kathy Rogers in gaining GB representation in the GB U20 team in the World Junior Championships in Volos.

In the British Water Polo League (which runs from the beginning of September to end of February) the County teams finished the 2013-14 season: Phase 1 with Polytechnic placed 8th (out of 8) in Division 1, West London Penguin 7th (out of 8) in Division 2, Otter 6th (out of 8) in Division 3, and Ealing 2nd (out of 7) in Division 5. In Phase 2 Polytechnic finished 6th (out of 8) in Championship 1; West London Penguin finished 4th (out of 8) in Championship 2; Otter finished 2nd (out of 8) in Championship 3; and Ealing finished 4th (out of 8) in Championship 4. This means that Polytechnic and West London Penguin play in Division 2, Otter play in Division 3, and Ealing play in Division 4 in the 2015-16 season. In the Ladies League: in the Women's Championships in Phase 1 Otter were 4th (out of 8) and Otter Lutra were 6th in Division 1; West London Penguin Emperors were 1st (out of 8) in Division 2; and Polytechnic were 4th and West London Penguin Rockhoppers were 8th (out of 9) in Division 3. In Phase 2 Otter finished 4th in the Super 5's; Otter Lutra won Championship 1, and West London Penguin Emperors were 4th (out of 8) in Championship 1; and Polytechnic won Championship 2, with West London Penguin Rockhoppers 3rd (out of 8) in Championship 2. This means that Otter and West London Penguin Emperors play in Division 1; Otter Lutra play in Division 2, Polytechnic and West London Penguin Rockhoppers play in Division 3, in the 2015-16 season.

On the Development side of Junior Water Polo Stephen Baker has resigned. He had a very successful period as County Coach, producing junior teams which won competitions in Europe as well as in London and the South East. So far we have not found a replacement coach. The effect of this on the County is that we will not be entering County teams in junior inter-county Tournaments, and development will be halted. This "coachless" situation is the

same as we faced some 7-8 years ago, following my retirement. Good, qualified coaches are hard to find, and those that are working in clubs are often paid to do so.

The year has seen the water polo committee undergo changes. For a long while the average age of the committee has been creeping up to exceed 70 years. A new situation has emerged because we have made it a condition of playing in the Middlesex Championships that Clubs must provide a committee member. I will now be retiring from the role of Committee Secretary, which I took up on the untimely death of Ron Turner; having spent 53 years in sports administration. Whilst I had thought that that would be the end of my sports administration, this is not to be as I've still got some small roles within London Region, and the British Water Polo League, to keep me out of mischief. I wish my successors all the best, and may our sport continue to develop again in the County.

Trevor Hyde
Water Polo Secretary

Diving

The Diving section was resurrected after many years within the county with Barnet, Haringey Aquatics and Clissold Aquatics the principle clubs. Four divers from Barnet and Haringey Aquatics helped Haringey finish fifth at the London Youth games held at Crystal Palace in July which was their highest finish in over 10 years. A 'Low Level' competition was held on Oct 13th at Barnet Copthall aimed primarily at the Beginner and Novice diver. Over 125 entries took part in the competition which included Waltham Forest and Havering divers in the open competition. A great atmosphere was generated and the day proved very successful. We hope next year to hold a similar event and it is likely that an Inter-Counties competition will take place which will involve Middlesex Divers.

Richard Lerman
Diving Secretary



Swimming Officials Committee



October 2015

Once again, this has been a busy year for the committee. The demand for courses, candidate tutoring, mentoring and assessment has increased even more. The enforced changes to the Meet Licensing Criteria for Officials, which came into effect on 1st March 2015, placed a very heavy demand for Judge 1 and Timekeeper courses especially. Mentoring and the difficulties in getting mentored sessions as a candidate are still a concern. It is still a national problem and continues to be the major problem in becoming a qualified official and is the prime reason why a relatively large percentage of candidates do not see it through to assessment. The fact that the Swimming Committee finds it difficult to get enough officials at meets increases the problem. We make no apologies however that the system of training for officials appears to be one that is lengthy and appears not to be as productive, for individuals or clubs, as hoped. This is especially true for Judge 1 training. The Swimming Officials Committee is still fully committed to produce quality and knowledgeable officials rather than producing a quantity of officials. We owe that to our swimmers at all levels.

