

Middlesex County Amateur Swimming Association

(www.middlesexswimming.com)

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 18 January 2022

Via
Zoom

Those in attendance: Pam Crofts (President), Leah Pullen, Gillian Neal, Colin Jones (President Elect), Flo Barnes, Jo Martin, Ann O'Leary, Karin Vazirani, Trevor Hyde, Marc Barrott, Maria Abrams, Brian Kapp, Sofia Marcal-Whittles, Phillip Prentice and Frances Prentice

Apologies for absence: Tasha Coupland, Andy Woska, Jeanette Edmiston, Fred Willey

No:	Matter:	Action:
	Pam Crofts opened the meeting at 7.35pm	
XC22/001	The Minutes from the Exec Meeting of 25 November 2021 were accepted.	
XC22/002	Co-Opt of Members It was agreed to co-opt Jeanette Edmiston onto the Exec as the London Region representative. Maria Abrams proposed, Karin Vazirani seconded. Unanimously agreed.	
XC22/003	Matters Arising <u>Affiliations Committee</u> The members of the committee were confirmed as Trevor Hyde, Frances Prentice and Ralph Shortland with Pam Crofts (as President). <u>Correspondence</u> The only correspondence had been a long e-mail from Chris Reekie in connection with the Development Days and Swim England recommendations. Pam Crofts confirmed that the last Development Camp we had was for 1 day. The County had not managed to follow Swim England's change as Covid hit as the change was about to be made. Frances Prentice asked whether this was a Swimming Committee item rather than an all Exec matter. Pam Crofts asked if everyone was happy for the Swimming Committee to deal. Agreed by everyone to pass over. <u>Swim England Registration</u> Flo Barnes confirmed that she had received the registration from Swim England and would get this to Gillian Neal.	FB
XC22/004	Treasurer's Report Leah Pullen said she had a couple of questions on the report. At the top there were two headings – capital and total in bank. What was the difference? Brian Kapp commented that there was a difference of over £19,000. Phil Prentice stated that capital is what	

	<p>the County owns and assets; money in the bank is cash. It was confirmed that these figures do not include any value which the trophies may have. Frances Prentice stated that it would open a can of worms if we were to include the trophies in these figures as official valuations would be needed, insurance would have to be obtained – some of the trophies really have no value at all.</p> <p>Leah Pullen had a further question regarding “JM refunds”. Phil Prentice confirmed “July Meet refunds”.</p> <p>Pam Crofts asked how the value of stock was worked out. Phil Prentice stated it was what it cost to buy and what it would cost to replace. Trevor Hyde commented that he thought stock was “tangible” but cash is not.</p> <p>Sofia Marcal-Whittles left at this point (7.55pm)</p> <p>Leah Pullen had one final question – what is meant by “unallocated”. Phil Prentice stated that it relates to money that is put in which cannot be allocated to anything specific. Pam Crofts commented that a while ago, money was held to pay for Southbury Road which was never paid out – would that be held as unallocated? Phil Prentice confirmed it would not. It is money that comes in but which is not allocated against anything. It is usually countered-off against unallocated monies going out.</p>	
<p>XC22/005</p>	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>No reports have been received.</p> <p>Gillian Neal made a comment regarding clubs taking advantage of the County wanting / needing to hire equipment from them – timing equipment and blocks. Both Hillingdon SC and Enfield SC are charging huge amounts to the County. It was agreed that the fees were exorbitant for both the AOE and blocks.</p> <p>Pam Crofts confirmed Enfield offered to rent their new blocks (with wedges) for £200 per day. We are hiring for 4 days for the Championships plus possibly Development Meets. At that price, after 10 days’ hire, we would have paid the price for one block!</p> <p>Leah Pullen confirmed that Hillingdon SC is charging £2,000 for the use of the timing box and 2 people to run it for 2 days. The hire of the pool is £5,000 for 2 days.</p> <p>Pam Crofts said that unfortunately, the entry price was set before we knew the price for hiring everything. We will have no choice but to put the fees up if we keep having to pay clubs these high hiring fees – it will be the swimmers who end up paying.</p> <p>Frances Prentice said that she had been speaking to Ralph Shortland and he had said that the LAC was now priced out of most people’s reach – even London Region could not afford to hire it. London Region are going to use K2 in Crawley.</p> <p>Pam Crofts stated that she understood clubs needed to try and claw back money but this would mean, in turn, that the County would claw back money and entry fees would increase.</p> <p>Pam Crofts asked Trevor Hyde if he had anything to add regarding water polo. He said he did not but the funding scheme was very different for water polo. He confirmed that <u>new</u> clubs have to submit their accounts through nominated accountants. <u>The fully audited accounts are checked by the League before they can apply</u></p>	

