

# Wimbledon Dolphins Swim Club

AGM: Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> March 2018

Held at Morden Park Pool 6pm – 7pm



## 1. Welcome and general review of the past year and Club Development 2018: Trudi Freedman, Club Chair

Welcome to all. Trudi Freedman – name on emails; I am the current Chair, which covers a multitude of roles at WDSC. I have been involved at the club for 8/9 years and have really enjoyed the opportunity to work with a great team of coaches, a strong committee and wonderful, motivated swimmers!

It's really important that you all realise WDSC is not owned by anyone except it's members; so you all have a part to play in its success

Our membership is secure and there is always a waiting list – all 48 people who answered our survey monkey Q said they would recommend us to others - this is heartening and it would be easy to become complacent but I believe it's essential to keep our club moving forward.

We are always looking for additional pool time, and taking Morden on a Saturday this year meant we could review all our squads and introduce a Development Squad of younger swimmers – an ambition of ours; so we can train them earlier and keep them longer (18 joined).

Jon will talk more about squad changes but suffice to say it's been well received by all – yesterday I spoke to all the parents in the gallery at Morden and they said its been great to see how quickly their children's skills have improved and their stamina increased.

We are really lucky to have such a strong, stable coaching team and the introduction of a Bursary fund for age 16+ swimmers, now means we have greater flexibility for coaching cover; as Elle and Freya join the team – the club paid for this in exchange for volunteer hours.

Thank you to John Hull and Silvia for their long service to the club and to Laura, Tamas and Victoria.

My huge thanks to Jon for managing such a great team of coaches, for his dedication to all of your swimmers and WDSC but also to personally thank him for his support and patience when I present him with 'my list', as I often do!!

2018 will be a busy year for us –

- We will be working towards SWIMMARK, a Swim England accreditation with a Club Development Plan at the heart of it.
- We are currently looking at the Swim England guidelines for the changes in GDPR and how that may affect us
- We excitedly await the opening of the new Morden pool in September – this will be great for the club as it means all our swimmers will have access to a 25m pool which will be great for time trials and galas.
- We will be re-introducing our House Galas again and will be looking at holding Junior / Junior Development events on a Sat at Morden.
- Social event for swimmers

## 2. Treasurers report: Alasdair Mcdougall

- Dolphins' financial year runs from 1 September to 31 August
- The committee aims to ensure that Dolphins operates on a financially prudent basis, maintaining a cash surplus to cover working capital and unforeseen expenses while seeking to minimise future member subscription increases

### 2016/2017

- On a cash accounting basis for the year to 31 August 2017, the Club reported a cash surplus of £3,735.09 against a budgeted surplus of £755.00
- The increased surplus was primarily the result of lost pool sessions due to maintenance closures and resulting lower coaching costs together with unbilled coaching costs
- As at 31 August 2017, the Club had a balance of £29,821.4 at NatWest bank

### 2017/2018

- For the year ending 31 August 2018, the committee agreed a budget resulting in a deficit for the year of £4,361. The committee agreed that it was acceptable to run a cash deficit, given Dolphins' bank balance
- In December 2017, the committee agreed, from January 2018, to expand the Club's activities to include a new Saturday session at Morden and to increase the number of 'junior' swimmers. The committee believed that it was of particular importance to the Club to secure newly available pool time, given the competition for and limited availability of pool time in the Wimbledon area. While, this action had a broadly neutral effect on the Club's finances (new budgeted income being similar to additional expenses), the expected financial position of the Club for the year ending 31 August 2018 was reforecast.
  - Based on reforecast figures, it is expected that the Club will report a cash deficit for the year of up to c.£6,000. The increased deficit mainly results from unbilled coaching costs from 2016/17. On an accruals basis the forecast deficit is c.£3,300.
  - The forecast cash balance as at 31 August 2018 is c£24,000

### 2018/2019

- Given the level of the Club's cash surplus, the Committee is recommending that membership subscriptions are maintained at their current level for the year commencing 1 September 2018, but that subscription levels are reviewed with effect from 1 January 2019 when it is clear as to the cost increases levied by the pools (in particular any increase as a result of a move to the new Morden pool)

## 3. Head Coach Report 2017-18: Jon Horsman

The past 12 months have seen a lot of changes to the club squad structure which we hope will be both positive and challenging for both swimmers and coaches.

We have recently started a Junior Development squad at Morden with the idea of feeding younger swimmers into the main club with the required skill levels and confidence for competition. The new criteria and clearer pathways will allow swimmers and parents/carers to understand how progression can be made at the club, giving individuals more of a purpose and desire to improve themselves as athletes.

The new structure is not meant to replace the existing members of the club (especially important to the retention of our older swimmers) but to enhance and develop swimmers in a more challenging environment.

The benefits of the new restructure will give a stronger definition to all the squads, giving greater direction, desire and sense of belonging to the club and also work towards the club's application for Swim England's SWIM MARK status.

The club once again retained the Pentagon Trophies in both Junior and Open categories and used a total of 85 different swimmers over the 6 galas, a large proportion of the club's membership.

The club also took part in two rounds of the National Arena League, lots of positives came from both competitions with all the swimmers involved really rising to the challenge of higher competition, we all learnt a great deal from this venture.

