



Annual Council Meeting Minutes
Holiday Inn – Guildford, Tuesday 25th June 2024
7.30pm

Present

Carmen Georgescu-Spiers (CGS) - Elmbridge Phoenix, Carole Chaplin (CC) - Surrey Schools' SA, Christina Victor (CV) - Guildford City, Hannah Davies (HD) - South Croydon, Diane Gamble (DG) - Croydon Borough SA, Jeni Colbourne (JC)- Wey Valley SC, Jim Boucher (JB) - Guildford Water Polo, Paul Finch (PF) - Merton Swordfish, Nick Hallam (NH) Croydon Amphibians, Nicola Brett (NB) Dorking SC, Murray McMillan (MM) Cheam Marcuda, Michael Holden (MH) – Woking SC, Irene Holden (IH) – Woking SC

Apologies

Jane Henwood – Wandsworth SC, Justine Ryan (JR) - Guildford City, Alan Thurlow (AT) - Wandsworth, Collette Crow (CC) - Kingston Synchro, Fran Diaz (FD) Star DC, Geoff Buxton - Woodside & Thornton Heath, Dave Hastie – Cranleigh SC, Kinga Bercseryi – SW London Fin, Victoria Fakkell – Leatherhead SC, Claire Maythem – Star Diving, Amanda Partridge – Epsom SC, Kristie Jarrett – SE Swimming & James Warrener – Regional Aquatic Development Officer

DG welcomed attendees to the AGM, she thanked all the committee for the ongoing support she has received whilst she settled down into her new role as chairman. She confirmed it was quorate under the new constitution and introductions were made for Murray who was attending as a club delegate from Cheam Marcuda SC.

1. Previous Minutes

The minutes from the ACM on Tuesday 20th June 2023 were approved.

Proposed – PF

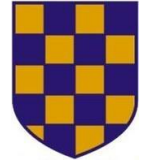
2nd - CV

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

DG said it was nice to see everyone in person, all the management meetings have been held by zoom again during the year but it's nice getting together for the AGM.

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

Report from DG (Chair) to say that she took over the role in order for JC to stand down as she had performed the role for 15years. She went on to say that hopefully this coming year would not be so onerous as the last due to the new Governance that was required for Counties. Now the system is in place only tweaks will be required each year. Changes to Wavepower meant that JC had worked hard to ensure clubs understood their new responsibilities. DG went on to say how proud she is of the county and how we provide support for some of our athletes by offering bursaries in order for them to attend international events. The Development program for 11yr olds was very successful and congratulations were given to the Team Manager, County Coach and swimmers for achieving their best ever result at a National Teams county event. JB (Masters) Said that they had received a huge turn out for the Masters in June 2023 and Woking were anointed as Team Champions. 4 records were claimed including a World Record,



European Record as well as a British Record. November 2023 was the best result in the Inter County Teams

And the Masters Decathlon had Surrey doing better than earlier years. He went on to congratulate CV who had medalled at the World Masters on Doha and thanked all the officials and volunteers for their help during the year.

HD (Team Manager) said that the main championship report will be on the website but mentioned that the development pathway had changed from 11 yr olds to 12 yr olds which allowed a bit more maturity in the swimmers. 35 swimmers were selected from Surrey clubs and Stuart McCrea led the way as County coach. The Jules Burvill Trophy was awarded for a second time to Emma Hill from Kingston Royals.

CC (Surrey Schools) reported that from the Secondary Gala in September, several schools were then selected to swim at the ESSA National event in November. Although predominately dominated by Mount Kelly etc Surrey Schools did well. She went on to say the Secondary Individuals took place in January and a SE Divisional team consisting of swimmers from Surrey competed in the 73 ESSA championships in March and were placed 2nd for the 2nd year in a row. The Primary Champs took place in March and many Surrey Schools were represented at the Nationals Champs which had just taken place with the results being put on the ESSA Website. CC said she was pleased that for the first time since covid, all 24 team places were taken for the It's A Fish Out Lifesaving competition that took place in March. Thanks to Volunteers and Officials for attending the schools' gala during the year, without them nothing would take place.

