

Bushey Amateur Swimming Club
(Affiliated to the ASA East Region & Herts ASA)
Annual General Meeting 2008

Friday, 18th January 2008, 7.30pm at Bushey Manor (JM) School
Grange Road, Bushey

1. Chairman's Opening Remarks

It has been traditional for the President to open the Annual General Meeting (AGM) however on this occasion the Chairman welcomed everyone and opened the meeting with a vote of grateful thanks to the President, Maureen Hine, who is standing down having contributed hugely to Bushey Amateur Swimming Club for over 30 years. As a parent, teacher, gala squad manager and latterly our President she has helped BASC go from strength to strength over some 3 decades. As she could not attend the AGM, the Club will say a personal thank you at a forthcoming event.

As ably demonstrated by Maureen Hine, the President's function is filled by someone who has had long standing connections with the BASC and so it was with great pleasure that the Chairman introduced Wendy Cook who has agreed to stand for President. Again, with over 30 years with the Club firstly as a swimmer from the age of 7, then as poolside helper, Club Captain, Gala Squad Coach, Treasurer and latterly Poolside Manager, Wendy has given a great deal to the Club. Adrian Edwards proposed Wendy Cook as President, this was seconded by Baz Long and unanimously supported.

2. Apologies and Minutes of 2007 AGM

Apologies were received from Maureen Hine.

Last year's Minutes were agreed as a true record, proposed by Richard Henson and seconded by Kevin Binns.

3. Chairman's Report

Paul Scott reviewed the progress made against BASC's targets for 2007.

Membership:

With over 200 members and approximately 70 on the waiting list, BASC remains a strong and vibrant club. There is a shortage of swimmers in the junior age ranges which will be addressed by drawing from the younger element of those waiting. New databases to assist with the management of our classes and numbers and a lot of work from Jon and Janet Wood, for which we are most grateful, have enabled us to keep as many people swimming and progressing through the lessons scheme as possible.

Badges and Awards:

BASC has maintained each of the main badge schemes namely Water Skills, Challenges and Speed Awards throughout the year and they are undoubtedly as popular as ever. In addition BASC has run another successful Personal Survival Course and for the first time a Diving Course. Demand for these was such that both courses will be run again this year. Thanks go to Jane Willis for an excellent programme and to all those who have assisted with assessment or training sessions.

Three Year Plan:

- BASC has boosted the competitive squads and over 100 members swam in galas in 2007 with two Herts Major Squads, a Herts Peanuts League Squad, a Chiltern League Squad, representation at BAGCATS and for the first time in the National Speedo League. Thanks go to

Baz Long, Phil Holpin, Kerry Lockett, Kevin Binns and Adrian Edwards for their efforts with each of the squads as well as to the supporters at galas for all their help.

- BASC has increased the pool time available with an additional session on Wednesdays focussing on the younger swimmers and are continuing to negotiate with other pools and organisations to develop it further. Thanks to Richard Henson as Poolside Manager for keeping us all in the pool and training.
- Having missed promotion last year in the Herts Major League by the narrowest of margins, BASC are already on track for a very strong performance in 2008. Once again thanks to Baz Long and good luck to all swimmers and coaches for 2008.
- BASC has re-developed its social scene with the re-introduction of some old favourites such as the annual Dinner Dance, as well as responding to requests from some of our younger members and adding some new events such as the two highly successful discos. Mid way through the year Jacky Summerfield took on the role as Social Secretary – a particular vote of thanks go to her for organising such a diverse range of activities for all members and supporters.
- Both the updated website and newsletter have helped improve communications within the club. The website is the envy of many local clubs who use our site to support their activities and has just been nominated as Teamopolis's site of the month thanks to the efforts of webmaster Kevin Binns. If members do not yet have logins to the protected areas then they should send an email request to the webmaster. Thanks to Alan Brown's hard work, The "Making Waves" newsletter, has now increased in size, features and circulation not to mention having Club Champs special editions. Greater coverage of BASC's gala performances in local press has been also helped raise our profile in the community. Finally, in addition to the forums on the website or talking to us on poolside there will be a new suggestions box on the reception desk from Sunday for you to provide any ideas and comments.

