



Annual General Meeting Minutes
Holiday Inn – Guildford, Tuesday 23rd June 2026
7.30pm

Present

Diane Gamble (DG) Croydon Borough SA, Carole Chaplin (CC) Surrey Schools' SA, Christina Victor (CV) Guildford City, Hannah Davies (HD) South Croydon, Jeni Colbourne (JC) Wey Valley SC, Jim Boucher (JB) Guildford Water Polo, Paul Finch (PF) Merton Swordfish, Justine Ryan (JR) Guildford City, Nicola Brett (NB) Dorking SC, Dave Andrews (DA) Sutton & Cheam SC, Amanda Partridge (AP) Epsom District SC, Philippa Baker (PB) Epsom District SC & Irene Holden (IH) – Woking SC

Apologies

Collette Crow (CCR) Kingston Synchro, Fran Diaz (FD) Star DC, Carmen Georgescu-Spiers (CGS) Elmbridge Phoenix, Alan Thurlow (AT) Wandsworth & Martin Greenbank (MG) Wey Valley SC.

DG welcomed attendees to the AGM, she thanked all the committee for the ongoing support she has received during the year. She confirmed it was quorate under the constitution and PB was welcomed from Epsom District SC who was attending in support of AP.

1. Previous Minutes

The minutes from the AGM on Tuesday 24th June 2025 were approved with a minor name amendment.

Proposed – DG

2nd - JC

2. Declaration of Interest: None

3. Annual Report of County Activities (prepared by committee and published on the website)

Main Reports from committee members are on the website but a few comments below:

Report from DG (Chair) said she has been in the post for 3 years now, as she said from the start that she would only do 4 years in the role as chair and then she is gone! SCASA has joined forces this year with GCSC and bought Backstroke Ledges, these are available to hire to surrey clubs with forms on the website. Success at Surrey Masters where they were crowned Inter-County Champions and thanked Jim and Laura for all their hard work. DG said she had been very busy during the year with attending the SE AGM plus she has been busy with her role as London Region Officials Officer. She urges people to step forward and to carry the Surrey County torch into the future.

PF (Disabilities) said he was pleased to report that there had been 2 Para Training Days this last year, the first being held on 12/10/25 and the 2nd on 07/06/26 and he was appointed Team Manager



for both. They took place at ACS International School but unfortunately no Surrey Swimmers took part in October but 2 attended from Surrey in June, 1 swimmer from Godalming and 1 from Elmbridge SC. Two more Regional Para-Swimming Training & Development Days are fixed for 6th September 2026 and 6th June 2027.

PF continued to say that he had attended the National Junior Para Meet on 13th & 14th June where 100 swimmers took part at the Alan Higgs Centre, Coventry. Two Surrey swimmers attended from Leatherhead and Godalming - and one from Rushmoor Royals in Hampshire.

CC (Surrey Schools) reported that from the Secondary Gala in September, several schools were selected to swim at the ESSA National event in November at the Sandwell Aquatics Centre, Birmingham. Surrey Schools did exceptionally well with Guildford High School being placed 1st over Millfield in the Junior Age Groups. RGS were 2nd and The Hawthorns 3rd in the Junior Freestyle event. The Secondary Individuals took place in January and unfortunately the ESSA no longer hold an interdivisional competition as funding has been withdrawn. ESSA have a new partnership with Hurstpierpoint College, West Sussex to expand Schools Swimming Super League across England to allow schools to compete locally through a series of 4 rounds in the Autumn and Spring but more information to follow. CC said 21 teams took part in the It's a Fish Out Lifesaving competition and Boxgrove Primary School won overall again. The Primary Champs took place in March and many Surrey Schools who qualified at the Regionals in April were represented at the Nationals Champs which took place on 20/06/26. CC mentioned that many more Surrey Schools were invited to take part as being the fastest finalists. results on the ESSA Website.

However, CC said that huge congratulations must go to John Stiven from ESSA/SSSA who was awarded the OBE in the Kings Birthday Honours list for over 46 years of dedication promoting aquatic sport in schools inspiring thousands of young people to participate.

