

Meeting Minutes
Mid Sussex Marlins AGM
Held virtually via Teams on Thursday 7th December 2023 at 7pm

	<p>Directors in attendance – Steve Braine (SB), Matt Disney (MD), Emma Goodhew (EG) and Katie Rayner (KR). MD 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. Voting will remain as usual and as per our constitution with a simple majority by one. KR confirmed that the meeting was quorate (more than 20 members eligible to vote in attendance).</p>	Action
1	<p>Apologies</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Apologies were received and accepted from Kathy Bidnall, Graeme Edwards, Louise Gale, Charlie Gale and Katie Scott. 	
2	<p>To receive and approve the Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting of 14th December 2022.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There were no questions received regarding the minutes. MD asked members to vote to approve the minutes. • The votes were verified after the meeting. 17 eligible votes were received to approve and 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> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No questions were raised in response. 	
5	<p>Accounts:</p> <p>Steve Braine introduced himself as treasurer having taken over earlier this year.</p> <p>5.1 to receive and approve the Accounts for the Year to 31st March 2023</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Accounts are for the year to end March 2023. The club made a deficit of £34,000 which obviously can not continue. 2022/3 was the first full year post Covid during which the club offered the same levels of service but lost 60-70 members. • When board received accounts, they met with the Head Coach and took action; reduced pool time, coaching hours and made other cost savings but still need to do more. • There being no questions, SB asked members to vote to approve the accounts. • The votes were verified after the meeting. 16 eligible votes were received approving and the accounts are duly approved. <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 repose to this report. <p>5.4 to present the fee schedule to apply from 1st April 2024.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Still receiving increases from suppliers and reserves are lower than they need to be. Reluctantly, the board have agreed to increase fees. • If look at cost of sessions to swimmers, fees equate to approximately £4-£8 per hour which includes pool time and excellent quality of coaching which it is felt offers good value. • SB offered to take questions. • Pauline Draper asked a question regarding the uplift in fees for student swimmers - is this for top squads? SB replied that this is primarily for top squads but there is discretion that can be applied ie if a para or other squad member were to come back to us, we can consider these on a case by case basis. • Tim Fraser asked if the fee increase was a blanket increase? Yes, with one exception - C1 who were out of line with other squads previously. • Suzy Parvin noted that the problem with C1 is they are swimming next to public swimmers so pool floor is higher so they can not practice competitive starts etc and are at a disadvantage, she thought this was why the C1 squad fees were lower. SB offered to look into this. 	
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 and asked members present to vote. • The votes were verified after the meeting. 18 eligible votes were received to re-elect and Knill James will subsequently be re-elected. 	
7	<p>To receive the Club reports on activities;</p> <p>7.1 Head Coach report</p> <p>7.2 Disability</p> <p>7.3 Water Polo</p> <p>7.4 Development</p> <p>7.5 Masters.</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No questions were raised in response to the reports. 	
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 2024/25 (five of nine 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>9.2 Retiring officers:</p> <p>None</p> <p>9.3 New officers standing for election:</p> <p>Paul Johnson</p> <p>9.4 Vote to elect officers.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> MD explained that Charlotte Watson has withdrawn her application to join the board due to personal commitments. MD asked members to vote to elect Paul Johnson. Votes were verified after the meeting. 17 eligible votes were received to elect and Paul Johnson was duly elected. 	
10	<p>To consider any Proposals received</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No proposals were received. 	
11	<p>Any other business</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sarah Davison asked a question about Swim England fees. SB noted that we will move to the new fees in April. He offered to clarify offline and respond to Sarah. <i>(After the meeting it was confirmed that the Club pass on to members who compete the full SE compete fee and not the SE compete fee less the SE training fee).</i> Pauline Draper wondered why we could not meet in person as the AGM can also be an opportunity to meet and catch up. MD advised that as a board, we will consider whether we meet in person, have a hybrid meeting or host another virtual meeting next year. Charlie Wood (Head Coach) was able to confirm that the Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday sessions for C1 are at depth - 4 sessions which is the same as P2. 	

- The Morgan Trophy

This year we have decided to award the Morgan Trophy to Dawn Midmer. Dawn has been a long-term supporter of the club as a talented swimmer herself and then a parent of a swimmer who progressed through the club. Not content with sitting on the balcony, Dawn completed her Timekeeper qualification in 2015 and has continued to volunteer her time ever since; finally qualifying as a referee in October last year (congratulations!). Quite simply, we could not function without Dawn on the events team. From getting the dates in the diary to corralling support from our limited numbers of officials, to organising mentoring and ensuring our licensing requirements are met, Dawn's contribution is significant. From Academy and para time trials to Club Champs and now our very own Open Meets, Dawn is there. Giving up many hours of her time, often sidelining her own life like all of our amazing volunteers, with a smile on her face to ensure that we give our swimmers the opportunities they need. Thank you Dawn, from us all.

There being no other business the meeting closed at 7.25pm