

**Chair**  
Michelle Jones

**Secretary**  
Janine Duffin

**Treasurer**  
Steve Makin

**Registration Secretary**  
Sue Tinkler



**Affiliated to**

**swimnorthwest**

**Annual General Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Held on 14<sup>th</sup> January @ 10:00am**

**Goodwins Kitchen/Hartwood Hall Hotel (Chorley)**

➤ **ATTENDEES**

The following were in attendance at the AGM:

Michelle Jones (Chair); Janine Duffin (Secretary), Steve Makin (Treasurer), Sue Tinkler (Registration Secretary), John McGinty (Blackburn), Jane Whittle (Blackpool), Garry Whittle (Blackpool), Andrew Richardson (Carnforth), Mike Sands (Carnforth), Mary Parkinson (Chorley), Clitheroe, Ian Chappell (Fleetwood), Andy Charlesworth (Garstang), Phil Wains (Garston), Halton, Paula Robinson (Lancaster), Gillian Rankin (Leyland), Victoria Ormerod (Lytham), Lindsay Rea (Ormskirk), Stephen Davison (Pioneer '79), Simon Deeley (Prescot), Steve Heaps (Preston), Paul Davison (Preston), Roger Morgan (Southport), Mark Patrickson (Southport), Michelle Nickson (Wigan).

The chair opened the meeting at 10.05 am.

➤ **APOLOGIES**

Apologies were received by email from:

Sean Hogarth – Kirkham  
Liverpool Penguins

No delegate present from Burnley Bobcats.

➤ **MINUTES 2017 AGM and 2017 INTERIM MEETIN**

The Chair spoke regarding the minutes from the 2017 AGM and the 2017 Interim.

➤ **MATTERS ARISING FROM THE 2017 AGM/INTERIM**

No matters were raised from the minutes of the 2017 AGM or Interim.

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 2017.

- |            |                  |      |         |
|------------|------------------|------|---------|
| ▪ Proposer | Victoria Ormerod | Club | Lytham  |
| ▪ Seconder | Gillian Rankin   | Club | Leyland |

➤ **CHAIR'S REPORT**

*To All Microleague Delegates,*

*On behalf of the Executive Committee, I'd like to once again thank all participants in the 2017 Micro League and congratulate our three Divisional champions: Leyland A who topped Division A; Ormskirk A, Division B, Prescot A Division C and Halton A Division D. 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 a very well fought Division A swim off. They again then represented the NW league in the Northern Area Final. After a problem with the points at the Northern Area Final Southport won a place in the National Final, at which they performed to a high standard and achieved a sixth position.*

*I have decided to carry on for another twelve months as Chair of the North West Microleague if you all accept me doing so. I attended the National Inter League meeting in November. I have remained as the chair of the inter league for another 12 months. We are looking now for a new rep for the league. Can I thank Andrew Charlesworth for attending the Inter League meeting as our Rep and also Sue Tinkler for her attendance as well.*

*Finally, as you have seen we have reverted to three divisions for 2018 as we have had clubs leave and join the league.*

*Can I wish you all the best for the coming season.  
Kind regards  
Michelle Jones*

There were no questions asked, or objections to the Chairs report.

➤ **TREASURER'S REPORT**

The Treasurer read out information regarding the Micro League account. The account balance stands at £8,697.65 which includes club bonds. 2 payments are still outstanding which will bring the balance to £8372.65. The Treasurer provided copies of the bank statement for anyone wishing to have one. Also he said that the account would soon be able to do electronic transfers to make transactions easier.

## ➤ REGISTRATION SECRETARY'S REPORT

### **Registration Report 2017**

*Well done to all the teams this year not as many minor issues. We still had the usual Illegal swimmers, incorrect postage, incorrect paperwork and late entries on web site and results received late but not as many.*

### **Membership Numbers**

*I hope the system of having to enter the ASA numbers was of help to the clubs. I know we had a few issues early when clubs had not received the new numbers but this was overcome by being able to enter `NEW MEMBER` and send the number when it was received. overall, this was done just a few stragglers but I have checked them and am happy they are registered correctly.*

### **No Attendance**

*The biggest issue this year was the non-attendance at Fixtures. We realised early on that the formula had been accidentally written incorrectly in the rules. We were also still looking at the best way to do this and received the Arena League formula which was not only easier to use but gave a better result. We emailed the clubs and only received 1 objection to the change.*

*My only other concern was that in scoring 321. The swimmers would lose out on the top ten stats! I then realised that as long as on the web site the scoring was 432! That did not affect them and only the points were changed.*

### **Declared Swims**

*I still have concerns as I have expressed previously that the amount of Declared swims for 9 year olds 91 over all divisions this is a problem! personally I would prefer it to be 10 and under as I firmly believe that Micro League is good for young swimmers. As we all know this would need to be addressed by the Junior League committee.*

### **Refereeing and Judging**

*My other concern as always is the consistency of the refereeing/judging. I am in no way criticising the job they do (I have done it myself) BUT what we have got is some differing views especially where the very young and inexperienced swimmers are concerned. This was the reason I have asked in the past for a meeting of the Referees we use for them to sort this between them.*

*We do now have a list of Referees who regularly do Micro League Galas which is such an improvement. They understand the Micro League rules and are very good at checking the paperwork before it is sent. Many Thanks to them for giving up their time to do this.*

### **Paperwork**

*As I have said previously and it is in the rules. I am happy to receive paperwork by email. The only time I will ask for the hard copy is if I have found a discrepancy and require the Referee slips. These can then be brought to either the interim meeting or the AGM.*

*As I said earlier I have had occasions when I have had to send a gentle hint to clubs to enter the results on line or post them.*

