

Fishguard Flyers Amateur Swimming Club
AGM 4th May 2018

7.00 pm , Fishguard Leisure Centre

Present: Lorraine West (Treasurer), Glenda Thomas (Chair), Anita Thomas (Secretary), Katherine Clapham (Membership Secretary), Lynne Fischer (County Rep), Martha Owen (Coaches Rep), Derek Owen, Martin Horne, Aida Horne, Robert Montgomery, Jo Montgomery, Ryan Thomas, Lee Adams (FLC), Caz Adams, Charlotte Allen, Emmaline Brown, Rachel Fletcher, Catherine Stark, Anna Dunning, Luke Dunning.

Minute Secretary: Anita Thomas

- 1. Apologies:** Sian Lewis, Anwen Woodhouse, Friederike Schmidt, Allan Creswell, Trudy Brewe, Arabella Owen, Karl West, Sharon Jenkins, Craig
- 2. Minutes of Previous AGM-** these were agreed as accurate by the meeting and proposed by Lynne Fischer, and Seconded by Martha Owen.
- 3. Matters Arising**

None reported

- 4. Chairman's Report-** Glenda Thomas (GT)

Flyers have continued to develop over the last 12 months and has helped an increase number of swimmers being selected for County Squads. A number also qualified for the 2018 Welsh Nationals with some medalling at Level 1 meets. Great achievement.

The club supports the development of swimmers in other aquatic disciplines and encourages members to enter open water events, water polo and to use the skills and fitness they have achieved in club to compete in other water based competitions – e.g. surf lifesaving.

The club now has a great number of water dragons, and this is where the future of the club lies. Current Learn to swim (LTS) numbers exceed 3,000, so potential of them feeding into the PCS pathway. Need to build strong relationships with PCC and FLC to ensure smooth transition from LTS to club.

Whilst swimmers are progressing into county squads, this has a knock on effect with coaches and other volunteers moving with their children through the development programme. Need to ensure regular volunteering recruitment is in place with appropriate training. 3 coaches recently passed Level 1 coaching with swim wales.

Fundraising needs to be increased to safeguard financial wellbeing of the club and to raise its profile in the local community.

Interclub galas and Pembs Champs need to be supported so that the younger swimmers have the opportunity to compete in a fun and friendly environment.

The club needs to safeguard against not having sufficient qualified officials to support swim wales and local meets to endure they operate in accordance with rules and regulations. Meets would not be able to go ahead without these.

The club continues to develop, working closely with swim wales. There is an active website and has more twitter followers than any other development club in Pembrokeshire.

The Club would like to thank Craig Neilson and Sam Jones (Pembs County Swimming Development Coaches) for high standard of work and commitment. The club wishes Sam the best in his future career with Swansea Aquatics. Also thanks to Gary Nicholas from PLS for his continued support to Pembrokeshire County Swimming Pathway, and also thanks to FLC staff who are always willing to cooperate and support the club.

GT personally thanked the committee for outstanding support and enthusiasm over past year. This has allowed her supporting role in the club to be more productive and enjoyable. The club has lost a couple of long standing members in Ruth Myers and Richard Curtis. Volunteers are the lifeline of the club so all need to consider if there is anything they can do to support the club.

County Selection & Wildcards – GT explained the process. Wildcards become available for Jnr Academy, Snr Academy & Jnr Nat squads if a squad isn't filled with swimmers who have achieved times according to selection policy. Numbers change every selection period. Once notified how many places available, all coaches are contacted to put suggestions forward. By majority, a choice is made, parents are asked to discuss with their child. This process should be respected. Decisions consider performance, attitude and attendance. All information is fed through County Rep and any queries re county selection process should go through Lynne Fischer.

GT wished the best of luck to all over the forthcoming year, and to keep enjoying swimming.

Question from Martin Horne – Can you elaborate on the Club Development Plan?

GT response – A Plan was drawn up in 13/14 but has been stagnant. GT and FS have met with Joe Tucker (Regional Development Officer Swim Wales) and have their full support, but it is in its infant stage.

5. Treasurers report-

Lorraine reported the year-end total available balance was £3,009.82. Expenditure did exceed income but this was because of the 3 Level 1 Coaches course which has recently been paid for. We are awaiting confirmation from the Community Chest that this will be fully funded. Membership income has increased by 4%, Gala expenditure was the same as year. Fundraising very disappointing- only £108 raised through a raffle. It is essential to increase fundraising activities during the year so that we can put money towards equipment, courses and long course training.

Lorraine thanked all that had given their help over the year.

6. Membership report-

Katherine (KC)-Currently have 56 members with 6 joining in the next fortnight. The Waterdragons make up half of these members.

KC explained how the annual membership is made up. £8 comes to Fishguard Flyers, and the remainder goes to Swim Wales. Unfortunately it isn't always clear where Swim Wales' element is being spent.

The monthly direct debits for PCC goes towards paying for the pool time.

7. Coaching report-

Martha Owen (MO) reported on behalf of Friedericke.

General/Training - Very successful 12 months and all coaches have been pleased with the progress that the swimmers are making. They enjoy each other's company, support each other and show interest in each other's achievements. Well done to all, including parents who support and motivate their children.

County Squads – in October we had our biggest ever county selection with 13 swimmers over 5 squads. We have just had another amazing selection of 11 swimmers over 3 squads (1 squad not being reselected due to shortage of coaching staff).

Thanks goes out to all coaches of all squads for their time, effort and patience on and off poolside. It is due to their dedication that there are so many doing well for Flyers.

Team Galas – In the 16/17 Pembs league we came 2nd behind Haverfordwest which is a truly immense achievement. We have since started the new league and have won the 1st round against Crymych, with the second round against Milford in a couple of weeks.

We have more children in more age groups and a much stronger boys' team than ever before. In the RAOB we also shone as our mainly younger squads made the club very proud in coming 3rd.

FS wanted to thank all coaches for their involvement and contributions and also to the committee members. We all give up our time freely to help the club thrive and all parents/grandparents etc are asked to consider offering to help as the club is short of coaches, committee members, officials and people just to do the odd job.

MO said that the kids are a pleasure to be with, so she will continue to coach for now.

8. Election of officers-

Chair	Vacant – GT to continue
Secretary	Anita Thomas
Treasurer	Lorraine West
Child Welfare Officer	Vacant (JM to continue with DBS checks)
Fixture Secretary	Karl West
Membership Secretary	Katherine Clapham
Coaches Rep	Friederike Schmidt, Martha Owen
County Coaches Rep	Lynne Fischer
Publicity Officer & Website	Vacant

Martin Horne requested verbal re-appointment of officers. GT read out nominations, along with those who had seconded.

MH also asked for clarification that the coaching reps are committee members.

GT added that the fixture secretary is a supporting role and is a non-voting member of the committee. Clarification received from Swim Wales that a non-voting member and a voting member who are married are able to be on the committee together.

GT added that KW had done an excellent job developing website, updating twitter, fixture secretary, along with publicity, but that this was just too much for one person. No nominations currently for vacant roles, but Gt asked that people come forward if they can help.

GT also asked for people to consider supporting roles – active fundraising and coaching.

9. Date of next Meeting-
TBC