



SWIMMING OTAGO

Minutes of Delegates Meeting

Held at Moana Pool Dunedin 16 June 2013 11.18am.

WELCOME:

Members were welcomed to the meeting.

PRESENT:

Mandy Grainger (President), Colin Walker (Secretary), Lynn Robertson, Patricia McNaughton, Matthew Heaton, Peter Deans, Michael Dodds, Alan Hale, Sharlene Gillespie, Kathryn Duncan, Sharon McKinnel, Susan Sawtell, Terry Wall

Alexandra

Clutha United Sharon McKinnel, Nyree Dickie

Cromwell

Dunedin

Kawa Dolphins

Kiwi Patricia McNaughton, Sue Maclaurin, Desiree Crooks

Milton

Neptune Colin Armstrong, Kathryn Duncan, Kerren Keach

Port Chalmers

Queenstown Colin Walker,

Taieri Rosemary Ellis, Mandy Grainger, Alan Hale

Wanaka

Waves Terry Wall, Peter Deans

Zenith Sharlene Gillespie, Stef Gillespie Lynda Hall proxy

APOLOGIES:

Leeann Lawrence (Clutha United) Anna Harrison, Di McAuliffe, Diane Bennett (Cromwell) Christine Thompson (Queenstown) Kathryn Dawe, Licia Mihaka, Zigani (Port Chalmers), Pam Linwood (Zenith)

Patricia McNaughton/Susan Sawtell carried

PROXIES

Lynda Hall for Pam Linwood (Zenith)

Terry Wall/ Peter Deans carried

OBSERVERS

Michelle Summers

MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING:

- The minutes of the Delegates Meeting on the 25th January 2013 were approved as a true and correct record.

Lynn Robertson/Lynda Hall carried

MATTERS ARISING:

- No Matters to be raised

|| CLUB REPORTS:

Mandy Grainger thanked those clubs who had provided their reports prior to the meeting as requested.

Alexandra:

- It has been a busy few months and winter is often a time to take a breath and reflect and take stock on the year. The summer club-night swimming program finished last term with the annual club champs, held over four 1 1/2hr sessions. Club night runs annually during terms 4 and 1 of the school year. Attendance was on par with past years, with around 50 swimmers, with volunteer coaching and streaming organized by committee member Bronwyn Rees.
- Club Champs is the finale to the competitive year for our novice swimmers but is open as both a competitive and novice event. The mixed program held over 4 evenings, in both championship and non-championship race categories, with a combined points systems is proving to be a popular format, encouraging an excellent level of participation and providing a good mix of events. Prize-giving was held on May 23rd and certificates awarded for the 53 new club records set over the four nights of racing (14, 9, 15, 15) reflecting well on the improvements of club swimmers over the course of the year and the club standard of swimming in general. Club patron (Brian Seymour) once again attended and joined club coaches in awarding trophies to category winners. All club events and results are now posted on its web site and next year it is planned to expand this service.
- The club is fortunate to have a pool of parents (no pun) who assist with coaching our club night swimmers and once again this year we had several of our senior competitive swimmers provide instruction. Their involvement is always appreciated as the role in mentoring new swimmers is an important one and their presence is always clearly very positively received by both the swimmers and their parents. The feedback from the swimmers providing instruction is also too very positive, allowing them to pass on their knowledge, providing an insight into their own swimming technique and a slightly different perspective on training, as a coach rather than a swimmer.
- Alexandra swimmers will soon sharing its pool with swimmers from Cromwell, as their pool undergoes maintenance this term. The Molyneux Aquatic Centre is already heavily booked over the winter months and so some of the senior squad members from Cromwell will be swimming in some of our competitive squad sessions.
- The winter training program continues for the competitive squad under their coach Barry Dick (five days a week) and development squad training under Shane Allan (twice weekly). There are plans to hold some additional training session on the occasional Sunday morning during the winter months but this has yet to commence.
- Over the past couple of months, several members of the competitive squad have departed but two have joined it from the development squad. The competitive squad currently stands at 13 members, development at max. 26 (with a waiting list) and we have 8 new junior swimmers now training once a week. Several years ago, the club had a junior training group being coached alongside the development squad and once again the club has an intermediate pathway for swimmers wishing to progress from club-night onto non-competitive and then competitive swimming.
- The triathlon group that trained alongside Shane on Wednesday evenings last year appears to have folded following the summer so there is really no group for retiring competitive swimmers to move into at present, with perhaps the exception of the adult multisport group that was training in the pool last winter.
- The club had a reasonable attendance at Otago/Canterbury Championships this year but at many of the other meets (e.g. South Islands, Neptune, etc) we are often in single figures. While the quantity may be down on past years, the quality has not diminished, with those swimmers attending acquitting of themselves well, making finals, achieving PB's and in many instances medaling. Club swimmers have qualified and recently attended several national meets including South Islands, NZ Juniors, Div II and NAGs,

