

Copeland ASC 2020 AGM

Date of meeting 9 November 2020 via Zoom

People Present

John Conery (Chair)
Catherine Conery (Vice Chair and minute taker)
Mark Holliday (Treasurer)
Julie Williamson (Head Coach)
John Freestone
Matt Makin (Membership secretary and Covid Lead)
Rosina Robinson
Andrew Robinson
Jill Oliver
Elaine Amor (Welfare Officer)
Mark Amor (Coach)
Jamie Jardine
Sarah Jardine
Jackie Patton
Alyson Quayle (Secretary)
Richard Quayle (Coach)
Hazel Deans
Loren Redmond
Ian Richardson
Keith Chisholm
Bradley Sutton
Paul Enright

Apologies: Matt Hinde (Swim Mark coordinator)

Chairman's Introduction

Welcome to the 2020 Copeland ASC annual general meeting, tonight's agenda as was posted last week consists of, the purpose of this meeting is for the chair, treasurer and head coach to deliver their annual summary, this has been particularly taxing this year as I'm sure you all can understand,

Tonight's agenda

1. Accept minutes of last year's AGM, these were available on request.
2. Chairs report of the past year.
3. Coaches report
4. Treasurers report, and recommendations for the next 12 months
5. Election of officers
6. Election of committee
7. AOB

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Minutes from 2019 AGM were accepted as a true record with the exception that Ian Richardson was missed from the list of attendees.

Chairmans Report

The year started with a very chilly New Year's dip that raised over £2000 which was donated to the Alzheimer's society. Sadly, we heard recently that this year's New Year's dip would not be going ahead,

The swimming year starting with age groups was a great start to the year and a fantastic launch pad for the year to come. There were some marvelous swims from across the squads, which was a fantastic result and the just deserts for some great efforts in training and clearly shows the progress and effort the coaches and swimmers have made.

Copelands own griffin gala was again a great success, and as it turns out one of the last competitive galas held in the county, these Home galas are a lifeblood for the club with the income they generate as well as the relationships the swimmers make with the wider swim family.

This particular gala was a little special as it was the first with our long overdue new blocks. This project was visibly the biggest change in as long as I can remember within the club, and the benefit has already been seen with the swimmers. A big well done to all involved. We also had one good morning training up in Glasgow. 50m training is essential for our swimmers that regularly attend 50m galas and represent the club at regional and national level. Unbeknown at the time that Sunderland splash and the national qualifiers would be cancelled.

There were several swimmers who attended the Ulverston open meet, which was our last swim as a club, some great times, PBs and regional times were had.

Then came lockdown, a really tough and unprecedented time for us all, during this time the club basically went into hibernation, with nothing happening until we were allowed back in the water. Since then we have been working very hard with the pool management to get back to some sort of normality. The feedback from the pool regarding our phased return has been fantastic which I think shows the amount of planning that went into it. I'd just like to thank Julie, Richard and Matt Makin without who's extensive time and effort none of the return would have happened at all.

This has affected and basically nullified or greatly affected many of our goals that were set for this year.

On the subject of goals, in the coming year as a club we will strive to achieve.

1. to continue to use our 7-week training plan
2. to return to our pre lockdown training hours as much as possible
3. to arrange some sort of club championships, that are covid safe for all concerned
4. to recruit more helpers and coaches,
5. continue the work started with Level X
6. swimmers' goals

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You may have noticed that our timetable is massively different to how it looked before, your patience and understanding has been and is greatly appreciated, these hours are down to two factors.

1. We are allowed a maximum swimmer load of 28 swimmers in the pool at any one time. Due to limited “changing space” on the balcony, as changing rooms are still out of bounds.
2. Better staffing levels and increased strain on those as more staff per shift is needed for the facility to open. Meaning that there is not enough staff to cover the hours we had.

Level X is the latest thing to happen and was started just before we had to close again.

This has given the swimmers a goal and something to aim for, this was a massive success, and it was great to see smiles in the lanes again.

