



## CHAIR'S REPORT FOR 2019 AGM TUESDAY 7<sup>TH</sup> JAN 2020.

Thank you all for attending our AGM.

### SWIMMERS SUCCESS

Once again our swimmers have had lots of successes gaining County and Regional times and winning medals. We have Sue Booth and our team of coaches to thank for this success and the hard work and commitment of our swimmers. Well done! We had a great Annual Club gala and congratulate all our younger swimmers on their improvement and our very new members on their enthusiasm. Keep up the good work.

### FINANCES

2019 has been a very difficult year financially. We were informed at the beginning of July by YMCA at our annual price review meeting that as from September 2019 we were not to teach beginners' lessons as our lessons were in direct competition with their lessons.

This along with a very substantial increase in pool hire (£1500) threatened to close us down. However, with the help of our Swim England rep and the new 'Club Skills Awards' recently brought in by Swim England we have managed to survive so far. It will take a few months for a picture to develop showing how successful the new Skills Development Squad which holds their sessions on Tuesdays and Wednesdays evenings have been financially. These sessions have been led by Ian McKean and have proved very popular and have quickly filled up and are proving to fill in a gap between lessons and training. Hopefully these sessions will increase our intake of new swimmers and replace some of the revenue lost by lessons.

### MEMBERSHIP

Our present numbers currently stand at just under 100 swimmers. This is slightly more than this time last year. During 2019 we tried various ways of increasing our membership. However, the 'Club Awards' seem to be increasing some of the membership we lost with lessons,

### RETENTION

Keeping our older members and encouraging them to take the YVP (Young Volunteer Programme) and on to coaching as well as competitive swimming is a challenge. So far the attendance has been good. We hope the involvement of helping with younger swimmers carries on with a view to coaching. Our older swimmers are all very committed and are a valuable resource to the club. We try very hard to keep them in the sport.

Swim Camp is taking place again at Easter 2020. Some of our older committed swimmers who Blackpool Aquatics have invited will be attending. We thank Blackpool Aquatics for these invitations. Once again we thank BA for their input to our club.



### HELP!!!!

As always we need more involvement from parents. We need a Clothing equipment officer. This post doesn't need to be a committee position, but it would be helpful if the person is able to attend the club regularly to sell and order kit. We thank Sarah Clegg for taking on this job for the last few years and also being a committee member for many years. She is now moving on as her family are grown up.

We would also welcome a parent or committee member to organise a couple of fund raising events per year. Last year it was a very last minute bingo session arranged and run by a few of us and although very well attended and raising £600 was extremely hard work for those of us who took it on along with our other swimming club commitments. Hopefully this year someone will come forward and form a sub-committee to organise a couple of events as unfortunately if not they won't happen. I don't know how we can encourage parents to join in with organising fund raising events, we have tried many ways. It is not the helping out with events that takes the time and which quite a lot of people are happy to do, but the organising. We desperately need someone to fill this gap and keep fees down.

### NEW OFFECERS

We welcome our two new welfare officers, Gaynor Arnold and Anna Beesley and thank them for taking on this very important role .Also for their sins they have signed up to be judges!

### WEBSITE

We now have a new web site. There is lots more information regarding galas. Please browse our web site which is regularly updated . Please read the monthly newsletter, 'Dive IN' which is sent every month by email,. It contains up to date information regarding sessions and news. Also look at the notice board at the pool. There are often very new items or items which you can read while waiting for your swimmer to get dressed! Help us to keep you informed!

### FUTURE

I look forward to a new year with the club. Hopefully it will not be as dramatic as the last year. However, the fickle finger of fate always seems to find us a problem, every year is a challenge .

### THANK YOU

A very big thanks to all our committee and others who help but are not committee members, who take time and have the commitment to run the club for our children. We wouldn't have a club if it wasn't for all of you. The more helpers we have the more we can do!

Thank you

### HOW YOU CAN VOLUNTEER

Should you wish to help run the club in any way, you don't have to be a committee member to do that. Please contact Sandra McKean or Sue Roome or any other committee member. Just ask, we are always at the pool !