with two of our swimmers now aiming towards the NZ Short Course Champs and achieving NZ Open qualifying times. The focus for the next few months will be building towards the competitive program commencing in the spring with several distance meets planned over the winter months.

- The club has recently migrated its accounts over to XERO, a cloud-based accounting system, and this is proving to be a more cost-effective alternative in terms of time & effort compared to EasyBooks which was showing both its age and limitations in respect of functionality, support and on-line operation.
- The recent meeting of CO clubs was very positive and it would clearly be beneficial to convene regular meetings and promote more contact and collaboration between the central clubs. Two distance meets are proposed for later next month in Wanaka and Alexandra. We are also looking forward to making use of the TYM timing system at future meets as steps are presently being taken to confirm the storage and transport arrangements for this equipment.
- The ASC AGM is planned for next month when new officers will be elected.

Clutha United:

- It is now off season for us we have had a relatively successful season, all children that came to swim club have rejoined with many more wanting to join next season. We like many clubs have a slight problem of not enough coaches so this will limit the numbers we can take this season.
- We also have at least 5 young swimmers interested in doing more competitive meets in the up and coming season. We will be encouraging these kids to attend as many meets as they possibly can.
- Our prize giving was held on the 7th of May it was short and sweet and all kids were very happy with their achievements and assortment of certificates. Well done to all the swimmers that obtained trophies for the season.
- Thanks to Sharon for attending swimming conference in Queenstown in May.
- Well done to our 5 swimmers that swam at Neptune. Thanks to the Neptune club for a well run and enjoyable meet.
- Our competitive swimmers are off now until August, good luck with your winter sports. Club will commence in October through to April. That's all for us this term, looking forward to the 2013/2014 season.

Cromwell:

- The Cromwell swimming club has had a couple of changes and challenges over the last little while. We have formally farewelled Pete Ross as our long-standing, volunteer head coach with a function attended by our life members and many of Pete's ex swimmers. We will miss Pete's commitment and humour. He finishes his poolside role this week. We wish him and Sharon all the best with their new venture on Stewart Island and we know he will come and visit and check on progress whenever he is in Cromwell. Mike Patton has stepped back from his role as club president, he has stayed on the committee to share his experience and expertise with our new members which is much appreciated. We have had a bit of a shuffle with club officers; Marie Holden is staying on as treasurer, Diane McAuliffe has taken the secretary position and Anna Harrison is our new president.
- We have two main challenges in our immediate future – the first is yet another pool closure – our 3rd in 5 years. This time a 14 week period in which the main pool will be tiled. We know the end result will be fantastic – but we could probably do without having to transport our swimmers to Alex four times a week. A huge thank you has to go to the Alexandra club for providing support for our swimmers over the closure. Our second and even bigger challenge is trying to attract a new coach. We thought we had it sorted, but were let down at the last minute – we have had applicants from all around the

globe – Romania, Hungary, Russia, Brazil, Singapore and London – we will keep our search going and hope to have someone in place for when our pool reopens in September.

- We hope to have our focus back on developing swimmers once our pool reopens and we are just holding on tight and riding out a rough patch at the moment.

