



## HERTFORDSHIRE SWIMMING LEAGUE

Founded in 1979 by Roy Rogers

Affiliated to ASA East Region

[Visit our website at: <http://www.hsleague.org.uk/>]

### Minutes of 2017 AGM held at Hertfordshire Sports Village, Hatfield On Tuesday 10<sup>th</sup> October 2017

#### **Attendance:**

Attendance representing 14/23 membership clubs

Berkhamsted, Broxbourne, Buntingford, CoStA, Harpenden, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hitchin, Hoddesdon, Letchworth, Potters Bar, Stevenage, Ware, Watford and Welwyn Garden

**Absent:** Bishops Stortford, Cheshunt, Hatfield and Kings Langley

#### **1. Apologies for absence**

Graham Huggett HSL Officials Organiser, Bushey, Royston, Tring and Verulam SC.

#### **2. Minutes of previous AGM held on 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016**

Minutes were accepted as true record of the meeting

#### **3. Matters Arising from Item 2**

None were reported

#### **4. Treasurer's Report**

Attached files: Statement of Accounts as at 30Sep17 and 2016-17 Pool Income and Expenditure

Concern raised that spectators were avoiding paying the entrance fee, which is unfair on the majority that do. Request to host clubs to try and be more vigilant when manning the spectator entry desk.

#### **5. Officials Report** (Chair read out report provided by Officials organiser)

Again it was a good season for Officials in the League. Once more I was able to provide two Referees and a Starter for all of 30 of the League's galas. I was even beginning to think I'd have enough capacity to provide three experienced Referees for the Division 3 galas in both leagues – but not quite. The Division 3 galas can be quite a challenge with teams swimming shorter races and generally more DQs.

I'd like to thank all those Club members who helped out as Starters or Referees in the galas. I hope that those here this evening representing the Clubs will pass my thanks, and the thanks of all swimmers, supporters, coaches etc on to these (often unsung) volunteer officials. Without their help these galas would not take place.

I'd also like to thank the League and the Clubs for continuing to allow mentoring and practical assessments for new Officials to take place at League galas. I know the poolside looked quite busy at some galas but without the opportunity to get real poolside experience we would not be able to continually generate the officials that we need to help run these and other galas in Hertfordshire.

It's also really good to see even more new (and younger!!) faces taking on these senior roles – long may this continue.

Again, the rule requiring each Club to provide one qualified Timekeeper and one qualified J1 for each gala has resulted in an improvement in the number and quality of officials at galas. Can I encourage Clubs to continue to work towards encouraging and supporting their members (of all ages) to volunteer to be trained as Officials.

#### **6. Chairman's Report**

It has been another successful year for the swimming league, in both Peanuts and the Major League. The results can all be found on the league's excellent website, so I will not repeat them here.

I would like to commend all the swimmers for their commitment and enthusiasm across all the galas – and I know from personal experience how much the swimmers and parents enjoy the galas.

I have only been chair of the league for a relatively short period of time, but it has been very evident that the committee has worked hard over the year to make the swimming league a success. It is not mean feat of logistics to arrange so much and for the events to run so smoothly. A small number of people are making a big difference to swimming in Hertfordshire.

Thanks are also due to all the officials who make the galas possible, ably organised by Graham Huggett. Many thanks to James Clarke who due to work commitments has stepped down after three years, during which time he created the new electronic recording system. A particular mention of thanks is due to John Sutton, our treasurer, who after 12 years is standing down from the committee. We all wish him the best in whatever he chooses to do next.

Finally, best wishes to Peter Bays, the next chair and good luck to all the swimmers in the 2018 events.

