

Birmingham Marlins 25th March 2020.

Minutes of the meeting.

In Attendance – Dave, Karen, Steve, Pam, Manish, Alex, Mike, Judy and Rachel.

Apologies - Georgina

General restrictions – No training as all pools currently closed. Morris centre will call when we can swim asap. Karen is in touch with King Edwards staff and again will update as soon as there is any news.

Land training on going within home environments. Web site will be updated with video recordings of our members training or doing exercises. Jamie's latest recording will be up by tonight and Scott's tomorrow. Everybody else contacted via email/text / newsletter email to request for their videos of training to be added to web site for motivation to keep fit. Newsletter Friday will include update on home training.

Membership -Dual membership between members who paid fees to Orion and now transferring to BM. This is being completed by Swim England. Brand new swimmers can only be completed at present by Karen as waiting for Swim England to process the dual registrations and until that time, we do not have a full list of paid up Swim England registered members. Karen has got email evidence of communications between BM and SE in relation to this, so there is no problem of swimmers taking part in activities when we are re- open. Due to close down SE have informed Karen that there will be a short delay in providing us with the dual registration listing.

Membership restrictions – We are predominately Para and disability club with family swimming available. To become a member of BM, a swimmer or family member needs to be able to at least tick one box on membership form , if not we cannot accept them as members of our club.

Orion relationship – Ongoing and we are trying to work in partnership and build a more positive relationship. All agreed want to work in partnership and not against Orion. Current issues include the number of swimmers wanting to migrate across from Orion. Karen is currently referring all communications from Orion members back to Orion and asking families to try and work through the changes within Orion in a supportive manner, rather than just leaving and looking elsewhere. Orion have involved Swim England to try and promote this further. However, Karen does not wish to attend any more meetings with Orion at this time, too busy.

Difficult times ahead for all swimming clubs- will face problems of keeping people motivated and getting swimmers back into the water after a long break.

Head Coach Report- Sunderland meet before forced close down took place - Jamie and Armin both did well and achieved PB times. Both would have both qualified for Internationals and Summer Nationals but these events have now been cancelled. Only Len Badcock gala in June currently running. Closing date to enter LB gala is currently beginning of May but Karen asked organisers to keep open until end of May whilst we make a decision as to whether to attend. They will advise us.

But Karen thinks will be cancelled anyway as lack of training opportunities prior to the event will impact. Next scheduled competition event is September as summer nationals has now been cancelled as well but expect many changes. Competition diary is very much up in the air at the moment. Swim England predict all pools closed at least until end of April possibly until end of May. Possible that the Morris Centre will reopen after Easter depending on government lifting the lockdown but Swim England must give us go ahead for insurance purposes before we open for training.

Training sessions - we were one of the last clubs to close in Birmingham mainly because our risk assessment was in place for staying open. Sandwell clubs including Langley, Shrewsbury and Birmingham Marlins closed together with Friday night being our last session.

Pool Time Tuesday – We have been offered more pool time at KE girls pool 18:30-19:30 on a Tuesday night. Discussed who would benefit and costing. Extra 30 mins £30 - 1 hour £60. Looked at additional session for Academy or development but ruled that out as sufficient timetabled sessions at the moment. However, agreed to additional 30 minutes for Training squad. There session will now start at 7pm and end at 9pm on a Tuesday, when we return. Karen to confirm this with KE.

Pool time very precious don't want to give it up, as once lost, it is rare that you get it back again. By taking this time, gives us further options in the future as the club grows.

Finance Report - £5600 in the bank

50-60 members go cardless (DD) now set up.

Around 50 members have paid their £15 so still a few more payments to be made on membership fee.

Due to lots of gaps in training due to difficult times, plans were made for going forward.

March fees to chase up as this needs to be paid for anyone who attended the sessions. Registers were taken, so we do know who attended.

DD going forward for all members, unless they have paid for the full 12 months

Discussion took place around those who have paid and those who have not, how to address the closure, overheads and incoming invoices for pooltime that had been used.

It was agreed that No payment for April via DD will be taken.

Annual fees paid - just add extra month at the end of the 12 months before renewal (April) equals out.

Don't cancel any DD - will all be confirmed via newsletter about payments that need to be paid and that no payments will be taken.

£15 annual memberships still need to be paid.

Registration and setting up of DD can still go ahead even when no payment will be taken.

Membership listing - Need to tally Karen's list to Alex's list to check who's paid. Alex has record of maybe 62-63 members. Karen has some potential members on her listing but they have not

attended or paid, so will keep them on the listing for one more month after re opening and then remove if not paid. Alex and Karen to confer.

Invoices - No pool time to pay April. March fees only to be paid. Invoices for pool payments need checking and adjusting. £600 paid to Morris Centre for March pool hire fees but we closed before the end of the month, so adjustment required. However, we also took some additional pool time not included within the invoice, so again adjustments required. Karen to Liaise with Alex and with Morris centre to ensure correct invoicing. Langley pool hire dates need checking and all other pools and dates before invoices are paid. We have an invoice from Langley for 7th March but it is dated 14th March. We did use the pool time on 7th March at Langley but 14th March was due to take place at Blue Coat and this was cancelled by the school. The invoice needs checking but it agreed that we do owe for one session – they have just put the wrong date on the invoice.

