

MINUTES OF THE MALDON SHARKS AGM – July 2nd 2017



Present:

Rob Smallcombe
Adrian Stead
Jeff Harris
Sue Hagger
Ian Lane
Zoe Mortimer Ford
Alex Kuzev
Lesley Hollingsworth
Mark Brewster
Danielle Hargeaves
Steve Gill

Chair
Treasurer

Duncan Stainer
Julia Harris
Donna Harris
Paul Harris
Jane Roberts
Mitch Vaughan
Kate Hollingsbee
Kimberley Hall
Michaela Wingrove
Gillian Humphries
Michelle Gill

Secretary

Apologies:

Kevin Harris
Kinda Chahil

1. Chairmans report

The Chairman welcomed us to the meeting and thanked everyone for coming. He went through the below summary of the previous year's events.

Thank you all for your attendance and continued support of the club. I would like to say a big thank you to the volunteer committee for their dedicated hard work over the past 12 months which at times has been demanding.

There have been a number of outstanding achievements as individuals and as a club over the past year by the hard work, determination and enthusiasm to achieve their best by swimmers. This has of course been combined with the support of coaches, parents, carers and committee members. Without this ongoing support the club could not function.

Achievements

We had 17 swimmers qualify for a total of 23 events in the 2017 Essex County Swimming championships. As a small club this is the best we have ever achieved.

During the championships there were 3 finalists, a Bronze medalist and one swimmer gaining her Regional qualifying time for butterfly and going on to further achieve a new individual personal best at the event.

This year's Club Championships saw 27 Swimmers entered which again is the best attendance so far for any Gala. It was with great pleasure that we saw 4 swimmers achieve entry to the Skins event.
50 Personal Bests over 5 events between the ages 9 – 16 years

As the season comes to a close we also now have swimmers qualified for the Winter Senior Championships to be held October 2017

9 swimmers qualified so far 4 Boys in 4 events
5 Girls in 10 Events

We also have 12 swimmers qualifying to date for the 2018 Counties which I know we will add to at the start of the season.

MSSC continues to grow from strength to strength; this is despite a number of setbacks the club has had to deal with. This has included seeing training disrupted for a further year at the most important start of the season for the club with pool maintenance at Woodham leaving the club to relocate and provide an alternative venue for the period of training. However, thanks to the professional working relationships the club has built up with the management teams at the local sports centre we were able to overcome this issue by supplementing it with land training sessions with the assistance of Infinity Tri.

Advertising for coaching staff continues to be a challenge for the club. However we are actively seeking additional qualified and experienced staff.

The club will keep parents updated as and when any new staff are successfully recruited. For the first time ever the club is able to run its own in house coaching courses later this summer where we are investing in club members including younger swimmers enabling them to gain lifelong qualifications.

Club Membership

Currently the club has 61 Members which includes our successful new Development Squad with 14 Swimmers.

We have 36 competitive (ASA Cat 2 swimmers registered to swim in Open Galas)
22 of those competing at some time during the year at Open Galas
5 New young members now competing in Opens.

Conclusion

Despite the challenge we have faced over the past 12 months Maldon Sharks Swimming Club remains the club of choice for the local communities we cover. Through continued determination and development I see the club expanding in the future providing additional support to all swimmers in all categories ensuring swimming is for all and continually promoted.

The club through the hard work of the committee has maintained its Swim 21 status which for a club so small is outstanding.

Thank you for your continued support the club is always looking for more volunteers from parents.

Please give your support to help us improve your club and lead us into 2018.

2. Treasurers report

The Club accounts were presented - a copy of which is attached. Part of the report recommended an amendment to the club constitution to allow internet banking. This is covered in section 6 of these minutes.

3. Election of committee members

There were a number of positions to be filled within the club committee. After various nominations and suggestions, the following committee was elected and agreed:

Chairman	Rob Smallcombe
Vice Chairman	Sue Hagger/Ian Lane
Treasurer	Adrian Stead
General Secretary	Mitch Vaughan
Gala Secretary	Julia Harris
Welfare Officer	Zoe Mortimer-Ford
Club Shop/Kit	Julia Harris
Jack Petchey Co-Ordinator	Kinda Chahil

Kevin Harris, Duncan Stainer, Jeff Harris, Michelle Gill & Michaela Wingrove were elected part of the general committee

4. Jack Petchey

The scheme continues to successfully provide valuable funding for the club. There were discussions over future social events that are to be arranged from the funding received from the Jack Petchey award scheme. These will be provided to all members when further details are available, but suggestions were a 'zorbing' event for swimmers and part-funding of the Xmas party, similar to the previous year

5. Galas

Club swimmers continue to compete at a number of Open Galas throughout the county. It was discussed going forward that Club Organiser should be utilised for both Gala entries and payments. Parents will be informed when this is set up and will be the only way to enter and pay for galas in future. It was also agreed to try and provide a yearly calendar of all known galas we plan to attend, so swimmers and coaches can plan accordingly

The home mini-league gala was confirmed as being the 14th October at South Woodham Pool. Volunteers and raffle prizes/cake bakers will be sought nearer the time.

6. Constitutional changes

It was agreed to amend the Club constitution to cover electronic payments. Section 14.1 of the club constitution was therefore amended as per the below:-

14.1 All monies payable to the Club shall be received by the Treasurer or other Committee Member and deposited in a bank account in the name of the Club. No sum shall be drawn from that account except by cheque, standing order or electronic transfer signed or otherwise approved by two of the Authorised Bank Signatories including, except in exceptional circumstances, the Treasurer. Any monies not required for immediate use may be invested as the Committee at its discretion.

7. Safeguarding update

Zoe updated the meeting on recent safeguarding initiatives, including both the swimmer and parental codes of conduct that has required the commitment of swimmers and parents. Feedback has been good and these were in the process of being signed. Zoe thanked those helpers that monitor the changing rooms during changeover periods. On this subject it was suggested that parents of swimmers who leave a session outside of the normal changeover periods should be responsible for their own children as it's very difficult to monitor and police any ad-hoc arrangements. This was agreed.

8. Club Organiser

Sue gave an update on Club Organiser. The Club consider it a success to date and greatly helps as a platform for general communicating and the day-to-day running the club. In future it will be utilised further for banking and payments. It was suggested if it could be used to show mini-league availability for individual swimmers. This will be investigated further.

9. Club Coaches

A summary on the qualification levels of the club coaches was given verbally and the coaching situation was discussed. The need for a further qualified coach to support the existing team was discussed and the plan going forward to promote from within was also revealed. In summary, the current coaches are as follows:

Carly - level 3 coach

Emma - level 3 (Tri) coach

Meg - level 2 coach and level 1 water polo coach

Lisa - level 2 swim teacher

Ian/Rob - qualified swim teachers

There are also a total of 10 level 1's that are going to be trained by the club going forward.

It was also suggested to put the coach's name on the back of their shirts, so that swimmers can easily identify each coach that is teaching them.

10. AOB

It was asked whether an Open Water swimming taster session, which was communicated in a previous club email, was going to happen. The committee agreed that it is definitely something that will happen in the future, so look out for further communications on the subject.

It was asked whether a communications newsletter could be introduced with important dates and events for each coming month. It was explained that the website should provide most of that information, but if we could get a volunteer to write a newsletter each month, then it is something we could introduce in future.

It was mentioned that a 2 week shutdown period would be introduced from 30th July to 13th August inclusive. It was asked whether any fees would be reimbursed for this period. It was explained that logistically it would be a headache for the club to try and reimburse and that funds were worked out pro-rate over a yearly basis, so it was not planned to issue any refunds

With no further business, the meeting adjourned.