We also swam in 2 Dorking Galas where once again we swam against much higher-level competition and competed brilliantly, we are looking to continue with these competitions as well as some local Competitions against Sutton Atlantis that Katherine and Lee have organised.

The club Championship was once again held at Streatham with the addition of electronic timing for the first time allowing swimmers to see their name and time on the giant scoreboard, 100m Freestyle events were added to the programme for over 15 swimmers for an extra challenge.

The one negative surrounding galas is the lack of positive response and desire from a large percentage of the membership to make themselves available to swim, both myself and Trudi waste so much of our time selecting and re-selecting teams, a tedious and frustrating affair.

We now have Freya Deeks and Elle Horsman as Level 2 qualified swim teachers (financed by the club) and they are both already involved with the various squads on poolside, an inspiration to younger swimmers, as well as giving some time and experience back to the club, an important part of the club's development pathway. Rosie Simo and Laura Howley have also been fantastic as poolside helpers at Latimer Rd on Saturday Junior sessions.

I would like to thank our dedicated team of coaches: John, Silvia, Victoria, Laura and Tamas for all their hard work and passion over the past 12 months, the Committee members and parent helpers for all their support and especially Trudi who is the "heartbeat of the club" with her desire and passion to keep moving the club forward and of course all the swimmers for making my job all the more rewarding.

#### **4. Membership Update: Catherine Platt**

- 160 active members.
- 28 master swimmers.
- You must be a level 5 to be able to start swimming.
- Current wait list is 20 for junior development.
- Everything is currently running smoothly.

#### **5. Welfare Officer: Nic Fleming**

- We will start working with Swim Mark to get accreditation.
- A reminder needs to be sent out regarding Changing Room Policy and the no photo policy.
- Development Squad change room parents should leave them their children to change on their own.

## 6. Social Media: Sarah Gray

A private group has been set up on Facebook, this is another means of communications outside of emails, The FB link is [Wimbledon Dolphins Facebook Page](#)

Please note you need to be over the age of 13 to be part of the group.

## 7. Committee Update: Trudi Freedman

Firstly I would like to say a huge thank you to all the committee members for all the work and support they put in, often behind the scenes. Without a committee the club cannot function, nor would it keep the Swim England accreditation.

I would also like to say another big thank you to the additional parents who can be relied upon to help us at galas and time trials.

It is important for us to succession plan because many of us on the committee have older swimmers who only have 1-2 years left at the club. Over the past few of months I have had a couple of parent meetings – thank you to those who attended if you are here, and following this a couple of parents have contacted me with a view to ‘getting involved’; one has said she can spare a couple of hours a week and one has said she will help on the gala team – this is really, really important because we need a Gala Secretary to manage galas and find new competition for us.

At this point I would also like to thank Katherine and Lee for managing the Club Kit and for introducing the new poolside tops and hoodies; as they are stepping down from this role – Katherine has kindly agreed to help with the gala team and Lee will continue on the committee and as an ‘official’.

So what we need are:

- Kit Secretary
- Gala Secretary
- Gala officials – parents who are prepared to become trained, so we are able to enter more competitions. Note: timekeeping is part of the Judge’s role.
- I would also like to introduce the role of Squad Rep for each squad.

In recent months I have put info out about these roles, but I am always happy to meet up to discuss, please contact me if you would like more information about any of these roles.

n.b. (At the time of the meeting we needed the role of Kit Secretary, this has been filled since been filled by Charlotte Walker).

It was discussed that we may need to pay Officials to come to any galas where we need qualified officials.

## 8. WDSC Committee 2018

Role	Person	Propose	Second
Chair	Trudi Freedman	Alasdair	Anne NG
Treasurer/s	Alasdair and Jennie	Katherine	Catherine
Welfare Secretary	Nic Fleming	Trudi	Jeremy
Membership Secretary	Catherine Platt	Trudi	Nic
Gala Team Member	Katherine Paterson	Trudi	Christine
Minute Taker	Christine French	Trudi	Sarah

Social Media	Sarah Gray	Trudi	Alasdair
Committee Members:	Paul Cartledge	Trudi	Alasdair
	Anne NG	Trudi	Christine
	Denise Hull	Trudi	Nic
	Jeremy Purnell	Trudi	Catherine
	Lee Regan	Trudi	Christine

Wimbledon Dolphins have a board at Morden Swimming Pool now with Gala Calendar 2018, committee details, achievements and contact details.

Meeting closed at 7:00pm.

## AOB – sent out after AGM:

### Gala Calendar 2018

- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> February – Pentagon Warm-up Gala
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March – Pentagon 1
- Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Pentagon 2
- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Robins Relay, Dorking
- Saturday 12<sup>th</sup> May – Inter-club gala Sutton Atlantis, Morden
- Saturday 19<sup>th</sup> May – Pentagon 3
- June – Junior / Development Gala
- Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> September - House Gala
- Saturday 29<sup>th</sup> September – Pentagon 4
- Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> October – Pentagon 5
- Saturday 4<sup>th</sup> November – Possible Dorking Open Gala
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> November - Annual Club Champs and Awards

Galas highlighted in yellow are provisional