



GBDSC AGM AGENDA

2nd NOVEMBER 2024 @ 1PM

VENUE: YORK COMMUNITY STADIUM

1. Open Meeting

2. Apologies

- *None*

3. Previous minutes – *Sent to All via e-mail (28.10.2024) proposed by Laura Bligdon 2nd by Sindy Midgley*

4. Chairs Report read *by Dave Carrington (see below)*

5. Coaches Report – *ALREADY CIRCULATED (28.10.2024) (see below)*

6. Treasurer's Report – *ALREADY CIRCULATED (28.10.2024) (see below)*

- *Response regarding Treasurer's Report – No matters arising.*

7. Matters Arising –

- *None to Report or raised.*

8. Election/Confirmation of committee members

Chair – Dave Carrington – Proposed by Amy Curtis Seconded by Sarah Fleming

*Vice Chair – Kris Harvey – Proposed by Dave Carrington
seconded by Laura Bligdon*

*Secretary – Amy Curtis – Proposed by Kris Harvey Seconded by
Lucy Carrington*

*Treasurer – Amy Gamble – Proposed by Dave Carrington
Seconded by Fiona Donald*

*Welfare Officer – Laura Bligdon – Proposed by Kris Harvey
Seconded by Amy Gamble*

Welfare Officer – Fiona Brownlee to remain in role

Kris Harvey - Gala Coordinator

Lisa Young - Social Media

Gina Dickson - Club Website management

Pauline Jordan -Caws - Team Manager



AOB

- *Location of 2025 Championships - Dave Carrington informed parents and Committee that Loughborough are unable to hold Championships in 2025 due to a conflict of dates plus prices increasing which is not favourable to us. Suggested venues could be Birmingham or Coventry. Families will look at possible venues and inform the Chairman if anything comes up. Committee continues to search and will update asap.*
- *Lucy Jordan Claws - raised the matter of having a Student representative on Committee and attending AGM. Committee felt that whilst it's valuable to have the Swimmers comments that the purpose of such training weekends are that they participate in all the activities and training that has been set up for them. Committee will ask if they have any issues arising prior to the meeting. Parents are reminded to discuss meeting with their child to initiate conversations so that matters can be brought to the*

meeting on their behalf. Lucy asked to take on the role.

- *Volunteering option to allow swimmers to meet Duke of Edinburgh award scheme. – Potentially a very good idea but may prove difficult to complete due to Geographical spread of the membership and limited meetings during the year.*

Thank you all for attending

Meeting closed by Dave Carrington

Chairman

Chairman's Report



CHAIRMANS REPORT 2024

It gives me great pleasure to once again be able to present you all with this year's Chair's Report following what has been a good year for the GB Deaf Swimming Club.

Membership has slightly increased this year despite wishing fair well to one or two who have decided to move on to other things. As always we wish them

well with all their future endeavours. It goes without saying that we will be looking to continue to grow the membership throughout 2025 and as always we ask you all for your help with this. Wherever, whenever and however possible, please promote our fantastic club.

Over the year I have been busy in meetings with UKDS, discussing club structure & governance. We have to show that our paperwork is in order and that we are continuing to provide the best possible environment for our swimmers and their families. This is also something we are required to do Annually as part of Swim England's "Stronger Affiliation" process, and we do this as part of our club affiliation to the South East Region. As part of this we have signed an agreement with UKDS to be classified as the Official Governing Body for Deaf Swimming in the UK and the only club that UKDS will recognise in this role. This work has helped bring further recognition to GBDSC as we were awarded the "Swim Club of the Year" in the South East Region and in addition to this we have been listed as a Finalist at the National Swim England Awards in the "Inclusive Impact" category. Of course I must thank Amy, Kris & Martin for their support and work within the club and also give a huge thank you to everyone who took the time to nominate & vote for us and provide such positive feedback. Our swimmers must also receive plaudits too for their performances over the year in and around the pool. Each and every time they attend competition they unknowingly continue to promote the GBDSC.