	<p><u>for membership. The new members then play-off with the lowest team(s) in the League for a position in the League the following season. Their membership is approximately £250 per annum.</u> The clubs have to pay pool hire (<u>approx. £250-£350 per hour</u>), hotel costs <u>and travel (35p per mile)</u> for officials etc. Each club is billed at the end of the season. Hotels for competitors etc is down to each individual. Each club pays the same percentage of the League's expenses.</p> <p>Pam Crofts queried whether there was any way the County could fund any equipment for water polo. Suggested that the finance committee should look at this. <u>Trevor Hyde thought the question was relating to speed swimming in the light of having to pay hire costs for AOE and blocks etc.</u></p> <p>Phil Prentice stated that regarding equipment, we either continue to hire or buy our own. Trevor Hyde confirmed that the league has 3 sets of equipment. Some pools have their own equipment and the use is usually included in the cost of pool hire.</p> <p>Pam Crofts said that previously at Southbury Road, for speed swimming, pads and AOE were included – changed after lockdown. Enfield SC now own the pads as Richard McGonagle sold his equipment to Enfield SC. The bottom line is that costs are now considerably higher than in the past.</p> <p>Trevor Hyde queried whether, looking forward, we would have the same problems with the Len Badcock meet. Leah Pullen confirmed that as that is being held at Barnet Copthall, all costs have been agreed as Barnet Copthall own the equipment.</p> <p>Pam Crofts asked Brian Kapp whether there was anything from him in connection with Disability and Open Water. Brian Kapp confirmed that London Region is running their Open Water on 16 July 2022 at Surrey Docks. They have yet to get the information out to clubs. Gillian Neal asked if we should “piggy back” on their event as we have done in the past – agreed we should. Brian Kapp was unsure as to who to contact as he was no longer included in the London Region committee responsible for Open Water Meets. Gillian Neal should write to London Region “Business Manager” to ask for permission to run our event alongside. Flo Barnes said she can get the name / address of the person Gillian needs to contact. <u>GN e-mailed Richard Whitehead at LR on 28 Jan to request permission. Richard responded to say that there was a problem with the venue and that LR was looking for alternatives. He would get back to me when one had been found.</u></p> <p><u>London Region</u></p> <p>Flo Barnes said that she went to an induction today and she is now officially the President Elect for London Region.</p>	GN / FB
XC22/006	<p>Welfare</p> <p>Maria Abrams had no comment. Leah Pullen will put something onto the website regarding photography.</p>	LP
XC22/007	<p>Overseas Trip</p> <p>Pam Crofts said that the County Coach is looking for a suitable meet but it was proving very difficult due to Covid and restrictions.</p>	

