



Middlesex County Amateur Swimming Association

(www.middlesexswimming.com)

Minutes of the Executive Meeting held on 8 February 2023

Via
Zoom at 7.30pm

Item		Action
	<p>Those in attendance:- Colin Jones (President), Gillian Neal, Phillip Prentice, Pam Crofts, Marc Barrott, Leah Pullen, Maria Abrams, Flo Barnes, Ann O’Leary, Andy Dixon, Alicia Lai, Evelyn Ingleton, Sam Whitmore, Brian Kapp, Karin Vazirani, Sofia Marcal-Whittles, Jo Martin, Jacek Reder (co-opted), Susie Breslin</p> <p>Apologies for absence:- Ralph Shortland, Trevor Hyde, Andy Woska, Suzette Muhammad, Frances Prentice, Jeanette Edmiston, Ian Woollard</p>	
	The President opened the meeting at 7.37pm	
XC23/004	<p>Minutes of last meeting.</p> <p>Minutes agreed as accurate as they had been circulated.</p>	
XC22/005	<p>Matters Arising</p> <p>Jacek Reder was co-opted onto the Exec. Nominated by Pam Crofts, seconded by Marc Barrot. All unanimously agreed.</p>	
XC23/006	<p>Role of the Counties</p> <p>Colin Jones had filled out the survey produced by Swim England which was to find out how the Counties operate etc. We have now been invited to attend a Roadshow being held on 26 March 2023 in London. The details which have been sent are very brief. He thinks it could be a talking shop. 1.5 hours at the start regarding governance discussion and then a further 1.5 hours discussing the role of the Counties. London Region is the last of these roadshows to take place and Colin felt that London Region would be well-versed in their answers. The venue is in Covent Garden.</p>	

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	<p>Pam Crofts asked whether we knew what effect this had had on any of the other regions. Colin confirmed that the only region to have attended so far is South-West. Colin guessed that in time a consolidated response will be produced from Swim England but he has no idea on the timescale.</p> <p>GN asked if people could confirm who was willing to attend as there did not appear to be a limit. So far Colin Jones, Sofia Marcal-Whittles and Flo Barnes have confirmed.</p>	
XC22/007	<p>County Championships 2023</p> <p>The first weekend held at the LAC went well.</p> <p>Colin Jones from his personal take on the event, it went very well; ran to time; and no technical issues. What he took away – he understands the need for the security staff and why the LAC demands we have it. He also felt having the first aiders (first responders) was very helpful as they were used several times (no major incidents to report). Another point - backstroke ledges and having to re-calibrate them. A big downside was there was no atmosphere.</p> <p>Pam Crofts asked whether anyone had any feedback from coaches. Gillian Neal confirmed that she had received nothing. Leah Pullen said that Dave Heathcock thought it was better. Sofia Marcal-Whittles stated that Lisa Bates although thought it was better. The length of the day was better. Parents appeared happy with the timings.</p> <p>Colin Jones said we should try and collate comments for dissemination after the event.</p> <p>Colin Jones confirmed that John Handley will be attending the first day at Hillingdon – he is the current London Region President.</p> <p>Gillian Neal asked whether the problem with parking had been resolved. Leah Pullen said no and that people will have to pay for 4 hours and then top-up if they are still at the pool. Brian Kapp said that he had been communicating with Colin Jones and had also been looking at Google Earth to see if there were any other possibilities. Leah confirmed that the car park does not belong to the pool. Brian was concerned that 4 hours of parking could cause problems if officials are on poolside and unable to get back to their cars. Leah confirmed parking can be paid via an app.</p> <p>Ann O’Leary said she did not know if we could get parking at the track (as Hillingdon had done in December) especially if the athletics track was in use as well. Brian said that he had tried but was unable to make direct contact with the track club who appear to own the over-flow car park. Colin and Brian will follow-up this point.</p>	CJ / BK

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	<p>Karin Vazirani said that it is important that we let Phil Prentice know what sessions officials have work so that they do not claim for parking when they are not working.</p> <p>Marc Barrot said that we were low on non-tech volunteers (except session 7 which is manned entirely by Hillingdon SC). We have less people volunteering for Hillingdon than we did for the LAC. Leah Pullen stated that we must have non-tech volunteers as well as officials. Marc confirmed that he was liaising with the club co-ordinators and will wait to hear from them. Leah confirmed that the database is set up for officials not non-tech. Marc stated that it is down to people in the clubs to agitate their parents. Pam Crofts stated that there is a sheet contained in the paperwork that goes out asking for both officials and non-tech volunteers. Following the meeting, GN sent MB an e-mail requesting that some of the J1T requesting mentoring should be asked to assist in a non-tech role for a session as well.</p> <p>Brian Kapp asked about the backstroke ledges as the County ones do not fit well with the new blocks at Hillingdon. Ann O’Leary confirmed that the pool owns the ledges and she should be able to get hold of them and will get them out Friday night for the County to use.</p>	AO’L
XC22/008	<p>County Coaching Team</p> <p>Colin Jones had a phone call in December 2022 with both Adam from Camden and Nathan from Haringey. Colin confirmed that both were very keen and were also hoping that the load would be shared. Chris Pullen also still keen to be involved.</p> <p>Colin Jones and Marc Barrot also had a conversation following Colin’s conversations with the coaches. Colin met with the coaches in person at the LAC during County Championships weekend 1. Ideally, we should get at least one coach to attend the Swimming Committee meetings. Gillian Neal confirmed that there is a Swimming Committee meeting in a few weeks and we can get the situation with the County Coach confirmed then.</p> <p>Colin stated that we did not want to get too many people involved – we need to find the right level so it is easy for the coaches to manage the workload. Leah Pullen confirmed that the coaches have a WhatsApp group that they communicate on.</p> <p>Colin stated that we need to get the coaches to take responsibility for the work – the more we get back from the County Coaches (and the other coaches) the better. Pam Crofts said that it is vital that we make sure they have a clear idea of what we want / expect from them.</p>	

