



## 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 2015 AGM held at Hertfordshire Sports Village, Hatfield On Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> October 2015

#### **Attendance:**

Attendance representing 14/25 membership clubs

Berkhamsted, Broxbourne, Bushey, Harpenden, Hemel Hempstead, Hertford, Hertsmere Flyers, Hitchin, Hoddesdon, Letchworth, Potters Bar, Verulam, Watford and Welwyn Garden

Ian Mackenzie - Hertfordshire ASA representative

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

Jackie Harvey (Hoddesdon SC)

Graham Huggett (Bishop's Stortford) and Caroline Holt (CoStA) – HSL committee members

#### **2. Minutes of previous AGM held on 7<sup>th</sup> October 2014**

Minutes were accepted as true record of the meeting

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

The secretary noted there were a couple of insignificant anomalies item 3 misspelling of none and item 7 incorrect reference to term office should read 2014-15.

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

Attached files with Statement of Accounts, Profit Loss and Loss Comparison, Pool Income and Expenditure as at 30Sep15

Additional purchases for 2014-15 were HSL branded t-shirts and new trophy.

Query received on the intentions of the management committee with the accumulation of £30,000 excess of funds. Treasurer confirmed need to retain a contingency fund for possible excessive increase in pool hire. The management committee had agreed that some of this excess should be distributed to the members, the amount has been set at £250/club. The main objective of receiving this money would be for each club to ensure they have their own PA system and the gala host club to utilise at the league galas. Treasurer will communicate to the membership with the understanding clubs may already have PA system, request for those clubs to provide details of how the funds were spent

#### **5. Officials Report**

Firstly I would like to thank Derek Hughes for everything he done for Herts Swimming League.

Last season I was able to provide two Referees and a Starter for Div 1 & 2, and 3 referees and a starter for Div 3 for both the Major's and Peanut galas.

I'd like to thank the Clubs for providing qualified Timekeeper and one qualified J1 as requested for every gala as well as all the Host club members who helped out. I hope that those here this evening representing the Clubs will pass my thanks, and the thanks of all swimmers, supporters, coaches and these volunteer officials. Without their help the galas would not take place. By providing one qualified Timekeeper and one qualified J1 for each gala seems to have

resulted in an improvement in the number and level 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 up the 'Officials Pathway'.

I'd also like to thank the League and the Clubs for allowing mentoring and practical assessments for new Officials to be undertaken at League galas. It can look 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.

I look forward to 2016 where hopefully we will have an even greater choice of Officials as the new trainees become qualified and develop up the chain of officials.

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

2015 was another good year for Hertfordshire Swimming League with many exciting galas in both the Major and Peanuts competitions.

The Major League Division 1 title was once again won by CoStA A for the second year in succession. They were pushed all the way by Hoddesdon with just two gala points separating them in the final gala which is a credit to both teams. It was a double winning season for CoStA as their B team also won the Division 2 title, finishing with maximum League points. Hemel B finished a very strong 2<sup>nd</sup> and this will make Division 1 interesting next year with a number of A and B teams facing each other. Division 3, which unfortunately only had five teams competing, was won by Potters Bar B with a maximum of 20 points, congratulations also to Welwyn Garden for getting the second spot ahead of Broxbourne.

Peanuts League was just as exciting with Watford winning the division from COSTA A, the winning margin being just 24 gala points. Hertford and Hemel Hempstead were the two relegated teams. In Division 2 Hatfield B won the division with a 100% record, Bushey took the second promotion spot ahead of Hoddesdon. The Division 3 title went to Watford B who won the League by a significant margin, runners-up were Berkhamsted B.

The Senior Gala was won by Bishop Stortford so congratulations to them. Whilst talking about the Senior Gala the League committee has been discussing ways of promoting this event more widely across the region. I know from the feedback that I receive how enjoyable an occasion it is for all the swimmers & officials involved. Graham Huggett has very kindly taken up this challenge with a new programme of events being introduced and hopefully this will attract more teams to enter. This year's event is being held on 21<sup>st</sup> November at Bishop Stortford College, all the details are on the website.