We would therefore urge all clubs to ensure they encourage their registered officials to offer their services at our meets. Help, at just one session, would help us get more mentoring and assessments completed.

The committee has worked hard to facilitate as many courses as possible, in various locations within the County. We are aware that the locations are not always convenient to those wishing to enrol on the courses but some effort must be made by individuals and some degree of travel may be inevitable.

We are proud that we still have a reputation of producing excellent, knowledgeable officials, good quality mentoring and fair, but demanding assessments. For this, we owe a great deal of gratitude to those who have willingly mentored and assessed our candidates throughout the year. We must also give special thanks to those committee members who act as course leaders and give their time willingly and voluntarily to train our officials within the workshop environment.

We are currently in the process of organising Open Water officials training and also an awareness course for officiating disability swimming and hope to have these in place by the New Year.

Yet another recent change imposed by British Swimming is that candidates undergoing Judge 1 training must have attended, or completed on-line, a Contemporary Issues CPD session prior to being assessed for Judge 1 qualification. We will therefore be offering more sessions to cover this demand. The on-line CPD is now free of charge via the Institute of Swimming (IOS) website.

Summary of training in 2015:

TK courses are still arranged on demand.

Judge 1: Several courses have been completed with 3 courses currently running.

Judge 2: As demand dictates, courses are arranged with another course in planning stage for the very near future.

Judge 2S (Starter): 2 courses have been completed and we are pleased to say, the majority of the candidates have already been assessed and qualified.

Referee: One candidate is registered to sit the Referee examination in November and we wish her every success.

We were informed last week, that there is to be introduced a new course for Starters who act as Referee at unlicensed or Level 4 meets. This course will be finalised soon and will be available from the New Year. It will also be able to be completed on-line, free of charge, via the IOS website.

We are proud to say that the committee were 'ahead of the game' in this respect as we held a seminar for all County Referees and Starters in June this year, in which 27 people attended. The purpose of the course was to discuss and explain the new method of Race Result Determination and discuss various scenarios that happen on poolside on a daily basis. I am pleased to say it was a very successful and informative day.

Also, there is to be introduced on 1st January, new criteria for those who wish to enrol for Referee Training. This has been done to ensure that only those with sufficient officiating experience and knowledge are accepted for the training programme.

Individual members of the Swimming Officials Committee act as administrators for specific courses and all course enquiries should be routed through them.

TK courses: Contact Andy Scott: ndscott10@sky.com

Judge 1 courses: Contact Andy Woska: andywoska@hotmail.com

Judge 2 courses: Contact Tony Burton: tony.burton500@sky.com

Judge2S courses: Contact Pam Crofts: croftsp@aol.com

Referee Courses: Applications are made via the ASA and must be made by the end of the year for inclusion into the tuition process and written examination in the November of the following year.

Further information can be obtained from the Secretary of the Swimming Officials Committee on ralphshortland@hotmail.com

Training of Technical Officials:

The training of British Swimming Officials falls under the remit of the British Swimming Officials Group. Here is a précis of the training schedule that has been adopted by all home countries:

All officials should be required to demonstrate several hours of post qualification experience at one level before moving on to the next level.

Timekeeper: minimum age 14yrs for training and assessment
Judge Level 1 : minimum age for training 15yrs - final assessment minimum age 16yrs.
Judge Level 2: minimum age for training 16yrs
Judge Level 2S: upon completion of Judge Level 2 with a minimum of 20 hours experience
Referee: minimum age for training 19yrs providing will be 20yrs as at 30th
November in year of .
examination. Qualified as Judge Level 2S with evidence of 50+ hours poolside officiating at
all
levels plus a minimum of 10 hours JS2 officiating at all levels

Finally, I personally would like to extend my thanks to all the committee members for their
dedication and hard work throughout the year.

Ralph Shortland
Secretary
Swimming Officials Committee

Welfare Report

Maria Abrams has continued to support us during the year and we are grateful for her help
and advice.

County Welfare Officer