DA (Water Polo) said that the County League remains under the stewardship of Stuart Marsh and is well supported by both clubs/teams. There is still a shortage of qualified officials, particularly referees. as these tend to be ex -players rather than parents. The competition comprises of 3 Divisions of mens teams and the lower divisions comprising a mix of second teams & other clubs with a healthy number of junior and older players. Sutton & Cheam remain the dominant club though missed promotion to the British Water Polo Division 1 on goal difference.

The county does not run a junior event but compete in the London League Junior Competitions likewise with the ladies.

HD (Team Manager) said that her report is about the Development camps as the main championship report will be on the website. She said that the development pathway is for 12 yr olds and based on times recorded on rankings for 200IM and has now seen a huge number of swimmers swimming this event nationally. 36 Swimmers were selected from 15 Surrey Clubs & Dan Burnham led the way as County coach with six skills coaches from 4 clubs. Two in-person camps took place in November and a Zoom evening which centred on health & diet. The Jules Burvill Trophy was awarded to Fraser from Guildford City SC, chosen by the coaches & Team Managers. Dan, Justine & Amanda were thanked for all their support during the year.



JB (Masters) said that the Masters was held last June with a small set of officials and volunteers at SSP with 1175 individual swims from 180 swimmers from 19 clubs. Woking were the top club although Croydon won the men's points and trophies were presented by the SCASA President. JB reported that on 9th November, Masters IC Team achieved the ultimate, taking the SER Regional round at the LAC for only the 2nd time in history. He thanked Laura Kerrigan and wing man Connor Brunt for amassing surreys finest. Jane Asher was inducted into SE Hall of Fame on 29th November, an honour for one of the greatest master swimmers and finest ambassador of the sport worldwide. The British Masters Decathlon resulted in Mike Hodgson taking the men's prize and Michelle Ware and Georgina Heyn too 1st and 2nd.

FD (Diving) Unfortunately FD was unable to attend but DG read out his report.

The annual diving skills took place on 24/01, running parallel to the first day of the county champs. Record number of entries with a 50% increase to 2025 and hosted 7 guest clubs from outside the county. Mustered just enough officials to run the meet with three station circuits as divers compete on poolside, 1m and 3m. Thanks to President Christina for attending and presenting the medals after a hard day slog at SSP. Last June 9 Surrey divers competed at the SE Diving National age Group champs, more than half finished top 6 in at least one of their events and ended up with a good medal count. At the National Skills Finals in July last year, 6 divers more than half of these divers finished in the top 5 of their events. FD thanked county members for their support and looked forward to a dive-tastic year,

AT (Swimming Committee) Unfortunately AT was unable to attend but DG read out his report. The County Surrey Relays took place on September 14th at LAC which was ran as a short course at the beginning of the season to provide a "back in the pool" event. Had 483 entries from 19 clubs which resulted in 830 swimmers which compared to 525 relays from 21 clubs and 906 swimmers in 2024. Fees were increased which meant no loss of revenue. This year's relays will take place on 13/09/26, volunteering links are open on the meet page of the surrey website. County Champs took place on 24/25 Jan & 7/8 February with 4007 entries received covering 825 athletes from 28 clubs. There was a reserve list for the 1500m and the 800m which worked well. The Burvill Cup was awarded for the 2nd time to the most improved club which was presented to Wandsworth with a 103% improvement on their Tinlin point score. AD mentioned in his report that a Coaches Forum was held on 12/02/26 to discuss a number of issues around venue and seating allocation. Parents had expressed concern re the venue (SSP) and have asked to go back to LAC. After discussions it was agreed to continue at SSP but look to move the 50m races to be held as a short course at either Spectrum or a long course at SSP/K2 on a different date. In regards to Officials and Volunteers, they were very short on both at the champs and an analysis was prepared that ranked the clubs based on the number of volunteers provided per swimmer. Clubs have been asked to share the results with their committees and asked to look into the actions to avoid this situation happening again. The dates for Surrey Champs have been requested for 23/24 January and 6/7 February 2027.