The progress made in 2007 sets BASC clear targets for the year ahead:

- To achieve Swim 21 status by summer 2008.
- To continue to pursue more pool time.
- To be promoted within the next 2 years.
- To Achieve the 3 year plan
- To build for the future with the youngest members.

Finally of course, thanks go to all of the volunteers that enable BASC to run whether it is as poolside staff, committee members or as officials at our events, they include Derek Swannick who has been a powerhouse in the role of club secretary, welfare officer (and various other posts) and particularly in setting BASC firmly on the road to achieving the ASA Swim 21 accreditation. Also Marilyn Lawless and Kim Waddup who ensure our finances are always healthy. Caroline Clifford and Howard Willis who organise all of our internal competitions. Gillian Wertheim for running the 100 club, Caroline Shermer who manages all our swimmers' kit needs, Richard Jones who is our representative on the county committee, Julie Rose and Lisa Hawes who work ex-officio on the committee and many more who contribute and help out. You are what make the club a success and you are all appreciated by both parents and swimmers alike.

4. Treasurer's Report

Marilyn Lawless advised that the detailed breakdown of the year's finances was provided in the reports pack but that BASC turnover for the year was £41,095 of which there was a surplus of only £18 proving once again that the membership costs go directly into running the Club. The accounts will be audited by Daniel Garcia. As ever pool hire costs and ASA membership charges continue to rise and it

was therefore necessary to request that the AGM approve an increase of the annual membership fees up to a maximum of £35 from next year. This was proposed by Gary Raw, seconded by Richard Henson and carried.

5. New Committee Members

The Chairman presented the following list of Committee posts requiring election with volunteers for each post. Thanks were offered to Daniel Garcia for agreeing to audit the accounts. The list of Committee was agreed, proposed by Janet Wood, seconded by Kevin Binns and there were no objections.

Team Manager	Baz Long
Vice Chairman	Derek Swannick
Secretary/Welfare Officer	Vacant
Treasurer	Marilyn Lawless
Fixtures Secretary	Baz Long
Club Championships	Howard Willis
Development Coordinator	Caroline Holt

[Post Meeting Note: Caroline Holt s volunteered to take on the role as Secretary]

6. Club Captains

Paul Scott thanked the 2007 Club Captains, Philip Lockett and Sophie Lockett and the Vice Captains Ian Dix and Mair Beesley, for their considerable efforts, commitment and contribution during the year and following a good response to the ballot announced the new Captains to be:

Michael Malloy – Club Captain, Peter Ridout – Vice Captain

Lauren Raw – Club Captain, Heather Grant-Davey – Vice Captain

7. Poolside Manager's Report

Richard Henson thanked all of the poolside team of teachers, coaches, squad managers and officials for their contribution during 2007 and welcomed Jennie Brown, Caroline Holt and Phillip Lockett as newly qualified or joining teachers. The recent change in payment process had gone well and was already reaping benefits with new members joining on Sunday and class rotations by the end of January. As a further step to improve our place in the community and to draw in new members it was reported that the Poolside Manager was in discussion with the School Sports Coordinator to develop a Bushey Swimming Festival for pupils from year 5 and 6 from local school. The effort made by parents and carers to transport the members to training and events was recognised and all swimmers were invited to applaud the contribution made.

8. Team Manager's Report

Baz Long commented upon a very competitive 2007 and thanked all swimmers for their efforts. Having provided some background on each of the leagues in which BASC competes and in particular highlighting the strengths of many performances in the Speedo League, criteria for selection were reviewed. While in some leagues in particular, achieving the qualifying times or standards are essential if BASC are to perform at their best, the attendance and commitment demonstrated by swimmers within the Club is key to gaining and keeping a gala squad place. It is not only a function of regularly turning up for sessions but being committed to training and improvement by making the most of the instruction and opportunities provided. Swimmers were all encouraged to continue pushing out the lengths and developing their skills during the week to better their chances of selection for different

events. Finally it was noted that swimmers could only be as good as the training they receive so thanks were extended to all the poolside staff and squad managers.

9. Award Winners

Jane Willis announced the award winners. Awards were presented by the new BASC President, Wendy Cook.