

Chair **Secretary** **Treasurer** **Registration Secretary**
Michelle Jones Janine Duffin Steve Makin Sue
Tinkler



Affiliated to

swimnorthwest

Annual General Meeting

AGENDA

Held on 17th January 2016 @ 10:00am

Hartwood Hall Hotel (Chorley)

➤ **ATTENDEES**

The following were in attendance at the AGM:

Michelle Jones (Chair); Steve Heaps (Secretary), Steve Makin (Treasurer), Sue Tinkler (Registration Secretary), John McGinty (Blackburn), Jane Whittle (Blackpool), Helen Whittle (Blackpool), Mike Sands (Carnforth), Mary Parkinson (Chorley), Cherry Wilkinson (Colne), Hannah Stuttard (Everton), Ian Chappell (Fleetwood), S. Livingstone (Garstang), Phil Wains (Garston), Andy Daykin (Lancaster), Janine Duffin (Lancaster), Gillian Rankin (Leyland), Chris Reynolds (Liverpool Penguins), Lyndsay Rea (Ormskirk Otters), John Robinson (Pioneer '79), Simon Deeley (Prescot), Stuart Holding (Preston), Roger Morgan (Southport), Neil Spencer (Southport), Mark Patrickson (Southport), James Stannard (Swim Trafford), Michelle Nickson (Wigan).

➤ **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received by email from:

Sean Hogarth - Kirkham Swimming Club; Lauren Wilson - Clitheroe Dolphins & Victoria Pickup (Leyland Barracudas)

➤ **MINUTES 2015 AGM**

The Chair went through the minutes from the 2015 AGM

➤ **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2015 AGM MINUTES**

No matters were raised from the minutes of the 2015 AGM

The Chair asked for a proposer and seconder to pass the minutes as a true record. The following delegates proposed and seconded the minutes from 2015

- Proposer Jane Whittle Club Blackpool Aquatics
- Seconder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **CHAIR'S REPORT**

To All Micro-League Delegates,

On behalf of the Executive Committee, I'd like to once again thank all participants in the 2015 Micro League and congratulate our three Divisional champions: Leyland A who topped Division A, Wigan A Division B and Blackburn A Division C.

The season has again produced some fantastic matches and the Divisional Finals and swim offs were fantastic events.

In particular, well done to Southport Aqua who won the very closely fought Division A swim off and represented the NW league in the Northern Area Final. Southport did us proud and won the final so gaining a place in the National Final. They competed well during a close fought competition, with Southport finally finishing 4th overall in the Final.

I have decided to carry on for another twelve months as Chair of the North West Micro league as long as you all accept me doing so. I was unable to attend the National Inter League meeting in November due to work commitments so I must thank Cherry for taking the chair of that meeting. I have remained as the chair of the inter league for another 12 months

Finally, I would like to thank Steve for all the work he has carried out as secretary of the league and for all the knowledge and experience that he has used to the advantage of the league. (I hope he doesn't think that his telephone number will be forgotten).

Kind regards

Michelle Jones

The report from the Chair was proposed and seconded by:

- Proposer Andy Daykin Club Lancaster City
- Seconder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **TREASURER'S REPORT**

Treasurer read out his report to the meeting and informed the meeting that the current bank balance is £4,123.76. A formal state of accounts will be published.

It was also agreed that the Treasurer Stephen Makin to be added onto the bank details which will in turn will ensure that all statements are sent to the Treasurer's home address.

The report from the Treasurer was proposed and seconded by:

- Proposer Cherry Wilkinson Club Colne Swimming Club
- Seconder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **REGISTRATION SECRETARY'S REPORT**

Well Where to Start? Not sure what happened this year!

Good News:

I believe we have had the highest overall score in the season. Also the highest in one gala, but as there were only 3 teams it was probably not a true result.

Problems:

ILLEGAL SWIMMERS:

3 illegal swimmers during the 2015 season, this caused a deduction of 39 points for the teams involved. Also teams entering swimmers twice to swim in the same relay.

INCORRECT PAPERWORK:

Unfortunately we have had a large number of incorrect paperwork this season. Eight cases of wither failing to hand paperwork in correctly, or failing to hit save and send, which gives all required and validation sheets. This in turn, on one occasion meant that the team in question also had illegal swimmers. We also had failure to use the correct result sheets. On these occasions only showing cumulative points and not placings, DQ's Etc.

INCORRECT POSTAGE:

Failing to attach correct postage. Unfortunately on this occasion it meant a trip to the Post Office which resulted in a fine. This also meant that the results where late.

