



The National Arena Swimming League – West Midlands

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The National Arena Swimming League-West Midlands
at The Novotel Hotel, Coventry, Warks, on Wednesday 12th June 2019 commencing at 19.30

Those present: Ralph Shepherd (City of Derby) Chairman; Monica Brown (Stratford Sharks) Treasurer, Clive Smith (Etwell Eagles) Secretary and representatives from the following clubs. - Boldmere, Leamington Spa, Lichfield, Warley Wasps, Arnold, Kingsbury Aquarius, Radford, Ripley Rascals, Belper Marlin, Stourbridge

Also in attendance

1. The chairman welcomed all those present and advised that the meeting was quorate
2. **Apologies** were received from the following clubs; Redditch, Blithedale Barracudas, Wyre Forest, Bramcote, Sutton in Ashfield, Mansfield, Cheadle & District Leighton Buzzard, Abingdon, Bromsgrove, Derby Phoenix, Daventry Dolphins, Stafford Sharks, Ledbury, City of Hereford, Ludlow, Long Eaton
3. **Notes from the 2018 AGM**, These were distributed to all clubs and were accepted by clubs in attendance
4. **Matters Arising -**

At the AGM, CS there only 2 places and could not find see rule on how to decide, so the 3 clubs put in to draw with first 2 going into the league. Bramcote where the team missing out. In the following week Bramcote applied to the National League Secretary who said we should have wait list and the clubs go in order, therefore on looking at dates when the 3 teams applied. I have had to inform Kidlington & Gosford they now top of the wait list

5. **Secretary's report** - Following my 2nd year as secretary of West Midlands Arena League, it was a delight to see we had 72 teams swimming across 3 divisions.
This only works with each club having Coaches Officials Volunteers parents and swimmers not only for the 3 gala but for hours of training - thanks all

The same committee has been together last 2 years and all volunteer to put the league so like thank, Ralph Chair Keith Vice Chair Monica Treasurer Nikki Pools Co-ordinator Sandra Officials Co-ordinator and Stuart website & results Ann for Eligibility Recorder

Congratulations go to the league winners Premier City of Derby Division 2 Wyre Forest Division 3 Bramcote. Also Well done to City Of Derby and Worcester who represented the region at National Gala in Cardiff March (2019)

Has said previous my main aim as Secretary was to create better communication with clubs and improve the results and draw (hopefully happy with results out by Sunday evening and draw with hosts and pools by Tuesday after each round)

I am still learning and its never going to be perfect, there few issue last year which I am address later in meeting, also trying get more central pools, This year get the premier division licenced my apologise it didn't happen last year (time beat me and learning rules about it)

The league format has been the same for long time and this is why I asked questions to all clubs which I leave to discuss under future ideas

I am happy to carry on if voted in as Secretary and thank all who help with success of West Midlands Arena League

6. **Chairman's report** - RS would like to thank Clive for organising the galas, Monica for looking after the leagues money and Keith who is our vice chairman for the work that that is done in the background

The 3 rounds of the league in 2018 went well which was a great credit to the team of volunteers who pulled the galas together

Nikki Piggot - Pools Administrator Sandra Grant - Officials Co-ordinator, Stuart Parker - Results and website, Ann Pollard Eligibility recorder.

RS was invited as representative of West Midlands arena league to attend the 50th year of the Arena League Cup Final at Cardiff which was well organised and enjoyable and thanks must go to Ian Mackenzie and his team.

The West Midlands Arena League were represented by City of Derby at Cup Final and Worcester at the B Final, unfortunately both teams came up against some very good teams of strong swimmers, but from what I saw they didn't give in but kept swimming hard right to the end of their respective galas.