Item		Action
<p>XC22/009</p>	<p>Treasurer's Report</p> <p>Phil Prentice's report had been sent out prior to the meeting.</p> <p>Leah Pullen stated that unfortunately the County Championships 2023 will be a financial flop with a substantial loss. Colin Jones said this was to be expected as the cost of booking venues (and all the last-minute extras) was very expensive. Phil confirmed that the LAC insists that we use their security and catering and told us we had to have our own first aiders with only a couple of days' notice. Phil believes that more pools will go this way – passing the onus over to the hirer.</p> <p>Sofia Marcal-Whittles questioned what level of first aid qualification was required. Some of the older swimmers are lifeguards and may have sufficient first aid training. Phil confirmed that we now had first aid kits as well. Brian Kapp commented that he thinks the minimum qualification is "First Responder" level. Leah Pullen confirmed that the Contract with LAC just said "first aider". Brian commented that that was too vague. We should go with first responders and then we should be covered.</p> <p>Alicia Lai confirmed that she had found the first aiders and she believes that there is a minimum level of qualification required. They need specific first aid qualifications. She will go back to the company she used and see if they have a minimum level.</p> <p>Brian Kapp confirmed that he has contact with Scout Med which is who the open water organisers have used.</p> <p>Leah Pullen confirmed that Hillingdon has not asked as yet.</p> <p>Gillian Neal asked if we have an idea as to how much the loss will be as yet – is it in the region of £12,000? Colin Jones confirmed that there is a Finance Committee meeting the week of 20 Feb so we should have a better idea then. Phil Prentice said that the figures are a little swayed as the hotels were paid for last year. Leah Pullen said on a brighter note, we still had the money from the swim shop and hoodies to come in.</p>	
<p>XC22/010</p>	<p>Committee Reports</p> <p>No reports received.</p>	
<p>XC22/011</p>	<p>Welfare</p> <p>Maria Abrams has nothing to report but she confirmed she is still busy.</p>	

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XC22/012	<p>County Development Day</p> <p>Leah Pullen stated that the first day went very well at Southbury Road. The second day also went well via Zoom with the meeting being led by Chris Pullen. A couple of swimmers were missing so they will not get their money back. Leah is trying to get the recording onto the website.</p> <p>Alicia Lai confirmed that her daughter enjoyed it.</p> <p>Leah confirmed the 3rd session is booked for 7 May at Southbury Road – 9.00am to 5.00pm.</p> <p>Pam Crofts will be team manager provided she can drive. Gillian Neal will be the assistant if no-one else steps up.</p>	
XC22/013	<p>AOB</p> <p><u>Tony Burton</u></p> <p>Gillian Neal read out an e-mail from Tony Burton in which he confirmed that he would be taking a step back from swimming and hanging up his whites. He was happy to continue to liaise with London Region regarding the constitution. He was also standing down from the Licensing Panel and would be making contact with Jean Scott in that regard.</p> <p>Sam Whitmore said that we should get something for Tony from the County in recognition of his 45 years! Unanimously agreed.</p> <p>Flo Barnes nominated Tony Burton for Honorary Life Presidency. Karin Vazirani seconded. Past Presidents will need to agree – Gillian to send an e-mail to all the Past Presidents (except Tony).</p> <p><u>Swim England Membership Renewal</u></p> <p>Flo Barnes confirmed to Gillian Neal that this had again been sent to her. Flo would pop it in the post to Gillian.</p> <p><u>Open Water</u></p> <p>Brian Kapp confirmed that London Region Open Water will be taking place on 2 July 2023 at Merchant Taylors School lake. He confirmed that he is no longer involved with London Region Open Water – he has absolutely nothing to do with them.</p> <p>Pam Crofts said that David Skinner (at Haringey) has offered to help with Open Water and will make contact with Brian.</p> <p><u>London Region Board</u></p> <p>Brian Kapp confirmed that nominations can go in for people to join the London Board. He would be very happy to put his name forward if the</p>	<p>GN</p> <p>FB</p>

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	<p>County is happy. Pam Crofts commented that Sofia Marcal-Whittles very well may want to re-apply.</p> <p>General consensus of the Exec was for Brian (and Sofia) to just do it if they wanted to.</p>	
	<p>Meeting closed at 9.00pm</p> <p>Next meeting is Tuesday, 14 March 2023 at 7.30pm via Zoom</p>	

Signed..... Date.....