

Mid Sussex Marlins Swimming Club Limited

AGM 2024 Meeting Minutes

(Rescheduled due to initial date of 12th December 2024 not being quorate.)
Held virtually via Teams on Tuesday 14th January 2025 at 7pm

	Directors in attendance – Paul Johnson; Chair (PJ), Steve Braine (SB), Matt Disney (MD), Emma Goodhew (EG) and Katie Rayner (KR).	Action
	<p>PJ welcomed all to the meeting, explained that a link to vote will be added to the chat and attendees can vote at any time during the meeting.</p> <p>Voting will remain as usual and as per our constitution with a simple majority by one. PJ confirmed that the meeting was quorate with 36 members eligible to vote in attendance (exact number confirmed post meeting).</p>	
1	<p>Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Apologies were received from Sarah Davison and Charlie Wood. 	
2	<p>To receive and approve the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of 7th December 2023.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> There were no questions received regarding the minutes. PJ asked members to vote to approve the minutes. The votes were verified after the meeting. 23 eligible votes were received, all to approve; the minutes are duly approved. 	
3	<p>Matters arising from previous minutes</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No matters arising. 	
4	<p>To receive the Chair's report</p> <p>PJ noted the Board's thanks to all the Club's volunteers. He also noted the success of our para gala this year. Thanks to Pauline for organising. 28th June is confirmed for the next one. A complex year to contend with including a lengthy tribunal which was ruled in our favour.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No questions were raised in response to the report. 	
5	<p>Accounts:</p> <p>Steve Braine (treasurer) confirmed that the financial statements and Independent Examiner's report have been circulated. Last year at the AGM we had a deficit of £34k. We had to take action and reduced that deficit to £9k. We have a requirement</p>	

	<p>in our Articles of Association for 3 months operating expenses in reserve as a contingency. As of March we had 1.5 months. As of today, we are back in surplus and anticipate that we will be back in the correct position by end of year. In light of this, we expect to keep fees at same level this year.</p> <p>5.1 to receive the Accounts for the Year to 31st March 2024</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounts are for the year to end March 2024 • No questions were raised in response to the accounts. <p>5.2 to receive and consider the report of the Independent Examiner.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We do not require an audit but we do require an Independent Examiner of the accounts. The examiners have confirmed that the accounts have been prepared satisfactorily. • No questions were raised on this report. <p>5.3 to receive and consider the Director’s report regarding financial position.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions were received in response to this report. 	
6	<p>To reappoint or elect an independent examiner for the accounts for the coming year</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SB explained the requirement to have one and proposed we re-elect Knill James – now trading as TC Group and asked members present to vote. • The votes were verified after the meeting. 23 eligible votes were received, all to approve; TC Group will subsequently be re-elected. <p>PJ thanked SB for his hard work this year.</p>	
7	<p>To receive the Club reports on activities; Head Coach report for academy, Squads and Water Polo, Disability, Development and Masters.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions were raised in response to the reports. PJ thanked all staff for preparing these. 	
8	<p>To receive the Welfare Officer’s report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions were received in response to the report. 	
9	<p>To elect Directors and officers for 2025/26 (three of eight positions available)</p> <p>9.1 Existing officers continuing in post:</p> <p>Emma Goodhew</p> <p>Katie Rayner</p>	

	<p>Steve Braine</p> <p>Matt Disney</p> <p>Paul Johnson</p> <p>9.2 Retiring officers:</p> <p>None</p> <p>9.3 New officers standing for election:</p> <p>No members have stood for election although we have been contacted recently by an individual who is likely to be co-opted to the board until the AGM. Has fundraising experience which could be very beneficial.</p>	
10	<p>To receive and approve the revised club Articles of Association to bring them in line with the club rules.</p> <p>We were advised by Swim England that we need to bring these in line with the rules. These have been approved by county but need to be approved by members and then by Swim England's South East Region.</p> <p>Les Hawkey expressed concern that members may be outnumbered by board members if reducing the quorum to 10. This does not concern him currently as he has confidence in the current Board but the future is unknown. KR explained that we will continue to notify all members 2 weeks in advance of an AGM and encourage members to attend. We have proactively worked to increase voting eligibility by paying for Club Support membership for all of our active volunteers. Les accepted this but remained concerned. The board agreed to review after the meeting and report back to members.</p> <p>23 eligible votes were received and verified post meeting, 20 votes were in favour of approving the changes, one was not in favour and 2 members did not wish to vote on this matter.</p>	Board
11	<p>To consider any Proposals received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No proposals were received. 	
12	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Morgan Trophy <p>This year we have decided to award the Morgan Trophy to Jennie Moger. Jennie has been a long-term supporter of the club with two sons who now swim in our Competitive Squads.</p>	

Jennie's volunteering journey began when she supported as one of our 'poolside helpers' during the pandemic enabling our sessions to restart. Then, her journey gathered momentum as she began training for her Timekeeper qualification to support at our home meets. From there, she swiftly completed her Judge Level 1 qualification and most recently her Judge Level 2. As a Club with so few volunteers who have undertaken this training, Jennie's support has been absolutely invaluable and, as part of our team, has enabled countless swimmers to compete in the sport they love.

Not content with always wearing white, Jennie has opted to keep her Marlins life busy and varied. She has completed her Team Manager qualification to help the coaches poolside at meets and she recently volunteered many hours to support our younger swimmers in PC1 - encouraging warm ups and keeping them swimming.

Most recently, Jennie has taken over as our SwimMark Coordinator which involves high levels of organisation and many hours chasing, collating and submitting documentation. Compliance to SwimMark is important to us as a Club as the 'gold standard' for clubs in terms of governance, sustainability and effectiveness.

A heartfelt thank you Jennie, from us all for all that you do.

Mid Sussex Marlins Board of Directors

There being no other business, PJ thanked everyone for attending and the meeting closed at 7.27pm