PF (Disabilities) reported that 2 Para Training days had taken place during 2023/2024. One in January and one in June as selection of Surrey para swimmers took part. He said that one swimmer from Godalming SC has approached him for funding. SE are hoping to have another Para training Day later on in the year, possibly in November.

CCr (Artistic) Unfortunately CCR was unable to attend due to illness but DG read out her report.

It went on to say that even though there is one club in Surrey they had had a very good year and that they continue to go from strength to strength. The report mentioned that the club had attended a couple of competitions where Soloists and Duettists (Junior & Masters Level) had been placed highly and winning medals too. 4 Junior Swimmers also attended their first international meet in Malta and a team represented the London Region at the Artistic Regional Game sand were placed 5th. In June at the London Regional champs they received many medals in all colours and were awarded the Level 1-2 and Masters Trophy.

AT (Swimming Committee) Unfortunately AT was unable to attend so DG read out his report. The report mentioned that the Surrey relays had moved to September for the 2nd year to enable the Surreys to take place over 2 weekend at SSP. Due to a few technical problems at K2 the London Aquatic Centre has been hired for the 2024 relays. The dates for 2025 have now been confirmed as 18/19 January and 1/2 February 2025.



CGS (President) said it was an honour to serve as President this year and that it had been an exciting and fulfilling journey. At the beginning was the Masters and was very successful with the number of records being broken and had the honour of presenting trophies to Michelle Ware and Mike Hodgson for their outstanding achievements. She went on to say that she attended the British and English Nationals as both parent and President and it was a pleasure to witness a number of Surrey swimmers take to the podium. Sheffield in October for the Inter County Teams event under the leadership of HD and the County Coach and came away 3rd. November took her to the Water-Polo competition where after an exciting game Guildford beat Blue Marlins. CGS also mentioned that in January she attended both Surreys and a Diving Skills competition on the same day so it was a good job they were just down the road from each other. However her only regret was that she had been unable to attend an Artistic competition. She wishes Nicola Brett (Dorking SC) all the very best in her year in office.

JW (Swim England London) JW was unable to attend so DG went quickly through the report. SE London have 48 SwimMark accredited Clubs of which 15 are in Surrey. There is some funding (Regional Support) available for Athletes, coaches and volunteers, website on the report. The Regional Development camp was held over 3 days and 2 Surrey swimmers from Croydon Amphibians were selected to take part. Contacts on the report for Water Polo, Artistic Swimming, Open Water, Masters and Diving as well as courses for coaches and information on volunteer training.

3. Awards

Hon Life Member:

Christina Victor, Guildford City SC

CV was in attendance and CGS was able to present her with her award. JB read out her citation, known as Prof and has been swimming since her teens and won many medals and broken many records. She medalled at the World Masters in Doha this year but had also medalled in Gwanju (China) at the World Masters back in 2019! There is no surprise that she has swam the English Channel, ran many London Marathons, and has reached the highest peak of success in the water and is a top swimming official too. A well deserved award.

Hon. Life Vice Presidents:

Collette Crow – Artistic Swimming, Kingston

Nick Hallam – Croydon Amphibians SC

Michael Holden – Woking SC

Stuart Marsh – Water Polo

Nick and Michael were in attendance and President CGS presented both of them with their Awards. CC kindly offered to take the award to CCr and present it to her as she was unable to attend. Photo and citation for all awards to be put on the website.

DG read out the citation for Collette, which was very impressive as she had been Synchro Champion at the age of 8 and went on to win the National solo title. She was selected for the National Team at the age of 13 and competed at this level for 12 years. Competed in the Commonwealth Games in 1990, 1994 and won the senior title with her partner shortly after that competition. In 1998 she was selected as Scotlands' Commonwealth coach and then joined Kingston synchro as both Chair and Head Coach. She has been a superb role model and has served as the Synchro representative on the Surrey County Committee for many years.



A well deserved award.

DG read out the citation for Nick, again very impressed as she had found out that he speaks 5 languages. He is the “go-to” AOE Timing Manager for anyone organising an event and is very adept at lego models. He became involved with swimming 20 years ago and as many parents, decided the gallery was not for him and opted to offer assistance with the timing operators. Often found working alongside AT, and if he isn't there then is often reached when operators have problems. Nick has been involved with Croydon amphibians for many years and is Chair of the London Regional events committee and has been since 2014. Mostly at a pool at the weekends and has even been sent to Coventry. (To help at the ESSA Gala).

