

Birmingham Marlins Swimming Club Committee Meeting Minutes

Date 10/06/2021 20:30 hrs

Venue: Online

In Attendance: Dave, Karen, Alex, Manish and Judy.

Apologies: Rachel, Steve and Mike

Matters Arising and Minutes of Last Meeting – No matters arising, and minutes accepted.

Treasurers Report:

-Approximately £6500 in the bank account plus additional cash and cheques not banked yet totalling £200. This figure includes June's swimmers' direct debits, but pool hire, and other monthly expenses have not been paid yet and will need deducting.

-The first year of hire The Morris Centre kindly give us a discount on the pool, which we were very grateful for whilst the club expanded its members and become fully established, but we are now at the full cost of hire and have also had additional lifeguarding costs due to courses being delayed during the pandemic. This has made the monthly accounts balance critical and left us with slightly more outgoing than incoming.

-We have picked up a number of new swimmers and also identified some swimmer payment errors or non-payments that will balance this issue. By the end of July, we will have a better idea of the club's position. September we will also gain the monthly extra direct debits from the swimmers who initially paid for the full year.

-Poolside helpers, whom we are very grateful for their support will eventually receive some form of payment when we are clearer on our financial position.

-£200 grant from Swim England received.

Membership:

-We have welcomed ten new swimmers to the club over the last couple of weeks.

- We have rechecked and brought together all our members lists. A number of swimmers were identified who's monthly payments need chasing or tracking, and swimmers will be invoiced for any outstanding payment since we have returned to swimming for May and June.

-New swimmers who miss the cut off for the start of the months (8th) direct debit payment, can now be invoiced a half or full extra payment through the direct link set up. Making this process a lot easier to track and implement.

-Code of Conduct Forms – Still lots of swimmers and parents/guardians who still need to sign their forms. A reminder email will be sent, and older swimmers will be reminded poolside to sign their own forms. Column added to the swimmers register to mark off returned forms.

Head Coach Report:

-Most swimmers are back in the water, sessions are busy, and training is progressing.

-The competition calendar is starting to come through for the end of Sept/Oct. Most galas are in the final stages of confirmation, including The Len Badcock Memorial Para Meet and The National Partnership Meet hosted by Mencap and Special Olympics. Regionals dates are also imminent for the Autumn.

- Corey has been called for classification next month, lots of coaching will be offered and as a club we wish him well.

-Teacher/Coach cover needed due to Karen being away for just over 2 weeks due to a private matter. All sessions covered at the moment. Level 2 qualified coach must be poolside at all times, Steve, Dave, Alex and Janie are all level 2. All helpers/teachers/lifeguards and coaches are aware of the extra sessions they are needed to cover during Karen's absence.

-The Lifeguarding Course – restarts 11th June running for 3 weeks. Karen will attend remotely. The assessment is scheduled for the week after this.

-We are very grateful for lifeguard Joe's help whilst we have been without cover. He has been very loyal, and we will continue to utilise him and keep him on the books.

Recruitment of Teacher:

-This is still an ongoing issue and will be added to the agenda again for the next committee meeting.

-In the meantime, we have had an anonymous generous offer to sponsor six swimmers from our club to go on the Level one coaching course. The cost of a Level one course is approximately £400. All swimmers have been selected by Karen and advised of the conditions involved of going on the course. Once achieved, swimmers will rework the hours for Birmingham Marlins until the course is paid back. This is approximately 65 sessions as it stands. If they leave the club before the sessions are worked, the swimmer will be invoiced any funds owing.

-It is then hoped these swimmers can also go on and complete Level two courses which are approx. £600, but once fully qualified will be a valuable addition to the club and the swimmer personally for the future.

-If the club achieves the Swim England Quality Standard - Swim Mark Accreditation we would receive 50% off the courses. To qualify for the discount, we have to have Swim Mark in place before the courses are booked.

Championships 2021:

-Karen would like to bring our Club Championships forward to September, then it will be still light enough for spectators to view from outside through the window.

-Provisional date of 12th September 2021 proposed. (Dependant on other events)

-The suggested cost of entry of the championship for each swimmer is proposed at £7.50 regardless of events entered.

-Each swimming group/squad will be divided into categories, and every swimmer will have the opportunity to swim in up to five events if they wish to. Karen will plan the race programme.

-It is proposed that medals will be awarded for first, second and third places in each race.

-Attendance awards, probably a certificate will be awarded to all, and special achievement awards will be also awarded throughout the event.

-Lots of helpers will be needed poolside and parent etiquette will be needed outside for viewing and for parking fairly.

-A raffle and tabletop sale of Club merchandise and other goodies will be on offer, to raise some valuable funds.

SwimMark:

-Swim England Quality Standard Swim Mark accreditation: As a club we have nearly completed our application. 9 of the 15 elements have been approved so far. Karen and Dave have the last modules in place, and they will be submitted by the end of the week.

-A Covid Liaison Officer is required as well as Dave who has the role of Covid Lead. This is to check we are following all The Morris Centre's procedures and the Swim England Covid rules, including the recording of attendance on the register, the cleaning of areas and equipment used, and that social distancing is adhered to. Judy will take the role of Covid Liaison Officer.

Swim Camps:

-Planned for 2022:

-Llandudno February 2022 – we have not had confirmation back from the pool hire at the moment, but this is probably due to Wales' extra Covid restrictions.

-Hotel, Coach and Staff all confirmed. A pickup/drop off point for the coach still TBC.

-Proposed for 2022:

-Sheffield Swim Camp 2022 – Limited to approx. 10 swimmers due to Springs Leisure Centre size. Parents or guardians will need to travel with swimmers, and be responsible for transport, accommodation and care of the swimmer at all times outside of the training sessions.

-Teignmouth Devon 2022 – Clifden Hotel proposed school half term holiday. Parents or guardians will need to travel with swimmers, and be responsible for transport, accommodation and care of the swimmer at all times outside of the training sessions.

Fund Raising:

-Internal funding currently being trialled 50 team scratch card £2 a square - £20 price for the winning team revealed under the panel. Main problem encountered so far swimmers not aware of the opportunity. It's hard to get internal communications seen by all. Potential outcome of this one card £80 funds for the club.

-We would like to trial further opportunities like this, for example name the teddy.

-Easy fundraiser app still has 15 supporters with approx. £216 raised so far. More swimmers' families need be encouraged to join.

-Applications for grants this month have gone into:

Heart of England Community Fund – Made to sport.

Asda – Bringing communities back together.

Asda - green token giving at the Barnes Hill store.

Persimmon Homes – Applications have been sent in for May and June and will continue to go in every month.

-Additional applications sent to: Happy Days charity, Jazz Apples foundation, Cadbury's Foundation.

-Quiz night – Manish has come up with some excellent plans for this going forward a date needs to be finalised, but lots of interest.

-Raffle and tabletop shop selling Club merchandise and other goodies for club Championships will go ahead.

AOB – Nothing further to discuss at this time.

Date of next meeting proposed: TBC September 2021 18:30 hrs.

Meeting brought to a close by Dave 22.00hrs.