## **7. Election of Officers for 2017-2018**

**Proposed Officers:** NB: Clubs in alphabetical order nominate Chairman and Vice Chairman

Chair: Peter Bays – Hoddesdon  
Vice Chair: Declan McCabe – Letchworth\*  
Secretary: Karen Huckle – Stevenage  
Treasurer/Pool Booking: Jackie Harvey - Hoddesdon  
Results/Compliance: Bryan Thompson - Harpenden

### **Members (Designated Tasks)**

Officials: Graham Huggett - Bishops Stortford  
Host Packs: Maria Hunt – Broxbourne

**Vote to accept the committee: 14 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain – CARRIED**

### **Non Committee Role**

Webmaster: Alan Doyle – Hemel Hempstead

\* After a difficult year, losing both of their long standing coaches and number of key committee members Kings Langley SC unfortunately are unable to provide a representative to take on the vice chair role or participation in 2018 Peanuts league. Letchworth SC have agreed to take on this role. HSL secretary will keep in contact with Kings Langley who are hopeful to re-join for 2019 competition.

## **8. Feedback from Andrew Farrow HHSC Chair (Reference Survey and Report)**

As noted in the report difficult to see any appetite to move beyond the current position where in practice AOE is only deployed at HSL events at Hemel when a Hemel team is swimming at home. On behalf of the league the chair offered thanks to Hemel Hempstead SC and Andrew Farrow for their input. Andrew mentioned possibility of another area which may enhance the gala, addition of backstroke ledges but on personal level he would not recommend as in his opinion could delay gala.

## **9. Proposed Rule Changes**

### **HSL Management Committee**

#### **Section 5 – Management Rule 5b) Propose no changes to:**

Major League Annual Subscription Fee £60 and Late Subscription Fee £70

Peanut League Annual Subscription Fee £40 and Late Subscription Fee £50

Failure to attend fee £100

Spectator fee with programme Adult £4 (if programmes run out entrance reduced to £3) Children Free

Raffle Prizes refunded costs £15

**Vote to accept these charges: 14 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain – CARRIED**

**Ian Mackenzie** – noted that the rules references ‘The Senior League’ as section of Hertfordshire Swimming League but no rules around the organisation. Chair confirmed this will be reviewed by the incoming committee.

#### **10. Draw and Dates for 1<sup>st</sup> Round of 2018 Major and Peanuts League**

See attached file for 1<sup>st</sup> round gala draws

Peanuts League: Based on entries, would need to be either run as 15 team division 2 or remove team from division 2 this will leave 10 teams and then 5 teams in division 3

Unanimously agreed that the better solution which would also assist with pool hire fees is to run with 15 Division 2 teams.

It was suggested to assist with future planning, that post completion of 2018 Peanut league competition secretary to request clubs for an indication of expected team entries for the following year

#### **2018 League Dates:**

|         | <b>Major League</b> | <b>Peanuts League</b> |
|---------|---------------------|-----------------------|
| Round 1 | 6Jan18              | 5May18                |
| Round 2 | 24Feb18             | 9Jun18                |
| Round 3 | 24Mar18             | 7Jul18                |

**AGM** Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> October 2018

#### **11. Any Other Business**

Berkhamsted SC noted for consideration

- a) Questioned if there is a possibility league gala start times could be earlier. Unfortunately this is set by pool providers, the committee will check if there is any possible negotiation on times
- b) The date of Peanuts 3<sup>rd</sup> round is quite late, a lot of people are already away on holiday question if there is a chance this could be brought forward. Agreed committee would review dates.
- c) Most clubs struggle to provide the appropriate number of officials, question whether level of gala warrants the number of requested officials. One view noted that providing unqualified officials is not being fair to the swimmers.

Harpenden SC noted for consideration

- a) Consider whether more productive for a different AGM date as could be a problem with controversial issues. Committee will review but do not think there is a more appropriate time within the league gala structure.
- b) Air horn issue in peanuts league – request for these to be banned at the galas the consensus of opinion was this should be managed by the clubs, the league did issue a request to clubs to ensure appropriate use of spectator support. The league committee are unable to ban use of these as could be used as starting kit.

Vote of thanks from Berkhamsted SC for hard work of committee in organising the leagues

**2017 HSL AGM Meeting closed 21:40 pm**