Earlier in the Year we held our Annual Championships at Loughborough University, and once again we were privileged to watch our swimmers provide a fantastic standard of swimming. Equally enjoyable is watching their friendships as they continually support each other despite being in direct competition during the event. A huge Thank you to Kris Harvey for her role as Gala Coordinator, who's amazing organisation made the event run very smoothly, and of course thanks to all of you who gave up your time to make sure we had everything covered from Timekeepers to the Raffle & Medal Tables. Also, Thanks to the Officials who attended the event to provide their

services as Referee's etc. Congratulations to all the winners on the day and let's hope for another great show next year.

In June we were once again well represented at the National Junior Para Swimming Championships in Coventry. Our young swimmers were fantastic both in and out of the water and I once again received superb feedback from the organisers of the event regarding their conduct and how organised they were through the marshalling process especially. There was a change to the structure of the day this year due to the good numbers which allowed for S15 Finals. This allowed them to really shine and highlight their abilities to all watching and they didn't disappoint with many comments on how accomplished they are in the water. We were also able to place 2 teams into the Relays where again they performed exceptionally. Well done to all that attended and let's continue to support this event as GBDSC.

I would like to take this opportunity to highlight some of our senior swimmers who are actively giving back to the sport of swimming and in some cases being recognised for this. Nathan Young continues to campaign for Deaf Athletes and for them to receive equal opportunities and funding alongside all other Athletes but equally important is his Coaching of young swimmers and sharing his knowledge and experience with them. Nathan has been recognised for all this and is a finalist in the Wirral Life Awards, nominated for "Pride of Wirral".

Ryan Carstairs is becoming a regular celebrity and face of GB Deaf Swimming also and continues to be recognised for his work. Alongside the GBDSC, Ryan has been nominated for individual recognition at the National Swim England Awards in the "Swim England Youth Champion of the Year" category.

Adam Shuttleworth is another who's giving back to Swimming on the Isle of Man and has been recognised. Since qualifying as a Level 2 Swimming Teacher, Adam has been working to provide specialist swimming lessons for the Deaf and this led to him be nominated for the "Disability Sports Person of the Year" award on the Isle of Man.

Nathan Carrington is another who recently qualified as a Level 2 Swim Teacher and is now volunteering at his local club to Teach the younger generations. All of the above have completed their Lifeguarding courses too, and I am aware that this includes Abby White who is another name on the list of Deaf Swimmers looking to utilise their skills to good effect. Well done everyone and if any others are doing similar, please let me know so we can promote and showcase all of our swimmers' talents.

That brings me up to date for 2024 and looking forward to 2025 it will hopefully be another exciting and successful year, which will be topped off with the Deaflympics in Tokyo. Martin as Headcoach & Pauline as Team manager are already taking part in organisation meetings for the event, and as we receive more news to share we will keep you all informed accordingly.

Thanks again to everyone for their hard work over the year and to all of you for attending this AGM. Enjoy the rest of your Autumn Training Weekend

Kind Regards

Dave Carrington

Chairman

GB Deaf Swimming Club

Coaches Report

Coaches Report 2024

I hope this report finds all the swimmers and their families keeping safe and well.

Well, that is another year passed since my last report. In April we had our British Championships at Loughborough. The championship again was an enormous success, and everyone seemed to have enjoyed themselves. The winter training

weekend is in York in November, and I hope to see as many swimmers as possible at this weekend. Last year's York weekend was enjoyed by all who attended. It certainly brought out the competitiveness between the parents in the bowling. The swimmers seemed to be getting carried away in the spirit of the bowling competition too. A great night had by all who attended the evening activities!

Dave and I have been at various meetings this year with UK Deaf Sports to discuss various things including what they can do to help support swimming as well as other sports including working with Swim England on raising awareness of Deaf Swimming. I have been attending meetings with UKDS as part of an advisory panel which are looking at selecting officials for various meets and in-depth discussions with other governing bodies from various Deaf Sports. The next main event that UK Deaf Sports are looking to get funding for is the Deaflympics in 2025. Pauline Jordan-Caws as Team Manager will be attending the meetings as part of the UKDS Deaflympic Organising Committee on our behalf. I would like to thank Pauline for doing this.

The competitions opportunities over the next few years are as follows.

November 2025 – 25th Summer Deaflympics – Tokyo – Confirmed

July 2026 – 3rd WDSC Short Course – Belarus – TBC

August 2026 – 1st European Deaf Youth Games – Germany - TBC

January 2027 – 7th WDSC Long Course – Australia – TBC

The European Championships did not go ahead as there were no countries able to host these championships.

