



# RUISLIP-NORTHWOOD SWIM SQUAD

Web site: [www.rnss.co.uk](http://www.rnss.co.uk)

Minutes of RNSS Annual General Meeting  
Held on Friday 20 April 2007

1. **Present:** Jackie Fryer, Ginette Jackson, Julie Perrin, Yvonne Banton, Dave Austin, Gillian Neal, Martin Wood, Vivienne Gore, Richard Dyer, Trevor Hammond, Sue Procter, Dianne Ellison, Ray Adey, Martin South, Dipak Shah, Pam Hick, Graham Try, Teresa Jones, Nicola Mead, Barry Flatman, Leigh Walker, Debbie Wilson, Mark Nuttall, Sue Dyer, Joanne, Lawrence, Maurice Short, Daphne Short, Rosemary Harrington, Peter Fish, Dave Bradley, Lesley Williamson, Christine Spain, Annette Plumley, Karen Luckham, Paul Tuff, Colin Hick.
2. **Apologies:** Sandra Riley, Buckley family, Simmons family, Tina Foskett, Chris Jenner, Moira Sleeman, Jane Biedul, Wayne Hirst, Trixie Nisbet, Lesley Westendorp.
3. **Minutes from last Annual General Meeting:** approved.
4. **Matters arising:** no matters arising.
5. **Chairman's report:** see attached file.
6. **Chief Coach's report:** Read by JL in Lesley Westendorp's absence.  
see attached file.
7. **Treasurer's report** see attached file.

## 8. Election of officers

The following officers were proposed, seconded and elected.

Chairman	Mark Nuttall
Vice Chairman	Debbie Wilson
Secretary	Joanne Lawrence
Treasurer	Rosemary Harrington
Membership Secretary	Sue Dyer
Team Manager	John Greenwood
Fixtures Secretary	David Bradley

## 9. Ernie Perry Trophy

Awarded to Sandra Riley.

## 10. AOB

- Maurice Short, President RNSS, commended Sarah Price's visit in September 2006. A wonderful event involving 200 swimmers.
- Referring to Mark Nuttall's announcement that this would be his last year as chairman (see Chairman's report) MS noted the great contribution made by Mark in a tough job, reminded everyone of the need for support and recommended that the club worked hard to keep Mark in post.
- Rosemary Harrington confirmed that Anne Davies would continue as independent examiner for club account for the coming year. Thanks to John Greenwood who arranged this.

### • Hillingdon BEST constitution

Diane Ellison asked how MN saw future for HBST. Issues exist re the constitution but are there any other issues?

MN explained constitutional issue. RNSS currently hosts the Hillingdon teams as previous Hillingdon Borough club was in debt, not financially viable and unable to survive with just free pool time. HBST and JE need a constitution in order to compete under Hillingdon banner. Only way to do this and to retain relationship with feeder clubs is through a 'C' club constitution which excludes National Leagues such as Speedo and Diddy but permits performance in county and national meets. However MS confirmed that London Region specifically will not accept 'C' clubs any more. The matter will take time to resolve.

MN confirmed that the current meeting was the HBST AGM as well as the RNSS AGM.

- **Performance Appraisals.**

Diane Ellison asked if performance appraisal was in place for HBST coaches. MN confirmed that process was in place but appraisals had not yet happened.

- **HBST programme**

Diane Ellison referred to recent issue where an HBST swimmer who failed to comply with HBST programme was asked to return to feeder club. It was suggested that this approached 'bullying' tactics from coach and committee. MN stated that there would be no formal comment on the related correspondence unless its originators decided to take the matter to the ASA, in which case RNSS would participate in the ASA investigation. MN further stated that membership of HBST is a privilege and those who achieved membership could not pick and choose which bits of the program they would do.

- **National Qualification**

Jackie Fryer asked about HBST rules for achieving National qualifying times as Dave Hemmings had made it clear that swimmers should only qualify with times gained at HBST targeted meets..

This has become an issue among parents as swimmers failing to achieve National times at the last 50m meet of the season would not have a final chance to qualify in a subsequent (untargeted) 25m meet. However the programme presented to parents and swimmers at the start of the season was clear that swimmers should only attend targeted meets.

Maurice Short confirmed that the 50m pool requirement was becoming mandatory elsewhere within ASA. JF stated that 25m times were still accepted by ASA. DW replied that although swimmers with times achieved in 25m pools were able to qualify the HBST coaches felt they would be at a severe disadvantage to others as they would be placed in unseeded heats, DH had set out his programme at the start of the season and any changes should be discussed with him. MN recommended that any concerns should be confirmed in an email to DH, copied to Mark Nuttall and Debbie Wilson

Other parents commented that children simply wanted to qualify for Nationals and were not concerned about which heat they subsequently swam in. RH reminded meeting that swimmers with 25m times who went to Nationals last year had suffered. DH a respected and highly motivated coach planned programme to avoid such problems this year,

- **HBST feedback**

Jackie Fryer asked how feedback could be taken from parents following away meets and training camps. Concerns had been expressed eg about swimmers' ability to select appropriate food for themselves when away from parental supervision. MN again recommended that any concerns should be confirmed in an email to DH, copied to MN and DW.

Gillian Neal suggested formal feedback after Rotherham meet. Daphne Short cited quarterly forum at Middlesex CCC as a possible model. Meetings/questionnaires and other feedback mechanisms to be considered for implementation.

- **Uxbridge 50m pool**

Christine Spain asked if decision had yet been made on size of new Uxbridge pool. MN replied that there was no decision yet although meetings had been held.

- **24 hour swim**

Diane Ellison asked who had decided on what the money from the 24 hour swim in Dec 2005 should be spent. MN confirmed that the swim had been organised to benefit swimming in Hillingdon and flier inviting people to swim had been clear this was the case. Hillingdon Borough Swimming Club had been in debt and a proportion of the money went towards clearing that debt. £7051 remained in the HBSC account but could not be spent until the affairs of Hillingdon Borough Swimming Club had been concluded.

A parent asked why SeaByrds and RNSS did not decide between them what should be done with the money. MN replied that neither club had the authority until affairs of Hillingdon Borough Swimming Club had been concluded. The process was taking much longer than anyone had anticipated at the time the swim was arranged.

- **Diddy League**

Jackie Fryer asked what had happened to suggestions that a Hillingdon team be submitted for Diddy League. MN explained that although all parties had wanted to do this, constitutional issues meant that the team would have to have swum under the RNSS name.. This was initially agreed by coaches and chairmen of RNSS & SeaByrds. SeaByrd members were referred to their chairman for further details.

**Harefield Academy**

Barry Flatman asked if there had been any developments re Harefield Academy since MN mentioned at 2007 AGM. MN replied that there had been no news. The Swimming Development Strategy Report had been due in September, October and then December 06 but nothing received to date. It was possible that Harefield developments were delayed by this.

- **Support for County**

Daphne Short asked for parental support for Middlesex County. Great evidence of parental commitment this evening. County needs interested parents to sit on the executive and clubs were not generally well represented. There should be 10 elected people and this year there are only four.

Meeting ended 21.10pm