Dunedin:

Kawa:

Kiwi:

- We are now providing professional instructors for our Learners Pool children as it was felt that consistency and quality teaching of the swimming skills would ensure a stronger foundation for our young members. The qualified instructors are in the water with the children so they are able to physically correct technique all the time. We aim to keep the ratios low (1:6 maximum) so this maximises the learning. The benefits of this are already evident with lots more on-task skill building and rapid progress. Once the children move up to the main pool, their instructors are usually poolside so there is not as much in-water stroke correction. These lanes are manned by our volunteer coaches (usually parents) who all do a fantastic job and are very reliable each week. We provide in-house training for these volunteers & also pay for them to attend SNZ courses.
- Ribbon Nights and our development squad are improving our competitive level of swimmers with more children entering meets this year. We had 34 swimmers @ Neptune Meet. Jessica Scott won the Girls 10yrs section. There were lots of PBs.
- Kiwi is in a growth phase at present which shows that there is a strong need to continue providing L2S opportunities for Dunedin's younger population.

Milton

Neptune:

Port Chalmers:

- The 2012/2013 season saw us starting with new volunteer coaches and a number of new members. The majority of our families from the previous season have also returned.
- We finished the season with 101 financial members, this number is made up of swimmers, coaches, committee members and our live members.
- A huge thank you to James and Catherine Flanagan for sponsoring our Club which enable us to obtain a grant from the Foodstuffs Community Trust. We now have the Port Chalmers New World as our major sponsor and were able to display the store banner at poolside during the season.
- We had our annual tryathlon in February of this year which is still our main fundraiser and scratchie boards were introduced to sell as additional fundraising.
- As a Club we approached funding agencies for assistance with equipment and am pleased to report we were successful with one of them and have been able to replace our ageing stop watches. We now have a brand new set of 18 fully functional and shiny stop watches.
- The Club saw an increase in our Competitive Squad members and over the season they have swum remarkably well for our Club. While not all competitions resulted in qualifying for finals, for the most part all swimmers attained personal best times at these meets.
- We had one swimmer represent the Club at South Island Country and Town in Timaru while another two competed at the Junior Championships in Wellington.
- Overall our coaches have been kept busy with all their swimmers starting at our beginners and going through to our more experienced competitors. All of our swimmers have made big improvements and we hope they enjoyed themselves while learning new skills.
- We are losing one of our young men to Neptune so he can further his swimming career. We would like to wish Griffin Hill all the best for his future and remember "If you kick your feet, you will swim faster".

- Thank you to everyone for their continued support in keeping our Club operating and we look forward to seeing you all back for 2013/2014 season.

Queenstown:

- Queenstown Swimming Club is busy organising our up and coming meet – ‘Early Bird’ to be held 5th October 2013. We are also planning on hosting our new meet once again named ‘Final Countdown’, providing swimmers with last chance qualifying swims before Nationals - ‘date TBC’.
- Our competitive team did well at Neptune in Dunedin recently and our senior swimmers are training hard for South Island Champs and SC Nags.
- We have been working hard to find our new coach and we have been lucky to have interim coaches step in to keep our swimmers in the pool while this process is underway. A big thanks goes to those parents that have stepped up to undertake this interim role.

Taieri:

- The Coastal Development Carnival meet was hosted by the Taieri club on the 9 March 2013. Even though the numbers were small the young swimmers were a delight to watch. Eleven swimmers represented our club with a few swimmers turning down the opportunity to compete as they are not interested in competing at a swim meet.
- Club Champs were held on the 12-13 March, each coach tried to encourage their swimmers to give them a go but we still DQ lightly to make it fair.
- We run our end of season break ups in two sessions, Beginners and Improvers plus Development swimmers on one night and the squad on another. It has been commented on that we should have the prizegivings together so the upcoming swimmers can see the squad swimmers receiving their trophies. The timing is the worry with this idea of having everyone together as little children don’t want to sit quietly and listen for over 45 mins; they just want their certificate and sausage and play in the pool. The Taieri club will restart in September when the Mosgiel pool reopens.
- The Taieri club had good numbers with their swimmers wanting to represent their schools in the Otago Primary and Secondary Schools Champs in March.
- In April we had Vicki Clarke represent the club in the NZ Division 2 Championships. Gaining a very pleasing result with Gold in the Female 15 years 200 Fly and Bronze in the 100 Fly. Great job!
- Vicki Clarke also broke a long standing Taieri record for the Female 15 years and under 100 back which was set by Sharon Hanley in 1989. This record was set at the Neptune meet at Queen’s Birthday weekend where the Taieri club had 3 swimmers attend.
- On the 20 May the Taieri Swimming Club held their 78th Annual General meeting, we were very pleased to have 18 attend and 5 Apologies. The election of office bearers positions were all filled which was very pleasing, compared to last year’s result. We have a committee of 9 and one more wanting to re-join at our next meeting. At the AGM we confirmed the Taieri swimming Club awards. Honours & Service awards were given to the following people at our end of season break up. Fiona Shea, Mandy Grainger, Laurence Simpson, David Sawtell. Service awards to Sheryl-Ann Newman, Rod Grant, Fraser Robertson, and Peter Bylsma.
- Winter Swimming we are delighted that the Zenith Club has allowed us to have a lane on Thursday evening during their club night. This year we had club swimmers asking us earlier on this year if they could put their name down for winter training, this was good to see. I made the call to take everyone that asked to train in winter on. I know this makes 10 in a lane very tight! But during winter not everyone comes each week and I believe to have sometime in the water is better than none.