As you can see our next major competition will be the Deaflympics in Tokyo next November. Last year I mentioned in my report about trying to bridge the gap between to older and younger swimmers to help the younger swimmers gain experience of Deaf Internationals and to help build their confidence accordingly, and this is still something I would like to see happen. I have recently released the Qualification times which have been issued by the ICSD for Tokyo, but UKDS also wish to have a part in the selection policy, so I am in discussion with them

regarding this. This however is not the only requirement as there is a swimmer's code of conduct which is to allow the swimmers to show me their commitment to attending such a major event. I will update the club as and when I have more information and will be looking to stay in communication with the swimmers who are selected to compete.

I would finally like to thank the committee and volunteers in the club for all their hard work throughout the year and for all of you, the members, who we would not have a club without. A special mention must go to Dave Carrington for his support over the last year and to committee for all their work within the club too. I hope that we can all continue the hard work to keep this club in the successful position that we are in now for our Swimmers.

Congratulations to the club for winning the Swim England SE Club of the year and hopefully we will get good recognition at the Swim England National Club of the Year.

As always, if you feel you can assist in a role that helps the club please come forward as this will help secure Deaf Swimming for future generations of Deaflympians to come.

Thank you,

Martin Lee

(GB Deaf Swimming Head Coach)



Treasurers Report



TREASURERS REPORT – AGM 2024

Dear Membership

Please find below the Treasurers Report for the calendar year 2024. The purpose of this report is to provide an Interim update on the current financial position of the club and to provide advice for discussion during the AGM by the club's membership. Please be aware that unlike the Annual accounts, the figures in this report have not been independently checked and the full accounts will be made available during the early part of 2025.

Last year's Accounts were Independently audited Free of Charge by Patrick O'Donovan from York. Patrick who was a friend & work associate of Dave's suddenly and very sadly Passed Away earlier this year and will be missed. GBDCS would like to take this opportunity to offer their Condolences to Patricks family for their loss.

Membership and Bank Balance's.

The club Membership currently stands at 42. This is made up of 33 Swim Members & 9 Admin Members including the Coaches. This number is a small increase in both sectors on last year despite losing some swimmers who have decided to hang up there fins! We are pleased to welcome the newer members, and the club will continue to look forward and hopefully increase the membership.

The Opening Balance in the Club Accounts on 1st January 2024 was **£12220.39** with the Estimated Balance for the 31st December 2024 being **£11000** approx.

This shows an estimated loss of approx.. **£1220** which is slightly less than last year.

The main reasons for this loss are as follows:

- Further large Increases in Pool Hire/Venue Costs
- Subsidising of Swimmers entering National Para Championships
- Travel and Accommodation costs for the Volunteer Coaches

As last year the Club despite its efforts have been unable to gain any Financial assistance from Grants etc which have massively helped in previous years. These grants have allowed us to keep our Membership & Gala Fees to an affordable amount and overall, despite the estimated losses the Club remains in a good financial position.

GB Deaf Swimming 2025 and advice for discussion.

Looking forward into 2025 and at the current membership I am hopeful we will retain the majority of the membership again and continue to add new members with the help of other organisations. We will continue to look for additional funding to assist the club and UKDS are also committed to assisting in this process. It seems inevitable however that some costs may continue to rise in 2025 and ideally the Club should look to offset these costs where possible, but we have decided to freeze the Membership cost at £65 which will be due from 1st January 2025.

With the Club looking to send a squad to the Deaflympics in 2025 we will be looking to provide for those representatives in the form of Kit for the event. The club will be looking for Sponsorship to cover this but should this not be obtainable we feel that we are financially able to assist regardless.

Our main source of Income will continue to come from the following:

- Membership Fees

- The number of members attending our events
- Swim/event fees at the Annual Championships

The Committee will review the costs of entering events at our Annual Championship in 2025 once we have secured a Venue and have up to date Membership numbers, but we will be looking for a strong showing from our members at this event to help us meet our targets and not increase the fee per event from last year's £7.50

Thank you all for your continued support of the GB Deaf Swimming Club and we look forward to a prosperous 2025!

Kind Regards

The Exec. Committee