

# Wimbledon Dolphin Swim Club AGM

## 5<sup>th</sup> February 2017

### 1. **Welcome by Paula Greenwood**

Paula welcomed everyone to the AGM and announced that she had stepped down from Chair in September 2016 following her daughters' departure to University.

PG

### 2. **General review of the past year**

The Club has had another successful year with secure membership numbers, swimming regularly. The squads are stronger helped by more pool time and swimmers attitude to training.

The Club has a stable coaching team and the addition of Laura at the end of last year has given more flexibility to the team.

Huge thanks must go to Jon Horsman for running a good team of coaches and for always being prepared to put in the extra hours for us. Special thanks to John Hull who has coached for WDSC for nearly 20 years now and we know he would have liked to be at this AGM but is coaching to cover Jon instead.

In 2018 WDSC will celebrate its 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary and we will plan something suitable to mark this occasion.

TF

JP

### 3. **Treasurers Report (see appendix 1 for year end accounts and budget 2016/17)**

The accounts for last year and the budget 2016/17 were outlined by JP. The Club finances are strong with a healthy bank balance, we will therefore continue to subsidise the Mordan Park costs and keep the membership fees the same for this budget year (to be reviewed July 17).

JP has budgeted for a 2% increase in pool hire but the only pools to put their costs up have been Latimer rd and Wimbledon High School.

Joining fees look under budget but this is because everyone is now paying electronically and the income is rolled into fees instead.

To confirm, WDSC is not a registered charity only affiliated with the ASA as its governing body.

The outgoing Treasurer suggested that with almost all banking being done electronically it would make the execution of the Treasurer's responsibilities more straightforward if the bank account were changed to be single signatory (from the current dual signatory), and that the proposed new joint Treasurers, Jennie and Alasdair McDougall could then each apply for online access to perform the role. This was voted as agreed by all present.

### 4. **Head Coach Report including competition**

JH

The past 12 months has seen the standard of swimming rise to new levels with 45 swimmers able to swim sub 3min for 200m Freestyle and 15 swimmers able to break 30 sec for 50m Freestyle compared with 10 & 3 for the same distances 5 years ago.

The retention of our older swimmers has been a big factor in these statistics with the club having 26 active members over 16 years old (not including Masters) an indication of the strong social aspect within the club, the extra Sunday swim session has also been a factor in the rise in performance.

The Masters section also continues to grow with a mix of recreational to competing Open water swimmers and Triathletes with options of Wednesday & Sunday swim sessions.

The club has had success once again in the Pentagon League winning both the Junior & Open Competitions.

We entered teams in two Dorking Competitions, finishing a very credible fourth out of six clubs in the Robbins Relay gala and fifth in the ZNA gala which involved 100m individual events as well as Max and Elle swimming in a 200m IM event. The Dorking Galas really challenge the clubs swimmers with a big step up in the quality of competition & a great indication of the clubs ambition was demonstrated in the fact that we competed in a Pentagon Gala and Dorking Gala on the same night with 60 swimmers involved!

In all we have used over 80 different club members across these galas, which is a very high percentage of our active membership.

The club Championships was once again held at Streatham Pools and although the electronic timing let us down, the event was still a great success with 90 entries from a current membership of 125 and some fantastic racing.

Max Freedman is entering Regional Championships and has achieved Regional times for 50m & 100m in Freestyle and Breaststroke and is very close to a 200m time, a testament to Max's hard work in the pool.

As well as the normal club training sessions we have also continued sessions at Surrey Sports Park 50m pool in Guildford, which have proved very successful.

I would like to send out a big thank you to all the club coach's, committee members and parent helpers who have made this a very satisfying year for me as Head Coach and especially Trudi for her continued desire to keep the club moving forward.

Pentagon dates for 2017: 25<sup>th</sup> Feb, 25<sup>th</sup> March, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 20<sup>th</sup> May, 16<sup>th</sup> Sept, 14<sup>th</sup> Oct / Dorking Galas TBC

## 5. Membership Update

TF

We are budgeted for 125 swimmers which is the number we had before Christmas. Following some leavers we started January with 118: 52 Juniors and 66 Seniors.