Weekly log of pool time is on the timetable. All calendar dates will be on the website.

Pool Hire invoices to be checked with dates and confirmed before payment.

Funding Applications – Dave needs details for funding projects with Warwickshire. Cost of staffing including helpers. Objective of funding and main aim of funding required. Application for funding via Warwickshire – may need to be Swim Mark for this -Dave to check and take forward.

Swim England need to do audit for Swim Mark, hence discussion around stronger affiliation.

Lifeguarding – Karen's qualification expires June 2020 and this needs to be addressed. We looked at 3 options.

1/ Karen to do refresher course £150-200 - Karen is prepared to give it another go, but she is not confident of passing the course this time.

2/We can employ a lifeguard – this will cost the club over a period of time but we do have one bank lifeguard available.

3/ Marlins run their own lifeguard course. Approx. £600 - 10 people can attend - open to swimmers and parent.

Lifeguards - currently have Karen and Janie, Joe on standby

To pay Joe to attend sessions will cost £6 an hour and this will add up, lots of hours required to ensure timetable sessions are covered. We must have a lifeguard at every swim session.

Decision needs to be made by May to be done before June. Depends on pools being opened again. Lifeguard courses can only take 10 people, will be lots of demand including Orion staff as Karen completed her course with Orion, so all the Orion lifeguards will also be up for renewal. 13 sessions needed to be covered if Karen is unable to get course organised in time for update. If out of date, must do the whole course again which is 13 sessions including the assessment.

Decision made currently - Karen will give it a go and try and get herself on a course and to get a quote for running a course at the club.

Club Championships – Discussion took place around this and several ideas and suggestions were put forward

Karen would like to do something, or should we defer until next year?

Depends on whether Manchester runs at end of November, is there enough time?

Factors to consider - max number of people allowed poolside at the Morris Centre- awaiting on Morris Centre's answer. Karen has already asked the Morris centre for their fire risk assessment in relation to parents on poolside.

Options –

Maybe over 2 days

Defer until next year.

Need something for the swimmers to aim for.

Perhaps midweek doesn't have to be a weekend.

Cannot be completed during training session without an extension on pooltime, will take too long.

Preferred option discussed:

8th November (3weeks before Nationals)? Sunday perhaps from 15:00-19:30ish at the Morris Centre? Need to ask Morris Centre. Go from there depends on pool side numbers.

Other options KE Friday Night – late for little ones.

Entry Fee? Rosettes for all? One medal for winner?

Perhaps first to third medals entry fee to cover costs £5 per swimmer – agreed.

Karen to go ahead and arrange Championships but format and date TBC

Llandudno 2021 – Definitely want to go ahead. Hotel provisionally booked. Same fee as last year £13000 approx, pool fee £800 - £1000, plus coach approx £1000 =total £150000 approx. Took 60 kids 2020. £250 a swimmer. Less than 60 kids equal more money per swimmer. Should be able to find same number as this year, keep price the same 2021. Fund raise for additional fees- Dave to put in funding for Llandudno and equipment. Possible funding available £1000 max?

Hotel need deposit by end of July £1000 – agreed to go ahead. Hotel brilliant this year at short notice.

Invites end of May sent out.

Some members unfortunately cannot be invited due to previous problems or individual needs that we cannot meet. Some different options can be given for some swimmers who are unable to attend along the same lines as majority.

AOB – Breach of data protection - Karen made a mistake by sending out our membership list to somebody who shouldn't have had it. It only went to one person not a group email. Data included names first and surname of swimmers and email address of swimmer. Person sent to has been requested to delete it. Error made by wrong spreadsheet attached to email. Karen is very sorry and given her full apologies. Karen has now encrypted the spreadsheet to prevent any further issues.

Warwickshire Swim England – want a risk assessment for Corona Virus. It is on the web site for anybody to view.

Stronger Affiliation - needed from Swim England - Risk assessments done – Georgina needs to go on course when back to full health. Very complicated Karen needs help with statement of compliance. Dave will have a look. June 2020 deadline. Dave going to start to upload some of the completed documents that are now ready. This has proved to be hard work and very time consuming so thank you Karen for your hard work on this.

Keeping in touch with kids to keep motivated and keep their fitness. Boredom busters on the website. Friday email will have links. 60 second videos Karen collating together for the web site.

Do we need an AGM this year? Constitution states every 12 months but Swim England wants agms to be held around May/June time so need to decide whether to defer until 2021? 28 days notice required for agm so if holding this year, we need to decide on a date. – no decision made due to close down.

Date of next meeting – 20th May 2020 – 18:00. Possibly by phone again or KE if Karen coaching.

Meeting called to a close by Dave.