Personally I have been nothing short of amazed with the response of the club members, and their reaction to our closure and subsequent return to swim, the understanding from all members of the club, has allowed the return with less hours but full fees and less swimmers per lane/session, the reaction has been truly humbling, big praise also needs to go the swimmers who have understood and adhered to our new way of operating very quickly

A presentation format was used via Zoom and shared at this meeting in support of the 2020 AGM Minutes.

Coaching Report

The last 12 months have been a strange period in Copeland ASC history. COVID-19 has had a significant impact on our swimming club; keeping us away from the pool, then separating coaches, parents and swimmers. While you’ve sat outside in cars swimmers have returned to the water.

Although it’s a bit different, with social distancing and going home wet, smiles have returned as Level X started.

We’re all now locked out of the pool again, hopefully we’ll be back together soon. Think of it as a mid-season break.

Try and stay fit, but perhaps take this opportunity to watch some International Swimming League or review some technique on: <https://offtheblocks.info>

19/20 Performance:

Rebecca Amor competed at Winter Nationals –December 2019

We had a successful Cumbria County Age Groups

With many competitors swimming personal bests, winning Age Group Badges and achieving qualifying times.

These were echoed by younger swimmers excelling at our own Griffin Gala.

11 Swimmers qualified for Northwest Regionals, our highest total yet.

Momentum was building our season looking bright.....

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Swimmers Still Trained:

Swimmers discovered lakes
Tied themselves to posts and swam in pools in gardens
We made a video passing a toilet roll
Did Wayne's exercises from videos on WhatsApp
Competed in open water events and won medals
And we all did John's quizzes

And most importantly stayed in contact
Boris said pools could open
So Luke starred in some videos
We established a fantastic team of COVID Liaison volunteers
And we came back to the pool in a COVID secure way
Smiles returned and friendships continued

Then Swim England said "Have a go at LEVEL X!"
"What's LEVEL X?" we cried. They said "It's like racing, but you can do it now"

Within a week, with a lot of help we started!

Plans for This Year:

Long-term
Enable our swimmers to be ready to compete
Short-term
Keep swimmers enjoying their swimming
Work on short term goals with swimmers (lots of little wins)
Concentrate on technique
So swimmers were doing well pre-COVID
Pools have closed and opened and closed again

I want to tell you how impressed we have been with your swimmers.
Fantastic behavior
Took new arrangements in their stride
Swam well in LEVEL X
They are a bunch of cool little humans!

"We are Copeland Swimming Team!"

We hope to be back in the water in a few weeks, but for now:

Support your swimmers, they will miss being in the pool

And each other

Success is a choice, encourage them to make the right one.

Matt Makin commented on what an amazing job the coaches are doing and thanked them very much.

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Treasurer Report

Achievements

New Year's Dip raised £2,133.14 for the Dementia UK Charity

Blocks project complete. Largest visible change in the club in recent times.

Return to training and competitive swimming thanks to a small but dedicated army of volunteers including but not limited to the Club Committee and COVID-19 officers.

Holding membership fees

The club exists because of its volunteers. There are always roles available for parents or swimmers wanting to be more involved.

The club will support training and guidance as required.

Threats/Risks

Charity/Volunteering

The club is currently not breaking even when comparing membership income with pool hire outgoings.

Further long terms impact of the Coronavirus pandemic may reduce the club membership.

Despite satisfactory balances these will reduce if income is not increased to at least match hire charges and Swim England fees.

Treasurer ran through financial position.

