

# **Birmingham Marlins Swimming Club Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date 06/10/2021 18:45 hrs**

**Venue: Online.**

**In Attendance:** Dave, Karen, Alex, Manish, Steve, Pam, Mike, and Judy.

**Apologies:** Nil

**Matters Arising and Minutes of Last Meeting:** No matters arising minutes accepted.

## **Treasurers Report:**

£ 10,400.00 in the bank account. (All figures approximate and rounded up)

-Incoming Direct Debits currently £3000.00.

-Shop/Raffle incoming cash. Approx. £250.00 in cash still to bank.

-Outgoings pool expenses £2200.00 plus

-Helpers/coaches invoices differ per month.

Llandudno money included in the final total. Hotel and Pool hire fees to pay.

**Fund Raising** –A new dedicated person is required to take club fundraising on. Applications can be quite time consuming. A few names of parents of club swimmers and older swimmers were suggested, and Karen will ask them if they are willing to take this on. Ongoing issue for next meeting.

**Membership** – Increasing steadily. Currently eight swimmers on waiting list, due to capacity of teachers and helpers for learn to swim. A few swimmers are in transition stage to move up group, which will free spaces. Some space Saturday morning 8:00am session that can be offered. New teachers/helpers required to be discussed later in meeting.

-Membership form issue raised that some medical conditions have not been declared on the swimmer's membership form.

-Discussions on whether we need a clearer box or perhaps a Yes/No tick box section, and if yes please give details of the condition. Also, a self-declaration box on the signatory section of the form to be included. Manish will help with the requirements and wording of this.

-A suggestion of a digital form made by committee members; therefore, nothing would be missed as the form would not process with missing information. Mike has volunteered to look at this.

-Swim England Membership categories are changing in October. This would give us the opportunity to request new membership forms from all swimmers and give us the chance to check and improve the recording going forward.

**Head Coach Report** – Invitation to swimming event in Germany this Autumn. Decision made to not accept this time due to covid related issues and costings. However, hopefully will be invited again next year June 2022.

-Perry Beeches have invited us to their December gala. Entry forms to be sent out to swimmer when final racing details released.

-No issues with training to report.

The Morris centre want to know if we would like to use main entrance again.

-Committee decision to continue to use the pool side door. Decision made for various reasons including the safety of swimmers and not being able to see swimmers arriving and departing the building through the main entrance. Also, covid related safety and cleaning.

-The issue of colder and darker nights and parents waiting outside has been raised to the committee.

-It was decided that one parent/guardian per swimmer can now use the upstairs viewing area.

-Masks must be worn (unless there is an exemption) and social distancing rules must be followed.

-Masks must still be worn due to us swimming in an NHS building.

- Spacing, and social distancing rules must continue to be followed.
- Outdoor shoes must be removed when entering poolside.
- Committee have decided to keep restricted use of changing rooms in place. List of exemptions from Karen.

-We have been offered more pool time Friday night 2 lanes available and full pool Wednesday night 3 out of 4 weeks a month. Decision made to not accept offer at this time due to funds stretched and no coach to take session but something to consider in the future.

-Teachers/helpers still required to assist the coaches. A lot of helpers are currently completing their D of E qualifications or paying back course fees. Future helpers may be encouraged to do the same.

Individual Swimmer issue – Issued raised by Karen of an individual swimmer. No impairment is noted for child the sibling is the main member. Child has anger issues, aggression and swearing episodes. The aggression has only been shown towards parent and sibling so far. Karen can control the swimmer currently, but other teachers are having issues with the swimmer. An issue has been raised because we need to safeguard other swimmers and stop this becoming a bigger problem.

-Committee decided this is a welfare issue and an email should be sent by Rachel and perhaps a conversation with parent. Karen will liaise with Rachel on the best way forward.

- If no improvement in behaviour, the committee feel a warning may have to be given.

**New Members Secretary** – With the addition of a digital membership form the process should be a lot easier. The current process is working well between Judy and Alex from signing up new members to fees being processed.

**Head Coach Expenses** – Karen has not been taking any payment from the club. Complete agreement from the committee to pay Karen £100 a month towards her expenses going forward.

**Championships 2021** – A great success but improvements can be made.

Main issue length of the gala overrunning.

-Suggestions made of starting earlier, taking some of the events out, two referees, two laptops recording and processing results. All speeding things up between races.

-Ideas also suggested, separate galas - Learn to swim/Academy one week Development/Training squad/Masters another week. Or two galas split a few months apart.

-Pros and cons to both - more volunteers needed to staff both galas, more expense.

-Discussed that we like all the swimming club together in the same event if possible.

-Covid restrictions may not be in place by next year.

-Gala entry system for swimmers worked very well through Swim shop. No issues.

**Return to Competition** – Next gala for everyone: Perry Beeches Christmas Gala 12<sup>th</sup> December 2021- Walsall baths. Individual event for all. Dave will find out the final details and then Karen will distribute the entry forms.

**Swim camps** – Sheffield and Teignmouth 2022 carried over to next meeting.

**Llandudno 2022** – a lot of swimmers have still only paid the deposit. Karen to send out reminders to those who have not paid the full balance and set deadline for payments. Also, a couple of swimmers have still not replied to their invitation to attend, this will be chased.

- Covid testing – Lateral flow testing before departure for all swimmers, and something added to the consent form that the child can be tested if showing symptoms whilst away.
- Parent or responsible person to collect child if covid identified, person to be named on consent form.
- Wales covid restrictions could be different to England. Checks will made closer to the trip.
- Coach pick up point TBA. Perhaps a local school will allow us to use their car park.

**AOB** - succession planning to be discussed at future meetings.

-Google My Business set up by Alex for The Morris Centre. This is free and easy to use way to list Birmingham Marlin's location and other information.

Meeting ended by Dave 20:45 hrs.

Date of next meeting proposed: 17<sup>th</sup> November 2021 @ 18:45.