TEAM SHEET NOT SIGNED:

On a number of occasions early in the season, team sheets were not signed and Team Managers failed to sign the result sheets.

TEAM WITHDRAWEL:

As you are all aware Burnley Aquatics sadly withdrew from the final gala of the season. In the rules we only cover a fine for not turning up, but the wider implications of this are:

- o Expense to the home team. As we all know the spectator takings help to subsidise the expenses of hosting a gala.
- o Effect on points which in turn affects other teams in the league.
- o DQ's are then 2 points instead of 1.

On this occasion the home team was new to the league and on recommendation from the league had hired another pool, as their home pool would not have been able to accommodate 4 teams with spectators, but would probably have managed 3 teams, again possibly at an expense to the home team.

My thoughts are that either:

- o Clubs are NOT passing on the information required for the Team Managers to fulfil their roles correctly
- o Team Managers are not reading the rules
- o I accept it is not easy getting a team to a gala? (Stressful), but with the web site and the ability to download team sheets and the validation sheets it does take a lot of this away if done correctly.
- o Illegal swimmers should be a thing of the past, it should not happen. Even on poolside at the gala if you have the validation sheet with you it shows the number of swims. This then enables the Team Manager to change a swimmer without mistakes.

RESULTS & CHECKING

I agree this is my job however I should not have to remind clubs to enter results on web site, send results.

As you all know, as I have said it often enough, I hate deducting points. This affects the swimmers who are young in the Micro-League. These are adult mistakes the swimmers do their jobs very well.

OTHER MISTAKES

Yes we have those as well!!!

- o A Incorrect swim - 50m instead of 25m
- o B Questioning a DQ decision

These should be reported to the Referee at the gala, not to me later. I cannot overturn a referee's decision (ASA Rules); I may question it on the case (A). In the case of (A) this turned out to be the referee being given incorrect information. He did in fact question this with the team managers and it was swum with their agreement. As for (B) I can look at the ref slips and see what the DQ has been for but this question should be asked to the referee at the event. Micro-League referees are more than happy to explain a DQ just like any other meet.

SOLUTIONS:

Are there any you ask?

Every year I bring up the same things. Micro-League of the North West have provided an excellent website. We have issued the following:

- o Tick sheets for home galas
- o Tick sheets for teams
- o Referee slips
- o Live scoring
- o Computer calculator for results

I have said I am happy to receive the results scanned and emailed and sent by post. I have said let me know as soon as you realise an error. In the case of incorrect paperwork this year this happened so the executive only issued a monetary fine.

I have had teams put incorrect Surname and/or Christian name when changing sheet on poolside and then realizing mistake. They let me know (easy mistake to make). As you know I can correct mistakes when registering swimmers. What I have had this year is two teams trying to register the same swimmer. Please Check!

We are all aware it is a swimmers world; they can be a member of as many clubs as they want and can swim for whom they wish. Please check first. I can only rectify this if a club has not selected the swimmer to swim.

Well Done to ALL the divisional winners

That is all for the Interim meeting, hopefully will only have to add well done to everyone after the finals.

The finals this year, in my opinion went very well. I had expected more records especially in the lower divisions.

Well done to Mark and his team at Southport for their achievements in both the Northern Area Final and the National Final. This is a huge achievement, on behalf of the Micro-League of the North West thank you for representing us so well.

To end I would like to say a big thank you to the executive committee for their support, and most of all a massive Thank you (I think from all of us) to Steve Heaps for all his work keeping us up to date. I know I will struggle without his support.

Good Luck to you all in 2016 and please keep the paperwork right, let's have a year without any fines!!

Susan Tinkler
Registrations Secretary

The report from the Registrations Secretary was proposed and seconded by:

- Proposer Roger Morgan Club Southport Swimming Club
- Seconder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **NATIONAL INTER LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2015**

