

GREAT BRITAIN DEAF SWIMMING CLUB

Treasurer's update October 2022 for AGM

The Treasurer's report (separate document) for the AGM includes the 2021 Accounts. The next Treasurer's report with 2022 Accounts won't be available until February 2023 so the purpose of this update is to give you an interim update on the current financial position of the club. Please be aware, unlike the Accounts, the figures in this update have not been independently checked.

1: Bank Balances and Membership numbers.

The table below shows the bank balance at the start and end of the 3-year period from 2020 to 2022. During this period, the club has had one round of membership fees rolled over from 2020 to 2022 and arranged two events in 2022.

3-year period	Bank Balance £
1 January 2020	10,211
31 December 2022	<i>(estimated)</i> 13,340

This shows that the bank balance has increased over the 3-year period showing that the club is currently in a good financial position. However, we are only in this position due to the generosity of **two grants from UK Deaf Sports** which have been available to support clubs due the difficulties caused by the pandemic. Without those grants the expected 2022 year-end bank balance would be around £9,000.

Most of the club's income normally comes from membership fees and event fees. The income raised varies, depending on

- the number of members
- the number of members attending events
- the membership fee and event fee

This income needs to cover the cost of running events such as

- hiring a pool, gym and meeting rooms
- travel and accommodation costs of the volunteer coaches.

These costs are mainly “fixed”. That is, these costs remain the same, regardless of how many swimmers attend the events.

It’s therefore important to focus on keeping the membership numbers high to keep the membership fee and event fee at a level that doesn’t put people off joining or staying with the club.

I have looked at the membership on the Swim England database to derive the following historical membership figures. During this period the club may have been struggling when membership numbers were low in 2012 -2014. The higher membership numbers during 2015-2019 coincide with an NDCS swim project and international competitions retaining its older members.

	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018	2017	2016	2015	2014	2013	2012
All members	40	43	51	59	55	58	50	59	42	28	26
Admin members	6	9	11	10	11	10	10	13	10	6	6
Swim Members	34	34*	40	49	44	48	40	46	32	22	20

*In 2021 only 34 swimmers registered on Swim England. However, the club had three additional swimmer members without Swim England membership, who were not registered on Swim England to save costs as no events ran due to pandemic.

The table shows recent membership figures have started to drop off. The income for the last 3-year period is based on 40 swim family members who paid their membership fee, and even if they haven’t continued with the club, most kindly donated their membership fee to the club.

Out of our current membership of 34 families, 28 families have attended at least 1 event this year. It’s likely the club will see a further drop in membership at the start of 2023, from those families not attending events this year.

There is a good bank balance to help the club whilst it focuses on increasing the membership.

2: Treasurer Handover

As you will be aware, after a 3-year stint as Treasurer, that I am not standing for re-election. It has been a rewarding experience, to support the club provide the weekend events that our deaf children get so much out of. My own deaf child is now moving on with her own life and I have responsibilities elsewhere that I need to prioritise.

I will finish off the accounts for the year 2022 and I will ensure that they are independently checked. This means that the new treasurer can pick up the accounts from the start of a new financial year. I have produced a handover document to explain how to manage the income and payments during the year and what is required to put the very basic accounts together at the end of the year.

I do urge you to consider whether this is something you could do to help the committee run the club. As long as you are comfortable with adding and subtracting numbers, then you could do the job, although if you are able to use spreadsheets that would help. You don't need to have accounting experience and I am happy to help with queries as you take on the new role.