	<p>It may be possible to find a meet somewhere in GB.</p> <p>Leah Pullen said she had spoken to Chris Reekie and he quite liked the idea of a meet in Scotland or Ireland. Pam Crofts asked if the Exec would give the Swimming Committee permission and trust the Swimming Committee and County Coaching team to commit the County to something later on this year. Frances Prentice reminded the Committee that we still have a credit with BA. Would we lose that? Phil Prentice confirmed we would not as we have a voucher from BA.</p> <p>Pam Crofts stated that going to the continent is problematic as it is difficult to gauge what different countries are doing regarding travel. Flo Barnes proposed that we allow the Swimming Committee to make a decision and then just report back to the Exec. Brian Kapp seconded the proposal. Unanimously agreed.</p>	
<p>XC22/008</p>	<p>London Region</p> <p>London Region has, apparently, tasked itself with putting together a protocol as records are achieved as it has been a grey area.</p> <p>Frances Prentice stated that the County's criteria for records is much clearer. She stated that Len Badcock and she agreed that records could only be achieved by "eligible" swimmers – they must be available to swim for the County – e.g. if <u>swimmers are living and training aboard (ing-in Dubai or US for example)</u>, then they are not eligible. Frances Prentice also confirmed that London Region has <u>currently includedexcluded</u> Level 3 meets <u>and Ralph Shortland is trying to clean that part upbut the procedure is currently under review.</u></p> <p>Pam Crofts suggested that having a written record of what makes a swimmer "eligible" is necessary. Maria Abrams agreed that we need to clarify "eligible" – it is a very ambiguous statement. Trevor Hyde stated that he remembered writing a statement with Ralph Shortland and Maurice Short – he could not recall it saying anything about a swimmer's willingness to swim for the County. Maria Abrams was concerned that it would leave the County wide open for a complaint. <u>Subsequent to the meeting, Frances has requested a note is inserted here to state that the description "eligible swimmers" has been in existence for many years – it is in the 2003 County Handbook on page 50. The description "eligible swimmers" is still in the current County Handbook under the heading "Middlesex County ASA Records V1 05/11/13".</u></p> <p>Frances Prentice told the Exec that she currently has a complaint in with Swim England (which she has funded personally) regarding swimmers from Harrow School who are <u>registered as Boarder</u> members of Chelsea & Westminster and wanting to claim records.</p> <p>Leah Pullen confirmed that the swimmers in question are at Harrow School but during half terms and holidays they train at Chelsea & Westminster and are members of that club.</p> <p>Maria Abrams confirmed that swimmers can be members of as many clubs as they want.</p> <p>The Exec requested that Frances Prentice put together an initial draft of how swimmers can claim / be allowed to claim County records for the next meeting.</p> <p>Gillian Neal suggested that the rolling records on the website be</p>	<p>FP</p>

	taken down as no-one was able to keep it up to date. Unanimously agreed. Leah Pullen will remove asap. LP has removed the rolling record from the website.	LP
XC22/009	<p>AOB</p> <p>Ann O’Leary questioned what was happening with Natara. Leah Pullen confirmed that the club had ceased being a competitive club but they were still using the name for learn to swim. However, Swim England membership knows nothing about them closing. Nothing will happen until after the main registration for the year has completed – March 2022.</p> <p>Phil Prentice asked whether we had received any news regarding the Inter-Counties for 2022. Pam Crofts said that it was on the agenda by mistake and that it was going to be discussed at the next Swimming Committee meeting (scheduled for 19 Jan 2022). Pam Crofts thought that, at the moment, the plan was for it to go ahead.</p> <p>Jo Martin confirmed that she should be getting a medal delivery next week. She has had most of the trophies back and the remainder have been promised to be taken to Southbury Road. Frances Prentice stated that there was still 1 swimmer who was waiting for his medal from October County Qualifier meet as they ran out. Jo Martin confirmed ed that once the delivery had been received, he should get it – she knows who it is.</p> <p>Brian Kapp was concerned at the lack of trestle tables at Southbury Road. He will go to Southbury Road once he is clear of Covid to ensure there are enough available. We may have to hire some if the pool cannot open the store cupboard door! Leah Pullen said that if we have to hire tables separately, then complain to the pool as the hire charge we pay includes use of tables and chairs.</p> <p>Flo Barnes confirmed that the President’s Chain has now been engraved for this year.</p>	BK
	There being no other business the President closed the meeting at 9.09pm	
	<p>Date of Next Meeting:</p> <p>Wednesday, 16 March 2022 @ 7.30pm via Zoom</p> <p>Any changes will be notified.</p>	

Signed _____

Date _____

President