Cup Final - 1st Plymouth 361 points 2nd Millfireld 354 points 3rd Guildford 348 points

B Final - 1st Mount Kelly 390 points 2nd Bromley 347 points 3rd Team Ipswich 318 points

7. **Financial report** - MB presented the financial report, which had been 'examined'. There are adequate funds. The accounts as at 28th February 2019 were adopted unanimously. Main Points:

A - The league made profit £1352, with income up £500 (Subscriptions and Sponsorship)

B - Costs pool cost was only £200 up from previous year, other main cost was National Cup Finals from past 2 years hotel and travel at £716

8. **National Hon. Secretary's report** - No Report

9. **Proposals for alterations to league rules,**

Following the removal of the 5 point bonus at last year AGM, round 3 draw is now not fair system therefore the change before was proposed by the CS

OLD

5.1.3 ROUND THREE

5.1.3.1 When 24 teams are competing, teams who were 1st in 2nd round gala. Plus 2 teams with highest gala points from rounds

5.1.3.2 Gala 2. Next 6 to gain the highest number of points in the galas of round one and two.

5.1.3.3 Gala 3. Next 6 to gain the highest number of points in the galas of round one and two..

5.1.3.4 Gala 4. The remaining teams competing in round two

5.1.3.5 ROUND THREE ALL GALAS WILL BE SPEARHEADED.

5.1.3.6 The four teams to be relegated (from Premier and Division Two) shall be the four teams in positions 21,22,23,&24 in a 24 team division.

PROPOSED NEW

5.1.1 ROUND THREE

5.1.3.1 When 24 teams are competing, teams who were 1st in 2nd round gala. Plus 2 teams with highest gala points from rounds

5.1.3.2 Gala 2. The team with the second highest number of points plus the teams with the 7th, 12th, 15th, 18th, 21st and 24th

5.1.3.4 Gala 3. The team with the second highest number of points plus the teams with the 8th, 11th, 14th, 17th 20th and 23rd

5.1.3.4 Gala 4. The team with the second highest number of points plus the teams with the 9th, 10th, 13th, 16th, 19th and 22nd

5.1.3.5 ROUND THREE ALL GALAS WILL BE SPEARHEADED.

5.1.3.6 The four teams to be relegated (from Premier and Division Two) shall be the four teams in positions 21,22,23,&24 in a 24 team division.

This was agreed by all clubs present to change to new proposal.

Keith Munday asked if league had plan for any cancellation of galas, CS said that in 2017 snow had cancelled gala at Stafford due to teams from Shropshire and Worcestershire unable to travel, A virtual gala based on round 2 results had been used then, After a discussion in the room it was agreed that going forward the league would use the following:

NEW RULE on CANCELLED GALAS (Weather Pool Faults or any other circumstance)

8. Cancelled Gala

8.1. If Gala is cancelled for any reason in Round 1 only, then the League will arrange new date asap before round 2 and invite all clubs to swim and the new date and venue.

8.2 If Gala is cancelled for any reason in Round 2 or 3, the league will use the times from the previous round and produce virtual gala results and add the respective results to league table

10. **Elections** - The following were elected to the relevant posts;

Chairman	Ralph Shepherd
Vice Chairman	Keith Munday
Treasurer	Monica Brown
Secretary	Clive Smith
Assistant Secretary	Nikki Piggott
Results	Stuart Parker
Eligibility recorder	Ann Pollard
Senior Officials co-ordinator	Sandra Grant

Financial Examiner	TGFP Ltd
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11. **Resignations and applications** - There are four clubs which have resigned, Wantage White Horse, Shrewbury Worksop and Blythe Barraudas B, new clubs that have taken their places Ledbury Cannock Phoenix and Kidlington & Gosford have applied to join again this season. Therefore we have 71 teams but on eve of the AGM CS had enquiry from a club and if they are able to fill the 72nd CS will sort out the necessary paperwork and money
12. **Teams** - The list of teams to swim this season on 12th October, 9th November and 14th December were presented to the meeting.
13. **Draw** - The draw for the gala followed and will appear on the website. The allocation of the venues will be auctioned by the committee and the host clubs advised who they are.
14. **Change of Name** - It was agreed that due to Warley Wasps Oldbury and Haden Hill circumstances where the new commonwealth pool will only allow one club in the pool, the 3 clubs are going to become one club from 1st January 2021, therefore it was agreed by all at the AGM (proposed Keith Boldmere - 2nd Ann Stourbridge) following 2020 gala which club is highest in the league will become new club A next new club B and 3rd new club C.
15. **Date of the next meeting** - Wednesday 10th June 2020, Novotel Hotel, Coventry at 19.30
16. **AOB** - Keith Munday pointed out to clubs that Swim England new guidelines that clubs should have 1 coach to 10 swimmers on poolside and 1 team manager per 20 swimmers
17. The meeting closed at 21.30 with thanks to all present.