My year as the Chairman of the league did not get off to the best of starts following the unexpected resignation of Derek Hill from his role as the Leagues Officials co-ordinator. On behalf of the committee I would like to put on record my sincere thanks for all the hard work he put into arranging the officials for the swimming League galas over many years. The saying that you don't really appreciate someone until they are gone was particularly true for me during December while I tried to grapple with arranging for some officials for the 1<sup>st</sup> Major League gala in January. Thankfully my sleepless nights were kept to a minimum due to Derek's fastidious record keeping and the continued support from the all officials throughout the county. I am also convinced that the lure of a free Herts Swimming League polo shirt helped my cause. Thankfully in readiness for the Peanuts League commencing Graham Huggett stepped into the breach to take over this role. We are very grateful for to him for undertaking this role, his experience on the committee is invaluable.

During the course of the last year we have continued to develop the automated compliance system developed by James. This has hugely streamlined the results process with any compliance issues being flagged up immediately. I hope you have notice an improvement in the length of time it takes to get

results posted onto the website. An opportune time for me to thank James for all his help and support with this. We grappled with the usual small number of compliance issues throughout the season and fortunately were able to get them resolved in fairly quick time.

The outcome of British Swimming's strategic review and in particular the changes to championship schedules have had an impact upon the timing of our gala's in 2016 and in particular Major League. We have been fortunate in that we have been able to schedule Round 1 ahead of the County Championships so all that has really changed is having nearly two months gap between Rounds 1 and 2. Not ideal but at least we have been able schedule them in.

The League can only be as successful as its membership wants it to be, and on behalf of the committee I would like to thank all of the clubs for their support over the past year. I would reiterate my thanks to all the officials, coaches and team managers and all the other volunteers who give up their Saturday evenings to support our swimmers and host our galas.

Needless to say I want to thank the committee for its support over the past year. They all do a tremendous job and make the rotating role of Chair and Vice-chair so much easier because of this. In particular I would like to highlight the contribution that Karen Huckle makes as the League secretary, her commitment to the league and the background work involved in running this organisation should never be underestimated. Thank you.

The rotating Chair and vice-chair role is an excellent idea, and I have benefitted enormously from this opportunity over the past two years and I wish my successors all the very best of luck. It is a great experience.

## **7. Compliance/Results Officer**

James Clarke provided a presentation of the new electronic recording system to be trialled in 2016. Further information and guidance to be shared with the membership.

## **8. Election of Officers for 2015-2016**

### **Proposed Officers**

NB: Clubs in alphabetical order nominate Chairman and Vice Chairman

Chairman:	Michael Foreman - Hertsmere Flyers SC
Vice Chairman:	TBC – Hitchin SC
Secretary:	Karen Huckle - Stevenage SC
Treasurer:	John Sutton – Broxbourne SC
Compliance/Results	James Clarke

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

Officials:	Graham Huggett - Bishops Stortford SC
Host Packs:	Maria Hunt - Broxbourne SC Caroline Holt – City of St Albans SC
Pool Bookings:	Vacant
TBC	Jackie Harvey – Hoddesdon SC

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

Non Committee Role: Webmaster - Alan Doyle – Hemel Hempstead SC

Chairing of the meeting handed over to the new chairman Michael Foreman who on behalf of the membership thanked Paul for his valued contribution and support over the past 2 years.

## **9. Proposed Rule Changes (Ref attached proposed rule changes)**

Reference attached 2015 AGM Proposed Rule Changes document with outcome of AGM vote

**10. Draw for 1<sup>st</sup> Round of 2016 Major and Peanuts League and gala dates**

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

	<b>Major League</b>	<b>Peanuts League</b>
Round 1	9 <sup>th</sup> January	7 <sup>th</sup> May
Round 2	5 <sup>th</sup> March	11 <sup>th</sup> June
Round 3	2 <sup>nd</sup> April*	9 <sup>th</sup> July

\*Easter weekend is 25-28<sup>th</sup> March and school term ends 1<sup>st</sup> April

**11. Close of Meeting**

HSL secretary proposed date of 2016 AGM as **Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> October 2016**  
**2015 HSL AGM Meeting closed 9:30pm**