*The number of clubs that have come to me asking for my address tells me that the paperwork I send out at the start of the season is not read as I make sure my address is in that information.*

*As for minor error's please do not worry that's what I do check the results. Please remember I have done the job and know how easy it is to make mistakes during the excitement of a gala.*

*As I have also said numerous times before if you realise you have made a mistake let me know asap.*

*This includes checking any changes of swimmers. You may in the heat of the moment put a swimmer in to swim a race and then realise it was a mistake. If the Referee is still there let them know and they can correct on the paperwork. OR/AND let me know asap.*

*Again, a reminder to fasten together your paperwork I can then see it has been attached.*

*I have had some incorrect team sheets this year. This is due to not completing the process OR not reading the rules. New people do not always know the correct process it is up to the Delegate to make sure they know what to do.*

### **Postage**

*Please use correct stamps. Anything from an A5 envelope upwards should have a large stamp. Apparently 2 first class stamps can delay delivery.*

### **Personal Note**

*Please remember I am also under a certain amount of pressure to get the results Ratified. Coaches Parents and Swimmers are checking. If I do not receive the results or the results do not go online questions are asked why? I have also been contacted if it is suspected a swimmer is illegal again making sure I am checking. I do not write the rules the clubs do! I just follow them and enforce them with the help and support of the Executive Committee.*

*I have no personal reasons to fine or deduct points. But remember you the clubs check that I am doing my job properly.*

*Thanks again to everyone for their help and support.*

*Sue Tinkler*

*Registration Secretary*

Reports were proposed by Jane Whittle (Blackpool) and seconded by Gillian Rankin (Leyland).

### ➤ **NATIONAL INTER LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING 2017**

Much discussion took place regarding the age on day proposal that was put forward after the 2017 Interim meeting to be taken to the NIL AGM 2017. The Chair explained that the NW document had been discussed but rejected. The NIL age and dates would remain the same (9 year olds, date of final and 12 year olds, 31<sup>st</sup> December). The Chair also said that attendance and representation at the NIL AGM was very low with only 3 other leagues represented, which was an issue that needed to be rectified in the future. The Chair also informed delegates that the NIL is looking to make the National Final a licensed meet in the future. Many delegates felt continued frustrations with the age on the day issue not being resolved and also at the lack of representation from other leagues throughout the country. Frustrations over the disorganization, of the final were highlighted by Southport.

New delegates to represent the NW for 2018 was discussed, with the importance of having two delegates (one vote). Gillian Rankin (Leyland) and Sue Tinkler both volunteered for this role.

### ➤ **2018 NEW ENTRANTS & RESIGNATIONS**

- We have accepted the resignation of Everton, Rochdale Aquabears and Blackpool B.
- We welcome Burnley Bobcats into the League from 2018.

There were no objections to the new entrants. No representative from Burnley present.

## ➤ 2018 FIXTURES

The chair talked through the 2018 fixture list with delegates, starting with division A. Each home fixture was confirmed with venue and warm up times. Fixtures will be published on the League's website and a copy added to these minutes for information.

## ➤ REVIEW OF RULES

A proposal was made by for all age groups to have the same date and for it to be the last Sunday in November (day of the Grand final). A suggestion was also made that a complaint could be issued to the ASA regarding the discrimination of 9 year old swimmers, because of where their birthdays fall in the year.

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|------------|-------------------|------|----------------------|
| ▪ Proposer | Andrew Richardson | Club | Carnforth Otters     |
| ▪ Seconder | John McGinty      | Club | Blackburn Centurions |

An addition to the proposal was made to ensure the league should keep the age at the last Sunday of November for the next 4 years. This rule was voted on with 14 delegates voting for and 2 against. Southport abstained.

Another proposal was made to ensure that rule changes can be made and voted for at the Interim meeting

- |            |                |      |         |
|------------|----------------|------|---------|
| ▪ Proposer | Gillian Rankin | Club | Leyland |
| ▪ Seconder | Simon Deeley   | Club | Prescot |

This rule change was voted for with 18 delegates voting for and no abstentions.

The Chair said the Competition rules for 2018 would therefore be amended and issued asap.

## ➤ FUTURE DATES & VENUES:

### ○ INTERIM MEETING:

- The date for the 2017 Interim meeting was fixed at Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2018 @19.30, County Hall, Preston.

### ○ SWIM OFFS

- The swim-offs have been booked at Palatine Pool, Blackpool for Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> September 2017

### ○ NORTHERN AREA FINAL

- Northern Area final is 7<sup>th</sup> October at the Palatine, Blackpool.

A subcommittee is in place to organize the final (Steve Heaps, Sue Tinkler, John McGinty and Michelle Jones if required).

- **NATIONAL FINAL**
  - National Final date is Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> November 2018 to be held at Corby Pool.
- **AGM 2019**
  - 13<sup>th</sup> January 2019 @10.00am. Venue to be confirmed.

➤ **ELECTION of OFFICERS (COMMITTEE)**

- **Chairperson:**
  - Outgoing: Michelle Jones
  - **Incoming:** **Michelle Jones**
- **Secretary:**
  - Outgoing: Janine Duffin
  - **Incoming:** **Simon Ball (Carnforth Otters)**
- **Treasurer:**
  - Outgoing: Steve Makin
  - **Incoming:** **Steve Makin**
- **Membership Secretary:**
  - Outgoing: Sue Tinkler
  - **Incoming:** **Sue Tinkler**

A reminder to all clubs to pay their yearly fee of £35 per team to Steve Makin asap.

The meeting closed @ 11:40am. The Chair thanked everyone for attending.