The membership remained fairly static last year but the leavers meant we could hold a trial of those swimmers who have applied since the waiting list embargo was lifted in October 2016. From the trial we took 15 new Juniors and 2 new seniors.

The Senior squad is full as nowadays we retain our senior swimmers for longer, this is great for the club as we remain competitive in all age groups; it means that there will be no further Junior movement until the squads are reviewed after Easter.

### Website

Please use the red box on the website for any current changes. We do endeavour to notify changes via email but sometimes this is not possible. Emma Gallagher, parent built our website and continues to support.

## 6. Welfare Officer

NF

Nic Fleming said there have been no welfare issues in the past year but should you have any concerns she is always available on Wednesday evening at Wimbledon College.

## 7. Committee Positions

All

Competition Lead and Team remain vacant – please contact Trudi if you feel you have time to take on these essential club roles.

The formal part of the AGM:

	Position	Proposed by	Accepted by
Trudi Freedman	Chair	Paula Greenwood	All present
Jennie and Alasdair McDougall	Co-Treasurer	Paula Greenwood	All present
Catherine Platt	Membership Secretary	Paula Greenwood	All present
Katherine Paterson	Equipment Secretary	Paula Greenwood	All present
Denise Hull	Committee Member	Paula Greenwood	All present
Sarah Deeks	Committee Member	Paula Greenwood	All present
Nic Fleming	Welfare Officer	Paula Greenwood	All present
Anne NG	Committee Member / Competition Coordinator	Trudi Freedman	All present
Paul Cartledge	Committee Member	Paula Greenwood	All present
Christine French	Committee Member	Trudi Freedman	All present

## 8. AOB

TF gave an overview of the Clubs aspirations for the year ahead:

### • Competition:

Given the increasing ability of our swimmers it is essential that the Club looks for other competition for our swimmers. The Pentagon is a good foundation gala but is not enough of a challenge for many of our swimmers.

TF and Jon have been looking at the Arena League and will put the Clubs name on the waiting list to join. Open galas will be much more manageable when we purchase the online entry programme, HyTek Meet Manager as we won't have to enter galas manually.

We are talking to Wimbledon High School about running a competition night with their afterschool swim club.

### Gala Manager and Team:

But to manage the galas, we need a strong proactive gala team with a 'lead' who is able to devote time

TF

to look for new leagues/ grow the competition and forge links with other clubs. This will be done in conjunction with the Chair.

**Officials:**

When we enter galas we are asked to provide 'officials' – ASA trained timekeepers and judges – currently we only have two timekeepers and no judges so we will be looking for a cohort of parents to train up and take these roles on as well. We most definitely CANNOT enter the Arena League without providing this or the Club will be fined under ASA rules.

- We aim to strengthen our ties with Mordan pool to ensure we are in with a strong chance of gaining more pool time when the new pool opens; with a view to having a 'home' for WDSC.
- TF has a member of the ASA visiting Wimbledon High this Wednesday, to talk about club development and offer advice. Currently clubs are moving towards a 'Swim 21' accreditation which more pools are now asking their swim clubs to have in order to hire from them.
- Guildford – as Jon has already said, we will continue to offer this experience to the Seniors and invited Juniors so please look out for dates.
- Reminder that Wimbledon High School is closing after Easter for refurbishment of its ventilation system. In this instance (as stated last year), we will not be refunding fees as we offer the Mordan evening on a 'free' basis anyway.  
Swim sessions during this closure will be: Wednesday – Seniors (6.30 -8pm) and Masters (8 – 9pm) / Thursday – Juniors (6.15 – 7.15pm). We are very sorry that this may not suit all swimmers but it is the only way we can manage the sessions to keep all squads swimming three times a week. Having joint sessions at the Wednesday / Thursday and Sunday swims will not be a good experience for all swimmers, especially at Wimbledon College where there are only 4 lanes.

Trudi gave thanks to Paula and Jeremy for all the time they have given the club in their roles and participation at events. Huge thank you also to Lorraine for carrying our kit around for the past 7 years and to Suzie, who has now left the Club; for managing the Gala team.

Thank you to all parents for attending the AGM and for on-going support.