Wanaka:

- Well the competitive season has come to an end, and things are certainly quieter in the pool.
- A number of our swimmers reduce their sessions over the winter to enable them to participate in the winter sports available. This means smaller sessions, with lots of focus on technique and plenty of lengths of the pool.
- We have had a great competitive season, with the club picking up its first national title for many years, so congratulations to Sophie Fairbairn for this great achievement.
- We have had many of our competitive swimmers attend national meets, most achieved PB's and came home smiling. So well done swimmers, and keep up the good work.
- We employed a second coach this season, to enable Fi to focus on the competitive swimmers. Merryn Johnstone has been a very welcome addition to our club and the young swimmers have flourished under her guidance.
- The fitness group continues to grow, and we are getting increasing numbers of junior triathletes wanting to join the squad to improve their swimming. Our main problem is lane space, as we are only able to get a certain number of lanes, which then restricts the number of swimmers per session. We have now got to the stage where we have a waiting list of children wanting to join the squad, but we can't accommodate them in the pool. This is very frustrating when you have to turn enthusiastic children down due to lack of lane space.
- Oh to have a new pool, with a separate learners pool.
- Fundraising has been ongoing through the season; we once again helped out with the Kathmandu River Run Series, this fundraiser allows our swimmers to assist, so its not all the parents doing the work. We are constantly looking for ideas and ways to raise funds to enable us to continue to provide the service we provide at an affordable price for families.

Waves:

Zenith:

|| OTAGO CHAMPIONSHIPS

- A discussion was held on some of the options for Otago Championships. Mandy outlined the dates Canterbury were wanting. It was agreed it should be from Wednesday to Sunday morning. It was proposed that the 800m and 1500m could be on the Sunday morning. The programme would be preliminaries in the morning with finals at night. The 12 and under's to held separately over a weekend in the same format as NZ Juniors. Try for early December and to check pool availability. Not in February due to other meets on at this time.

|| SNZ MATTERS

- Mandy Grainger advised members about various matters relating to SNZ. The Board is made of people who are providing governance to the sport and will continue push matters forward. Following Board meetings there is a teleconference with regional Chairs to update then on matters and progress on matters. Swimming Otago has submitted on the draft regional constitution which is on similar lines to the SNZ one. Clubs when reading the draft need to read it in conjunction with the SNZ Constitution. Clubs will be sent the link to the SNZ constitution. Learn to Swim is being retained by SNZ and will operate as a business unit.

In relation to the affiliation fees Mandy advised she had been trying to get some clarification of what defined a competitive swimmer but this was still unresolved. Also some clubs had questioned what level of coach needed to pay the coaches levy and this was being clarified.

|| OTAGO WINTERS

- Otago Winters is set for the 8 September 2013 and covers two sessions. There is a need for a club to take responsibility for coordinating the meet eg meet flyer, entries etc. Kiwi offered to do this meet.

|| WEBSITE

- A question was raised about the maintenance of the website. Members were advised the new website is not far away from operative.

Meeting closed 11.57am

Minutes Endorsed:

Signed: _____ **Date:** _____