



The National Arena Swimming League - London

Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The National Arena Swimming League-London
via Zoom on Monday, 21st June 2021

Those present: Ian Mackenzie(IM) (Hoddesdon), Treasurer; Sheila Mackenzie(SM) (Hoddesdon), Secretary; and Kay Grimshaw(KG) (Saxon Crown, Lewisham), Administration Officer
The following clubs were represented:- Aylesbury & District SC, Basildon & Phoenix SC, Bishops Stortford SC, Borough of Harrow SC, Colchester SC, Enfield Swim Squad SC, Hackney Aquatics, Halstead SC and Hillingdon SC,
The meeting commenced at 7.pm,

Sheila Mackenzie was appointed by those present to take the chair. She welcomed everyone and explained that Andy Gardner(AG), the Chairman, had decided that he should resign in favour of someone more in touch with swimming competitions. SM informed the meeting that AG had been a very valuable member of the executive over many years, especially for his expertise with rules and conditions, and he will be greatly missed, but had offered to assist when necessary.

1. **Apologies for absence** Apologies had been received from Brompton SC, Braintree & Bocking SC and Shiverers SC.
2. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2020** These were approved.
3. **Matters arising** SM pointed out that the date for this 2021 AGM was shown in the minutes as 23rd June 2021. The date had been changed because of clashes with other meetings.
4. **Secretary's report for the year to 31st March, 2021** SM said that there was little to report as there had been no rounds in 2020, and also no national finals weekend in March 2021. A couple of pools had been contacted regarding bookings, but the still uncertain situation meant that confirmed bookings were not in place. Hertfordshire Sports Village is provisionally booked, but Inspire, Luton Sports Village is currently a vaccination centre. Sandra Soulas informed SM that personnel had changed at Southbury Leisure Centre, but she was willing and able to liaise at this facility to confirm that the previously organised provisional bookings were still in place.
Registration requests had been sent out at the beginning of April and 46 teams had registered. No fee had been charged again this year. There had been four withdrawals - Epping Forest & District, Potters Bar B, Saxon Crown(Lewisham) and Watford B. SM said that a flexible approach is being used, as clubs might find that by September they do not have the athletes needed to field a team.. So withdrawals will be accepted then if necessary if the competition is going ahead. There had been one application to join - from Maxwell SC, moving from The National Arena Swimming League - South. They are being held on a waiting list until the situation regarding the rounds is clearer.
5. **Financial report** IM presented the accounts for the year to 31.3.21. IM commented on various points.
 - a) **To adopt the balance sheet as at 31st March, 2021 and associated accounts** Adopted
 - b) **To approve the Secretary's advanced expenses** This item is waived this year, because of the situation with the coronavirus pandemic.
 - c) **To approve payment towards expenses of the premier team going to 52nd Cup Final and the second-placed team, together with any other team/s qualifying, within the National League's criteria, for the 52nd Cup Final or the 21st 'B' Final on 5th/6th March 2022. Proposed £500 per team**
Agreed

6. National Secretary's report IM said that there was little to report. Arena remained in support of the league, but obviously there had been no sponsorship monies in because of the cancellation of the events.

The national finals weekend 2021 had not taken place, because of the cancellation of the rounds in 2020. The National AGM for the League is scheduled for 27th June 2021, and there will be discussion then about the way forward for the rounds in Autumn 2021.

The following will be some of the considerations if face-to-face normal galas are not possible:

Virtual competition - single team, or with other local team/s,

Amending the programme,

Doubling the number of galas so that four teams compete at a time (this has hire cost implications).

7. Proposals for alterations to league rules, as proposed by the retiring executive committee

The following changes to rules were agreed:-

A)

Rule 1 Name and objectives

- a) The league shall be called "**The National Swimming League - London**" and its objectives are to:
 - i) find the premier team to compete in The National Swimming League cup final and the second placed team to compete in one of the finals weekend galas. The top six placed teams from the London final will be entered in a national league virtual gala, from which other teams will be invited to the national finals.
 - ii) give opportunity for the maximum number of different clubs to compete against each other.

To be changed to:-

Rule 1 Name

- a) The league shall be called "**The National Swimming League - London**", and will trade under that name, with the addition of the name of a sponsor (as required)
- b) The league will be known as **The National Arena Swimming League-London (TNASL-L)**

Rule 2 Objectives

- a) To find the premier team to compete in The National Swimming League cup final and the second placed team to compete in one of the finals weekend galas. The top six placed teams from the London final will be entered in a national league virtual gala, from which other teams will be invited to the national finals.
- b) To give opportunity for the maximum number of different clubs to compete against each other.

B)

Additional rule

It was agreed that the following rule will be added as rule 3

Rule 3 As a constituent league of The National Arena Swimming League, The National Arena Swimming League- London will comply with the rules of The National Arena Swimming League, as appropriate.

All the existing rules to be re-numbered appropriately

8. The election of the executive committee to serve for the next 12 months As there was only one nomination for the each of the posts of Secretary, Treasurer and Administration Officer, the following were elected without a vote being necessary :

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|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| a) Chairman | No nominatios received |
| b) Treasurer | Ian Mackenzie (Hoddesdon) |
| c) Secretary | Sheila Mackenzie (Hoddesdon) |
| d) Administration Officer | Kay Grimshaw (Saxon Crown, Lewisham) |
| e) Elected member | No nominations received |

9. Election of two delegates to The National Swimming League Annual General Meeting on 27th June, 2021 via Zoom Sheila Mackenzie and Kay Grimshaw will attend.

10. To confirm the teams in the divisions on Saturdays 9th October, 13th November and 11th December 2021

There was discussion about the most expedient way to identify the teams in each division. SM had used the positions as at the end of 2019 to identify the promotions and relegations - the normal procedure at the end of a season. However there have been the four withdrawals. Currently the premier division is full with 16 teams. Division one has 14 teams and so does division two. There could potentially be further withdrawals because of the situation in September.

It was agreed that it would be better to maximise the teams in the premier division and division one - 16 in each division. It was further agreed that if vacancies had to be filled, then, for this 2021 season, the relegated teams would be re-instated as required, and if subsequent filling was required the third, fourth fifth placed teams etc in the lower division would be promoted, in that order, as required.

11. Draw for round one In normal circumstances, at this point in the meeting the draw would be made for the first round galas. There was agreement that if a draw was necessary, then the executive committee would make this round one draw. The draw would be made in September, when the situation was known as to whether the competition could go ahead, what format it would take, and whether any necessary pools were available or could be booked. It was hoped that the numbers of teams competing would also be known in September too.

A request was made for a possible meeting for the teams in September, so that they could be informed about the delivery of the rounds.

The meeting closed at 8.20pm, with thanks to those who had attended.