Main points of interest for the North West Micro-League

- o Each League to pay £5.00 for each club within their membership
- o No new leagues applied for membership
- o Arena has supported the league to the tune of £1,500.00 for the 2015/16 season.
- o Michelle Jones (Chair North West Micro-League) has remained Chair for the National League. Michelle was unable to attend the league so Cherry Wilkinson stepped in.
- o Delia Reynolds resigned as Secretary and Jane Whittle (Blackpool Aquatics) who must have been aware of this, attended the meeting and took over the role of Secretary. Neither Michelle nor I was aware of this until the meeting. I do not know how it stands with three of us from one league attending the meeting.
- o Again the main point of discussion was the age of 9yr olds and having the age as of last day of competition was felt discriminating against 9yr olds. It was agreed that each coach of every member club would be asked to write to and email the ASA about allowing 9yr olds cutoff date to be as of 31st December. I understand that a standard letter was to be sent to each league for them to forward to each of their member clubs to sign and send to the ASA. It was also suggested that a letter to 'swimming times' may be affective. I have not heard any more about this.
- o At present the date remains as November 27th 2016
- o Our Northern Area final will be organized by Lincoln this year. Venue and date TBC
- o There was also a discussion about our competition having to be run as two separate competitions with division 1 with 9yrs as age at 27th November and divisions 2 & 3 as another competition with age as of the date of our swim-offs in September. (Does this mean that 8yr olds who are 9 after this date can swim as 9yr olds the year after?) Again the age as of 31st December would solve this. It will also create difficulty with our division 1 & 2 swim-offs - When will the 9yr olds cutoff be?
- o Susanne Cordon remained as Treasurer
- o Micro-League of the North West will next host the Northern Area Final in October 2018.

I attended the gala which was as exciting as ever.

Cheery Wilkinson
Micro-League of the North West Representative

The report from the Micro-League of the North West Representative was proposed and seconded by:

- Proposer Helen Whittle Club Blackpool Aquatics
- Seconder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **REVIEW OF RULES AND THE 2015 INTERIM MEETING HELD IN JULY 2015 INCLUDING PROPOSED NEW LEAGUE STRUCTURE FROM 2017 ONWARD:**

- o The Chair explained the changes around the current constitution, (a copy of which will be updated on the website & sent out with these minutes). No questions came from the floor.
- o It was agreed that payment for the bond of £150.00 should be made on or before the 31st January 2016.
- o Delegates asked if a formula could be looked at for point's adjustment should a team fail to turn up for a meeting. The Secretary said he would look at other leagues and ask what they did in circumstances like this.

- o It was agreed that if a method/formula/solution could be sought then it should be brought forward for a rule change for 2017. There was a vote taken on this.
Those in favour for a rule change was: YES - 13
No - 5
ABSTENTIONS - 2
- o A question was asked around lost/misplaced paperwork regarding changing of teams. Membership Secretary replied in answering the rules around this and that we are all here to help.
- o All rule changes that were proposed at the Interim meeting held on Monday 13th July 2015 were passed by the delegates.

The rule changes and constitution changes were proposed and seconded by:

- Proposer Lyndsay Rea Club Ormskirk Otters
- Seconder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **2016 FIXTURES**

The Secretary talked through the 2016 fixture list with delegates, starting with division 1. Each home fixture was confirmed with venue and warm up times. These fixtures will be published on the League's website and a copy added to these minutes for information.

➤ **2016 NEW ENTRANTS & RESIGNATIONS**

- o We have accepted the resignation of Burnley Aquatics, who sadly are unable to put a team out for 2016 and fulfil their fixtures.
- o We welcome Prescott Swimming Club into the League from 2016
- o We have had to turn down requests from Halton Swimming Club, Barrow Swimming Club & Aquabears of Rochdale Swimming Club of joining the league in 2016 due to the current structure of 3 divisions not being able to cope with the demand. This prompted the review taken earlier on the league structure.
- o The league structure for 2017 will be on the agenda for the interim meeting to be held in July 2016.

➤ **FUTURE DATES & VENUES:**

○ **INTERIM MEETING:**

- The date for the 2016 Interim meeting was fixed at Monday 04th July 2016. Venue & Time to be confirmed.

○ **SWIM OFFS**

- The swim-offs have been booked at Palatine Pool, Blackpool for Saturday 10th September 2016

○ **NORTHERN AREA FINAL**

- Northern Area final date is to be confirmed.

○ **NATIONAL FINAL**

- National Final date is Sunday 27th November 2016 to be held at Corby Pool.

➤ **ELECTION of OFFICERS (COMMITTEE)**

○ **Chairperson:**

- Outgoing: Michelle Jones
- **Incoming: Michelle Jones**

○ **Secretary:**

- Outgoing: Steve Heaps
- **Incoming: Janine Duffin**

○ **Treasurer:**

- Outgoing: Steve Makin
- **Incoming: Steve Makin**

○ **Membership Secretary:**

- Outgoing: Sue Tinkler
- **Incoming: Sue Tinkler**

The election of officers was confirmed and was proposed and seconded by:

- Proposer Jane Whittle Club Blackpool Aquatics
- Secunder John McGinty Club Blackburn Centurions

➤ **A.O.B.**

The Chair informed the meeting that AOB should not be on an AGM agenda & therefore this was not discussed.

The meeting closed @ 11:20am.