DG read the citation for Sir Michael, chuckling when reading that he has been on poolside in a pink tutu much to the delight of Woking swimmers. He has been on poolside since his middle daughter was age 5 and is now age 29. Like many parents, once in the gallery is enough and Michael has worked his way from Time keeper to Referee. Michael has been there for his own children throughout their swimming years and is still found on poolside at many galas even though they are no longer swimming. He will volunteer his services for any type of gala, in the past at Surrey Youth Games, Counties when he isn't skiing, County, Regional and National School events, other Counties when they are struggling to run their open meets, Army gala as well as making sure that his own club is sorted too.

He is well deserving of this award.

Presidents Plate:

Hannah Davies & Justine Ryan – Surrey County Committee Members

The Presidents Plate is the choice of the President each year and CGS thought these two were the most deserving. She was very honoured to present this plate to the 2 people that stepped forward a couple of years ago when Jules Burvill unexpectedly died. Hannah immediately took over responsibility and is still currently the Surrey Team Manager and Justine Ryan took the role of organising the non techs for the county swimming.

Both truly deserving.

4. Treasurer's Report and Approval of Annual Accounts

JB presented the finance report, he explained that 2023/24 has seen a continuation of recovery since covid. Age Group income increased, there was a relay gala at K2 in September and running the Counties at SSP has been financially successful, There has been a one off boost where old county trophies have been disposed of and that money will be held in reserve until it has been agreed what to do with it. Two representatives have had bursaries to attend World School Games and the committee encourage clubs to take advantage of our generous support. Overhead costs remain under control and went on to thank everyone for their help at all the galas especially AT and JC for their expert support and guidance. The report was proposed and subject to approval and to be published on the website for transparency.

Proposed – JB

2nd – CGS

5. Appointment of Independent Examiner & Affirmation of Custodians.

JC confirmed that Jimmy Daboo, Ex KPMG partner has agreed to audit the accounts. Unfortunately, he has been too busy too deal with them before the AGM but will do so ASAP. Accounts subject to approval and will be approved at the next ACM in September.



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

These were noted and approved as:

Hannah Davies (South Croydon) – Team manager role

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

Fran Diaz (Star Diving) – Webmaster role

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

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

Alan Thurlow (Wandsworth) – Swimming events promoter role

Proposed – JC

2nd – PF

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

Para Swimming – Paul Finch

Swimming Officials Communications – Sharon Porter

Official Co-ordinator (Surrey London) – Diane Gamble

School Swimming – Carole Chaplin

Water Polo – Dave Andrews

7. Constitution Changes:

None

8. President Installation:

CGS handed over the chain to NB and she was installed as President for 2024/25. CGS was thanked for her year and NB presented her with her Past Presidents badge. NB said she was very happy to be nominated as President and she will do her utmost best to attend as many competitions as she could within the year. She has though asked for the disciplines to give her competition dates so she can add them into her diary.

8. Executive & Non Executive Officer Elections:

The following were elected for 2024-25:

Executive officers (voting)

Chairman – Diane Gamble (Croydon Borough SA)

Secretary – Irene Holden (Woking)

Treasurer – Jim Boucher (Guildford Water Polo)

Proposed – JC

2nd – CC

Non-executive officer (non-voting)

Welfare – Jeni Colbourne (Wey Valley)



DG thanks everyone for attending and closed the meeting at 8.55pm.

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

10.1. JR has asked for someone else to take over the responsibilities of the Surrey County ASA Facebook, Twitter and Instagram Accounts. After a short discussion CGS said that she would ask her son who was very good at these sorts of things and being a national swimmer he would be at most of the events where he could send reports out at to what was happening.

10.2. MH to cancel the zoom account that's held for SCASA as AT already holds an account and only 1 is necessary.

9.3. Future dates were discussed and agreed between DG & IH:

MCM Tuesday 10th September – Zoom

MCM Tuesday 10th December – Zoom

MCM Monday 10th March 2025 – Zoom

AGM – Tuesday 24th June 2025 – Holiday Inn, Guilford.

Times TBA

DRAFT