After a couple of questions raised in regards to the analysis, there was a short discussion in regards to getting Officials/Volunteers from clubs for these champs. It was agreed that it might be best in future that letters are sent direct to the club Chairs/Secretaries rather than the club comp secretaries nearer the time. AD/IH to look into.



No Open Water Report

CCr (Artistic) – Report to follow

CV (President) said she took the role on with some trepidation as she wasn't too sure she was suited to being the public face of Surrey Swimming. She thanked the committee for encouraging her to take it on as she had a fabulous time during her year as President. CV said that she had attended the Inter Counties event, County Champs, Masters as well as the Diving Skills competition at Guildford. She went on to say that there were 3 main events that stood out, the Inter Counties at Sheffield, the swimmers performed brilliantly and the excellent team managers took a group of individuals and turned them into a team and it was amazing to see the swimmers support each other during the event. The County Champs showed a depth and strength of Surrey swimming and then the diving demonstrated a healthy number of competitors. Sadly, she said she had been unable to attend any Water Polo or Synchro events due to work commitments. However, she hoped AP, the incoming President is able to attend these events and hopes she has as much fun as she has over the last year.

4. Awards

Hon. Life Vice Presidents:

Hannah Davies – South Croydon SC

DG read out the citation for Hannah, saying she has been involved with her club since her daughters joined in 2011. First volunteering by running the club shop, became gala secretary, Team Manager and then began her officiating journey. She quickly moved through the ranks of J1, J2, Starter in 2014 and then a referee in 2018. HD is now on the SE Development Programme for Starters which is a 4 year programme, already being a Starter at the Aquatics GB Champs at the LAC. journey as an Official. DG said that HD has also taken on the role of training starters within the county and there are not many weekends where she is not found on poolside somewhere in Surrey, London or Sheffield. Since 2021, she stepped in at very short notice taking on the role of Team Manager for Surrey managing the Development Camps and as well as organising the Inter County Team which achieved great results in the National competition.

A well deserving award.

Presidents Plate:

Jane Asher – Masters Swimmer, Kings Cormorants SC

The Presidents Plate is the choice of the President each year and CV thought Jane Asher was the most deserving candidate for this prestigious award. She has set records in both long and short course in many pools and topped the podium at the European Masters, the British and the ASA Championships. Jane was awarded the ASA Performance Athlete of the Year for Masters Awards in 2016. Jane is truly deserving of the Presidents Plate for both her outstanding achievements but also for her personal values.

Unfortunately, Jane was unable to attend the AGM, therefore it will be presented to her at the Surrey Masters on Saturday 27th June 2026.



5. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Annual Accounts

JB presented the finance report. He explained that the operating surplus was 13%5 lower than the previous year due to our spend on development activities, he also explained that we no longer receive a subsidy from SE for the Inter County Age Group Team so net costs have risen. All coaching and teaching bursary requests were approved and clubs are now more aware of what is on offer through our bursary system. We continue to support the county development camp within the Swim England framework. Investment has been made for reliable AOE starting equipment and new backstroke ledges have been purchased. We also retain £7.5k from the disposal of trophies in 2024 and that money will be held in reserve until it has been agreed what to do with it. He went on to thank everyone for their help at all the galas especially Di Gamble, Irene Holden and Alan Thurlow for all their help and support during the year.

DG asked about getting the accounts audited, JB said that he would sort that out with Jimmy Daboo the appointed auditor asap. As there were no further questions the report was proposed and subject to approval to be published on the website for transparency.

Proposed – JB

2nd – DG

6.Appointment of Independent Examiner & Affirmation of Custodians.

JC confirmed that Jimmy Daboo, Ex KPMG partner has agreed to audit the accounts. Unfortunately, as previously due to commitments he was unable to check the accounts before the AGM but will do so ASAP. Accounts subject to approval and will be approved at the next Exec meeting in September.

