

Great Britain Deaf Swimming Club Annual General Meeting

16th June 2012 at 12 noon at the Premier Inn Loughborough

Attendees: Peter Noden, Lillian Walkup, Vincent Dickson, Angela Holmes, Martin Lee, Margaret Baxter (Secretariat), Tracey Nisted, Jane Cranford, Tom Baxter, Alexander Cranford, Amanda Kenny, Alison Saines, Mrs Thorrun-Bacon, Mrs Tappenden (1), Mrs Tappenden (2), Janet Walton, Carol Macleod, Brian Baxter.

Also in attendance: David White ASA

1.0 Election of Executive Committee: Nominations received and approved. These are annual appointments.

Position	Name
Chairman	Peter Noden
Vice Chairman	<i>Vacant</i>
Treasurer	Margaret Baxter
Secretary	Alison Saines
Membership Secretary	Lillian Walkup
Welfare Officer	Amanda Kenny
Fund raising/Sponsorship	Amanda Kenny
Team Manager	<i>Vacant</i>

1.1 Confirmation of appointments: these are for 5 years.

Position	Name
Technical Director	Caroline Hurley
Head Coach	Angela Holmes

1.2 Election of other committee members: Nominations received and approved: these are annual appointments:

Name
Tracey Nisted
Tom Baxter
Carnette Noden
Jane Cranford
Alexander Cranford

1.3 Acceptance of Vincent Dickson as an Honorary Life Member

Vincent thanked everyone for the appointment as Honorary Life Member and accepted a certificate, and gifts for himself and his wife.

2. Apologies for absence: apologies were received from Caroline Hurley and Denise Whyman.

3. Minutes of last year's AGM: agreed as a true record.

4. Matters arising from the minutes: None

5. Treasurer's report:

Vincent Dickson, as outgoing Treasurer, explained that the accounts had not yet been audited, but he had a spreadsheet of monies in and out. (He handed these to the new Treasurer, plus the Building Society passbook, after the meeting). Vincent thanked Alison Saines for attracting sponsorship of £1500 for this year and next from Cochlear. He was disappointed that the club had only raised small amounts through the use of Easysearch as an internet search engine, as it was a good way to raise money without effort. A request was made for details of the Easysearch scheme to be put onto the new website.

Lillian Walkup thanked Vincent for the report and handover.

Angela Holmes asked if £5 of each membership fee had to be handed over to the British Deaf Sports Council? Vincent was unsure: he said that UK Deaf Sport had not calculated their fee yet so he saw little point in paying British Deaf Sports Council.

Angela then asked if Sheila McGowan, the previous Auditor, was still auditing our books? Vincent said not, but that she still had our books. Peter Noden instructed Margaret Baxter to appoint an Auditor of her choice for future years.

It was agreed that Margaret would have the signatory on the building society passbook changed over to her own name and then she would arrange for another signatory – she suggested Alison Saines, as she lives close to Margaret, and this was agreed. Amanda Kenny pointed out that having 2 signatories was a necessity when applying for funding.

Martin Lee requested that the club considered getting a Visa card, as in 2011 he had had to use his personal card at the team hotel as a guarantor for breakages etc.

6. Head Coach's report:

a. World Championships in Portugal in August 2011: 167 swimmers from 28 countries took part, including some countries new to the tournament, such as China and Korea. The team, including 2 younger boys taken to gain experience, did really well. Callum Ross bringing in the gold medal and breaking the Championship record on the first day really had other countries sitting up and looking at Team GB. Overall, 1 gold, 2 silvers and 5 bronze medals were won, and several long-held British records, both for individual and relay events, were broken. Angela thanked Vincent and Martin for their support.

b. The training camp in Liverpool in December was successful, with some good new younger swimmers coming through.

c. At the 2012 National Competition, to be held immediately after the AGM, Angela said she was going to assess the number of swimmers could potentially be included in the 2013 GB Deaflympics squad.

Vincent commented that it was a shame that the club no longer travelled abroad to train: in the past, they had visited Poland, Holland and Germany, but due to the fact that the club made no return invitations to these teams, the invitations to camps had stopped. He wondered if they could be resurrected in the future. He suggested that we might meet our guests' hotel and their UK costs and the guests should pay for their own flights.

7. Membership Secretary's report:

Lillian Walkup handed out copies of her report (*include as appendix to these notes please*), and asked that parents should remind their childrens' home clubs to fill out the necessary dual membership form, listing GBDSC as the secondary club. Failure to do so means that GBDSC is asked for the fees that the swimmers have already paid to their principal club.

She also asked if the fee tariff for 2012/13 could be set and clarified, as some did ask what they got for their membership fee. Peter Noden said the committee would discuss at a later date.

8. Sponsorship reports:

a. Alison Saines gave a brief resume of her negotiation of a 2-year sponsorship deal with Cochlear: the first instalment had been used to purchase polo shirts and shorts for the swimmers, and Cochlear had donated extra to give a towel to each swimmer. A photograph was to be taken that afternoon, at the pool, of all the swimmers in their kit, to send to Cochlear as a thank you for their generous donation. Alison asked if anyone who was mindful to approach potential sponsors could have a word with herself and Amanda Kenny before doing so. Peter Noden thanked Alison for her hard work.

b. Amanda Kenny handed out her report (*include as appendix to these notes please*) and suggested that for the future we needed a fundraising strategy.

9. Forthcoming events and dates:

a. It was hoped that a training camp in Liverpool could be held this autumn, but this could not be confirmed until the end of August 2012.

b. The date of the next Deaflympics was expected to be sometime between July and September 2013. There was a potential issue with getting qualifying times, especially when there was a lack of long-course competitions. Angela Holmes said that she would be considering holding the next annual championships slightly earlier in the year 2013 but that she had to avoid potential clashes with County championships. Swimmers' attendance at the Welsh Long Course Open Championships in December 2012 and Scottish National

Championships was encouraged. Vincent Dickson pointed out that although UK Deaf Sport had in the past wanted team selections confirmed at an early stage, he had examples of when swimmers were found at a really late stage, so the governing Body had, in his view, to be flexible over this.

c. The Open Short Course World Deaf Competition, due to be held in Rochester, NY, between 8-15 January 2014, was discussed. Angela Holmes said that she needed more information before deciding on a team strategy, including whether there was a minimum age for this competition, and whether swimmers could enter themselves or should this be done through GBDSC. This competition is to be open to hearing and deaf swimmers, with the heats mixed and the finals for deaf or hearing swimmers as appropriate.

10. Any other business:

Lillian Walkup thanked all those who had taken on roles for the forthcoming championships that afternoon.

Agenda