

**Minutes of the ASA London Region Annual Council Meeting (ACM) held on  
Saturday 8 September 2018 at  
The Abbey Centre, 34 Great Smith Street, London SW1P 3BU**

## **Present**

### **Voting Board Members Present**

Jackie Bedford  
Jean Cook  
Norman Edgell  
Peggy Etiebet  
Dave Fletcher  
Kay Grimshaw  
Alex Harrison  
Kathy Hook  
Ralph Shortland  
Richard Whitehead

### **London Swimming Staff Present**

Suzanne Philpot	Regional Executive Officer
Kelly Stannard	Administration & Member Services Officer
Damien Bryan	Discipline Administration Officer
Dean Walker	Swim England Club Development Officer

## **Clubs Present**

Aquavision North London SC (1), Barnet Copthall SC (2), Beckenham SC (2), Bexley Masters SC (1), Brompton SC (1), Camden Swiss Cottage SC (1), Croydon Amphibians SC (1), Croydon Borough Swimming Association (1), Dive London (2), Hackney Aquatics SC (3) and West London Penguins Swimming and Water Polo Club (2).

**Total 17 voting delegates**

## **1 Welcome**

The Chairman made introductions and welcomed everyone to the meeting.

## **2 Presentation of the London Swimming Awards, the Dave and Flo Barnes Trophies and the Jeff Cook Salver.**

The Chairman handed over to the Chairman of the Awards Group and the President to make the presentations.

**Athlete of the Year** was awarded to Rosie Rallings from Aquavision.

**The Flo & Dave Barnes awards** are for an individual (male and female) who has made an outstanding contribution as an official or poolside helper (this may include teaching, assisting with coaching or other poolside activities). The Flo Barnes Trophy was awarded to Avian Durcan & Isabella Rose of Hackney Aquatics SC. The Dave Barnes Trophy was awarded to John Lake of West London Penguins.

**The Jeff Cook Salver** was awarded to Hackney Aquatics SC for their outstanding contribution to the sport in the Region.

The Chairman congratulated all the Award winners.

## **3 Apologies**

Apologies had been received from John Handley, President Kent County ASA, Flo Barnes and James Warrenner, London Swimming Discipline Development Officer.

#### **4 Declarations of Interest**

No declaration were made.

#### **5 Minutes of last Annual Council Meeting (2017)**

5.1 There were no amendments or questions raised as to the accuracy of the minutes and Council unanimously approved the minutes.

#### **6 London Region Annual Report and Accounts**

##### **6.1 Annual Report**

The Chairman introduced the Annual Report, and thanked all the volunteers who worked tirelessly for the region throughout the year. There were no questions or amendments raised. Council voted unanimously to approve the Annual Report.

##### **6.2 Accounts**

Alex Harrison (Finance and Administration Chairman) introduced the accounts.

Council voted unanimously to approve the Accounts.

#### **7 Inauguration of the President 2018 -19**

Diane Gamble recalled details of her year in office and the many events that she had had the pleasure of attending. Diane then proceeded to inaugurate Alex Harrison as the new President. Alex Harrison on behalf of the Region thanked Diane Gamble for all her work during the year.

#### **8 Election and inauguration of the Vice President 2018-19**

There had been no nominations for Vice President. The Chairman confirmed that the Board had discussed a suitable person who was not named as they had not agreed to be elected. The Management Board would liaise with this individual.

#### **9 Election of the Members of the Regional Board 2018-21**

The Chairman advised Council that Norman Edgell, Kathy Hook and Ralph Shortland had come to the end of their current term of office. Four nominations had been received after the closing date for nominations. In light of this the Management Board held a secret ballot and Ralph Shortland, Diane Gamble and Stewart Nicklin were elected onto the Regional Board until 2021. Norman Edgell was co-opted for a year to 2019.

Council endorsed the Board's decision.

The Chairman thanked Kathy Hook for her support during her time as a Management Board member and she was presented with flowers.

#### **10 Appointment of the Independent Examiner of the Accounts**

Alex Harrison confirmed that David Clark who had previously examined the accounts was planning to retire so there was the need to appoint another examiner.

Alex proposed the appointment of Hastings Wade as Independent Examiner.

The Council voted unanimously to appoint Hastings Wade as the Independent examiner of the Accounts.

## **11 Updating the Regional Constitution**

Following changes to the Swim England constitution as part of its incorporation as a charity and reviews by the Board the Region's constitution has been reviewed by the Finance and Administration Committee.

The recommended changes are as follows:

11.1 Swim England has become an incorporated body with new constitution and a single Board; the Sport Governing Board has been abolished. The ASA Council has been replaced by a "Members Forum" and Swim England is establishing a trading company through which to run events and championships (as the charity cannot trade in this way). As a result, there are a number of changes which are needed to constitution so that it is consistent with the new Swim England constitution.

11.2 The Board has previously agreed that it will use the Swim London brand but it wanted to retain both the London Swimming brand and the authority to use other brands where appropriate. The proposed change to rule 2.2 enables the Board to use the "Swim London" brand whilst retaining the existing powers including the ability to use the "Swim England London Region" brand.

11.3 The Region's geographical boundaries (rule 3) are laid down by the Swim England constitution.

11.4 Swim England has removed from its constitution the requirement that Regions establish sub-regions – largely because of the lack of compliance across the country. But this does not prevent a region from doing so if it chooses. Rule 6 enables London Swimming to establish sub-Regions if it chooses to do so in the future but the word "may" means that it is not required to do so.

11.5 The Board asked the Affiliations Officer to consult the county associations about the process for appointing the Region's Vice President. The proposed changes to Rule 12.9.1 reflect proposals that the Affiliations Officer was instructed to put to the county associations.

11.6 The Regional Executive Officer (REO) is a member of the Board without a vote – this is a hangover from when the role was that of Divisional Manager who, as a Swim England employee, had a conflict of interest. The REO is an employee of the Region and therefore has no conflict of interest and it is therefore appropriate to empower the REO to vote; indeed such a power would mirror the Swim England stance of enabling the CEO and CFO to vote.

Council voted unanimously to approve the new Constitution.

## **12 Election of the Region's representatives on Swim England Limited (Amateur Swimming Association) Members' Forum 2018**

The Chairman advised Council that the Region was entitled (based on the current number of registered members) to 10 voting representatives to the Swim England Members' Forum this year. Under the constitution, four of these seats are taken by the Region's President and Officers. Alex Harrison is President and also an Officer so there were seven remaining

seats. Seven nominations had been proposed by the Management Board for the remaining seven seats - Jackie Bedford, Diane Gamble, Kay Grimshaw, Kathy Hook, Stewart Nicklin, Ralph Shortland and Richard Whitehead - and they were duly elected unopposed.

Council endorsed the Board's decision.

### **13 Swim England Limited (Amateur Swimming Association) Members' Forum 2018 (including the Annual Report and Accounts and any motions for a change to ASA Law)**

There were no questions raised on the Annual Report and Accounts.

Louis Lemieux, Chairman of West London Penguins questioned whether there was adequate information provided by Swim England detailing the benefits of Swimming.

The Chairman confirmed that a detailed study had been carried out by Swim England last year which had been published.

Action: Kelly Stannard to publish a link to this report in the next Club Newsletter.

The Chairman thanked everyone for their attendance and closed the meeting.