7.Election of Committee (other than executive and non-executive officers)

These were noted and approved as:

Alan Thurlow (Wandsworth) – Swimming events promoter role

Carole Chaplin (Surrey Schools SA) – School swimming events role

Christina Victor (Guildford City) – Officials Co-ordinator role, Surrey Rural

Fran Diaz (Star Diving) – Webmaster role

Hannah Davies (South Croydon) – Team manager role

Justine Ryan (Guildford City) – Field of play manager role

Proposed – JC

2nd – JB

DG said that the following individuals below have an open invitation to attend committee meetings to report and advise on matters affecting their activity:

Artistic Swimming – Collette Crow

Diving – Fran Diaz

Masters – Jim Boucher

Open Water – Vacant

Disabilities/Para Swimming – Paul Finch

Swimming Officials Communications – Sharon Porter

Official Co-ordinator (Surrey London) – Diane Gamble



Official Co-ordinator (Surrey Rural) - Christina Victor
School Swimming – Carole Chaplin
Water Polo – Dave Andrews

8. Constitution Changes:

JC advised that the only Constitution changes were an update on name changes set out by SE.

9. Installation of New President:

CV was delighted to hand over the chain to Amanda Partridge our President for 2026/2027. AP's citation was read out, stating that originally her sporting background is athletics not swimming. She was a runner and excelled at hurdles, being a county and regional winner and competed in the under 14 British champs. AP became involved with swimming when her daughter joined Epsom SC, Unfortunately or fortunately due to DQ they did not understand she decided try to understand the rules of swimming! Hence her journey as an official began, starting as a Timekeeper, moving to Starting continuing as a judge and eventually qualifying as a referee. Amanda continues to help out her local club plus enjoys spending time amongst other officials and the lovely experiences and friendships that are developed on poolside alongside like-minded people. AP was then installed as President and said that she was very happy to be nominated as President and looking forward to a busy year ahead. CV was thanked for her year and AP presented her with her Past Presidents badge.

10. Executive & Non Executive Officer Elections:

The following were elected for 2026-27:

Executive officers (voting)

Chairman – Diane Gamble (Croydon Borough SA)

Secretary – Irene Holden (Woking)

Treasurer – Jim Boucher (Guildford Water Polo)

Proposed – HD

2nd – JR

Committee Appointed Officer (non-voting)

Welfare – Jeni Colbourne (Wey Valley)

Non-executive officer (non-voting)

Social Media – Vacant

11. DG thanked everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.50pm.

12. Any Other Business/Discussions (after meeting had closed)

12.1 Martin Greenbank from Wey Valley raised these questions before the AGM but unfortunately, he was unable attend so AT responded prior to the meeting and it was agreed the response would be included in the AGM minutes for all clubs to see.

1. How new SE governance proposals may benefit smaller clubs?



2. Surrey 2027 qual times and whether this is a shared concern on no real distinction between County and Regional qualifying times?
3. The increasing issues with SSP as a venue - limited spectating / swimmer capacity, and now with added parking constraints & fines which is making it a difficult venue for non-members to train or compete at?

Point 1. DG said that Surrey were awaiting a response from SE in regards to our county being split and until that question is answered then there was no going forward.

- Point 2: We set our Qualifying times based on the available pool time and the numbers that we expect to attract. The introduction of consideration times has allowed us to be more flexible in filling the meet where we can. We are a split County with swimmers coming from two regions so when I set our London Region times I am conscious that the times need to be faster than the three shared counties. I am not involved in setting the times for South East Region. Our coaches forum sets the available pool time and this year the meeting confirmed that we will stay with two weekends. However we have looked at taking the 50m races to another pool to take the pressure off the seating arrangements at SSP.
- Point 3: SSP is the only 50m pool in Surrey. Alternatives in Essex (LAC) and Sussex (K2) have other issues with space or logistics and are not in our County. The coaches forum is where the venue is discussed so I would encourage clubs to ensure their coach attends in 2027 to make the case for an alternative to SSP.

12.2. Future dates were discussed and agreed with DG:

MCM Thursday 1st October – Zoom

MCM Tuesday 8th December – Zoom

MCM Monday 8th March 2027 – Zoom

AGM Prep Monday 26th April 2027- Zoom

AGM Tuesday 22nd June 2027 – Holiday Inn, Guilford.

Times TBA