	Total Income	£48,196	-£52,510	Total Expenditure
Income	Income	Outgoing	Commentary	
Subscriptions	£28,525			Club subscriptions peaked in April 2020 at £3,431.95. From April-July inclusive the club offered the membership the option to reduce direct debits to £1 while swimming was suspended. This could have had the impact of reducing subscriptions to £55 (£220 Total). Due to the generosity of a large number of members the club got £4,583 in subscriptions. Following lockdown the club memberships returned in September to £1,941. This is still somewhat short of the peak largely due to LTS not restarting yet.
Pool Hire			-£24,152	Lower than forecast due to COVID-19
Land Training	£625		-£750	
Coaching Services			-£1,666	Head Coach has not claimed expenses following lock-down period resulting in savings.
Club Gear	£129		-£922	some club gear including regional given in recognition of swimmer achievement. Some also held in cash due to inability to bank during covid restrictions
Gala Pool Hire			£533	Griffin Gala
General Income Inc. Fund Raising	£11,706		-£2,133	£2,133 raised for Dementia UK following the New Years Dip. Continuing to demonstrate the clubs commitment to charity. Donations largely relate to the Copeland Community Fund donations to complete the Blocks Project. £500 donation thanks to Member putting in an application to United Utilities. Fund raising opportunities will be difficult in the coming year and may have the effect of an increase in memberships.
Bus Charges	£240		-£1,670	£475 from Nov & Dec retained for Griffin Floats. No opportunity to pay in due to COVID restrictions
ASA Memberships			-£4,334	
Gift Aid				
Trophies and Gala Equipment			-£1,088	Griffin Gala, Stopwatches and a new Laptop.
Coaches Budget				
Blocks Project			-£12,371	Project complete. Huge success
R&R				
Misc/Contingency	£215		-£736	
Gala Entry	£5,695		-£3,138	
COVID-19			-£83	

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Gift Aid was discussed Keith Chisholm will help with the Gift Aid submission for the coming year.

	2018/19	2019/20	Variance
Club Main Account	£24,653	£20,278	-£4,375
Reserves	£10,925	£10,940	£15
Reported Total	£35,578	£31,218	-£4,360
Cash	£470	£417	-£53
Total	£36,048	£31,635	-£4,413

Recommendations

Recommendation 1 – Developing a budget for the coming year is difficult in the current circumstances. Proposed to monitor income/outgoings until Jan/Feb before reviewing the situation including the membership fees applied.

Recommendation 2 – Continue, where possible charitable activities and fund raising with Charity Work being a standing agenda item

Questions Arising

Question about the swim England fees and these were explained.

These will be reduced in 2021 as will the fee to the county which will not have to be paid.

Is there anything that can be done, lessons learned from other clubs or grassroot sports? The treasurer has reached out to Allerdale and TU's to enquire but is keeping our ear to the ground. United utilities have provided a grant of £500.

Question around learn to swim what can we do to understand when the small pool can be re-opened to us? We still have a small percentage of swimmers who have not returned and the pool fees have not reduced whilst our membership fees have as learn to swim cannot be returned due to staffing and training issues. Better also need to provide a percentage of prime swim time to public sessions and other clubs.

Swim England has done a survey of this Learn to Swim has been given

We've lost about 10 swimmers fully and there are a number still only paying £1 per month

Before we moved onto the election of officers, the Chairman took the opportunity to thank all of the members of the committee that have served over the last 12 months without who's help and support the events of the last 12 months could have had a much more detrimental effect on the club. As you can imagine trying to return the club to swimming over zoom meetings has been challenging.

Special thanks were made to Julie and the coaching team for the way they have handled and

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adapted to the demands that were placed on them with what seems like a constantly changing training landscape.

And also to Matt Makin who stepped up into the new role of Covid lead officer, his dedication to all things Covid related to the club has been nothing short of amazing and without the hard work from Matt Makin along with our coaching teams dedication and that of our poolside helpers, some of which are our older swimmers our return would not have been as smooth as it has been

Election of officers

Chairman – John Conery

Head Coach - Julie Williamson

Treasurer – Mark Holliday

Membership Secretary, COVID Lead and Vice Chairman– Matt Makin

Meeting Secretary – Catherine Conery

Communications Secretary – Alyson Quayle

Welfare Officer – Elaine Amor

GDPR coordinator – Paul Enright

Matt Hinde (Swim Mark coordinator)

John Freestone (general member)

Jamie Jardine (general member)

Richard Quayle (general member)

Andrew Robinson (general member)

Loren Redmond (general member)

Any Other Business

Work force coordinator role will be required from the first committee meeting.

Ian Richardson is happy to be a Copeland rep via the County committee.

Chair thanked the outgoing committee members and all involved in the club.

Next meeting Monday 30th November 2020 at 7pm.