

PRESTON SWIMMING CLUB

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday, 16 September 2009 at West View Leisure Centre

Present:

President J Pratt
Chairman P Mason
Hon Sec C Billington
S Darragh
D Fairhurst
J Jackson
Treasurer I Parker
W/P Sec P Bailey
Paula Barton
S Field

Apologies:

Publicity M Kitcher
Biathlon J Holden
P Todd
S Todd
J McGinty

1. Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on Tuesday, 14 July 2009 were approved.

Proposed Paul Todd

Seconded Jim Pratt

2. Matters arising

Christine mentioned for information that the club had been temporarily suspended from the National Swimming League as they had not received the cheque but this problem had now been rectified.

3. Head Coach's Report

Dave Fairhurst presented his report for September 2009.

i. Rotherham end-of-season meet at Sheffield:

- Preston Swimming Club had finished 7th in the top club standing
- Pb rate was 82% for the whole weekend
- In the A grade gala the club achieved 14 Gold, 12 Silver, 11 Bronze
- In the B grade gala the club achieved 3 Gold, 11 Silver, 10 Bronze
- Total of 13 speeding tickets

ii. Sharks Micro League Final 2009

Southport came 1st, Preston 2nd, Leyland 3rd and Fleetwood 4th.

Dave paid special thanks to Steve Heaps and his team of helpers for a job well done in finishing second behind a very strong Southport team, who are the 2008 national champions. This was Steve's last gala as Team Manager and Dave thanked him for all his time and effort over the years.

iii. Seals

The promotion Swim-off would be taking place at West View on Saturday, 19th September. Dave wished the team good luck.

iv. National Age Group and Youth Championships 2009

- Medal count: 3 Gold, 3 silver, 3 Bronze
- Shauntelle Austin came top in 11-year girls Bagcats
- Cameron Austin came fourth in 13-year boys Bagcats
- 20 top ten positions / finalists
- Five swimmers invited to take part in regional swimming programmes
- The club finished in 5th place overall with the girls in 3rd place

Dave asked if the Club would be prepared to pay the travelling expenses of Ryan Bennett who would be travelling from Stirling to attend the gala. The Committee agreed.

With reference to land conditioning, Dave said that more equipment was needed, costing about £200. Ian said there was still some grant money available. Pete said that Martha, from Ambulant, could obtain bands at cost price. It was agreed to wait a month or two whilst Sarah checked with Michael Wilson the position re existing stock.

Dave's contract was now up for renewal and he had decided to step down as Head Coach, although he will continue up to the end of October, until a new coach is found. Pete Mason thanked Dave on behalf of the club for all the work he had done in taking the club forward.

Dave then left the meeting.

4. Appointment of new coach

After much discussion, it was decided that the club should advertise on the ASA website for a Chief Coach, at a salary of £12,000 p.a. A representative from the ASA would be invited to sit on the interview panel.

Action 16/09/09/1 Pete will arrange the details to then be advertised

It was agreed that Pete Mason would meet with the coaches at 8 pm to keep them informed as to what was happening, on Sunday 20th September at 8pm, after the meet in Blackpool. Julie to organise the meeting.

5. Finance

Ian reported that the bank account was fairly healthy at the moment. Some grant money was still available (£204).

6. Child protection

Sarah reported that the club had 20 volunteer teachers, none of whom had child protection [does she mean CRB? Or that they had not attended child protection courses?}. It was agreed that Sarah should draw up a list of people to attend courses. Those attending courses should be asked to sign a form committing themselves to the club for a minimum number of hours.

7. Club championship sponsors

Ian to check with Paul re sponsorship of events.

Speak to Lyndsey McManamon with regard to assistance with producing programmes for The Club Championship.

It was agreed that Paul should increase the entry fee for the entry fees to the Club Championships.

Noted that a parent should be in attendance with his/her child/children at galas as the children are not Preston Swimming Club's responsibility. If possible this could be put down on the entry forms and also put onto the website.

It was agreed that the question of next year's membership fees should be discussed at the AGM.

8. MDS

There is some confusion over how to apply the extra charge for those children transferring from Category 1 teaching to Category 1 competitive. Different rates apply. Sarah and Ian to look into how best to deal with this.

9. Pentathlon Report

i. Biathlon

The Ribble Valley biathlon was held on Sunday 6 September in Clitheroe. Preston had ten competitors including two teams.

Jack Holden came first in the 15/16-year Boys, Jack Smith came 3rd in the 13/14-year Boys. For the girls, the 10 and unders achieved five top ten positions and took gold and silver in the team even. In the 13/14-year girls age group the club achieved two top ten places.

ii. Biathlon

The National Biathle Championships took place at Salford Keys in July, with the first six in each two-year age group qualifying for the World Championships. Jack Holden came 7th and as a result became first reserve. Jack has since been contacted to join the team and will therefore represent Great Britain in the boys 15/16-year age group at the World Biathle Championships being held in Monaco on 20th September 2009.

Pete stated that Jill could apply for funding via Preston Sports Forum

10. Media

Boards now up. The committee thanked S Mawdsley and S Hill for this.

11. Website

This needs to be updated with an itinerary of future events and locations. Pete will speak to Dave about dates.

Paula requested reimbursement of two payments of £60 for refreshments for the Sharks and Seals committee agreed.

Fundraising

Pete reported that he had attended a meeting of the Preston Triathlon Network where it had been proposed that Preston Swimming Club become involved in a project to raise the profile of Triathlon and the three sports in Preston. In the long term this would give access to funding towards coach education and for equipment. The club would be unable to give up any pool time but the period during the summer break could be used to provide intensive swimming training.

Paula to speak with Sara and Julie about producing a poster with a view to identifying any parents who might be interested in helping.

Waterpolo

All three away matches had been lost (Lancaster 13-3; Kendal 8-4 and Fleetwood 10-8).

On 15/8 the club came 3rd in the Brian Walsh Memorial.

Misc

1. Jimmy Carr had raised with Pete the state of the changing rooms and the fact that balls were being thrown at the balcony. He had spoken to John about this and Senior [??] will be suspended. [.....] to speak to the Juniors about their behaviour.
2. Martha from Ambulant had volunteered to attend training sessions on alternate Tues/Weds or Weds/Thurs to give the children advice about training. Sarah will need a letter from Martha. Martha had prepared an item on the website re stretching etc., to be shown to George.
3. "Award for All" have written to the Preston Sports Forum saying they want quality applications from the Preston Area. Water Polo coach to provide a wish list. Sarah to provide list of hoped-for courses within a 12-month period.
4. Sarah has been receiving complaints about the PSC children from two members of the public at Fulwood Leisure Centre. Sandy said she will act as Customer Focus Manager and deal with the matter.
5. A date needs to be agreed for the end-of-season PSC level 3 gala.

Date of next meeting: Tuesday 13 October at Fulwood Leisure Centre