



MINUTES
8th ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND FORUM
SWIMMING METRO NORTH EAST INC
1st June 2017
BELROSE BOWLING CLUB, BELROSE

PRESENT

Club Delegates

Ben Ramsden	Abbotsleigh	Amanda Vance	Lane Cove
David Beck	Seahorses	Bronwyn Hewish	Hunters Hill
Lillian Washer	Carlile	Anne Riley	Knox Pymble
Peter Shell	Ravenswood	Ben Ramsden	Abbotsleigh

Visitors

Mark Heathcote	Swimming NSW	Brett Patrick	Carlile
Ariel Darley	Carlile	Cameron Gledhill	Abbotsleigh
Dennis Gorrick	Narrabeen Carlile		
Judy Tier	Abbotsleigh		

Apologies

Graeme Field	Ku-Ring-Gai	Chris Fydler	Abbotsleigh
Sunny Bidner	Freshwater	Matt O'Dar	
Justin Rothwell	Narrabeen	Molly Schaefer	Willoughby
Sarah Koen	Swimming NSW	Carrol Quadrio	

SMNE ANNUAL FORUM

Welcome

The meeting was opened at 7.30 pm by SMNE President, Judy Tier, who welcomed everyone, especially members of the SNSW Board.

Minutes of previous AGM moved by Ben Ramsden, seconded by Peter Shell.

[Note: Full copies of written reports are attached as are the slides presented by each Committee members at the Forum]

President's Report

SMNE has experienced an excellent past 12 months and was in a very good position in every aspect. There has been an increase in membership and many opportunities provided to our

members. Ariel Darley has been appointed as Treasurer and we now have confidence in the Area's financial arrangements and affairs.

Other highlights include that two of the Area's members were selected in the National team to compete at the World Short Course Championships in Canada. Emily Washer and Bobby Hurley. SMNE won the point score at the Speedo Sprint Finals for the first time.

David Beck as our development convenor had put excellent ideas into practice and this has been reflected in the Area's results. He has co-ordinated and developed programmes catering for different squads for development. He has been able to enlist the help of many of our coaches who worked diligently to improve the skills of our swimmers.

Dennis Gorrick as the Convenor of the Competitions Committee has continued to provide the swimmers of our Area with many successful meets. Many records have been broken this year.

Ben Ramsden has achieved excellent results in co-ordinating the training and assessment of officials for our Area. Judy congratulated Ben for gaining his Level 2 Starters accreditation and Peter Shell for achieving his Level 2 Referees accreditation. Ben has been more than ably assisted by Peter in appointing officials and mentoring our volunteers.

A great deal of thanks needs to go to our volunteer officials as they are essential to the success of the competitions and development of our swimmers. The Area continues to support the development and succession planning for officials.

Judy thanked the Management Committee for their support and commitment.

Competition Report

Swimmer numbers have increased by 23% on the previous year. This has resulted in a lengthening of the hours of operation for our meets including the Area Championships that saw the Saturday extend over 5.5 hours and the Sunday for 7 hours. The goal is to make the meets much faster.

The Winter championships achieved a much faster timeline.

Distance time trials were held at PLC on a Sunday. This went well and was well attended. Other meets have been booked at Pymble Ladies College. The venue is not suitable for larger meets.

For example the 13 and under meet will have to be at SOPAC due to size. Its anticipated timeline is 7 hours and we will be aiming to reduce the time line.

Coaches use this meet to start the new season. It is timed to assist clubs with membership renewals.

The dates for the Area's championship meets will be allocated by SNSW.

Speedo Heats will be at PLC.

Dennis noted that the Area had learnt a few things about running a larger meet at PLC that will be used to improve the experience next time.

Spectators reported they felt squashed and had limited room and it was difficult keeping competitors and spectators out of officiating areas.

For the next large meet we will relocate the marshalling area, if the heat outside allows it. Speedo Heats is really the biggest meet the venue can handle.

The results from Speedo finals demonstrated that as the smallest Area SMNE punches above its weight. Our swimmers were very determined and came first for the first time.

SMNE held its inaugural national qualifying meet on 26 February 2017. This meet was designed to give swimmers the opportunity to secure a qualifying time or to improve existing times. There were 108 swimmers with 192 entries. The event will most likely be scheduled again at PLC.

As part of the Winter Championships but in order to reduce the time line at SOPAC the Distance event was held on 7 May. This resulted in a shortened time line of 2.5 hours and reduced each day to 5 hours. There will be continued attempts to shorten the timeline further, however, not at the expense of opportunities for our swimmers. We did experience an increase of 12% in entries.

SMNE's aim is to continue to give as many swimmers as possible a chance.

SMNE will continue to encourage all clubs to run as many meets as they can. Swimmers need QT's and we encourage them to get those times at the club level.

Dates for this coming season are as follows:

17 September 2017	Distance qualifying meet
23 October 2017	13U Summer sprint meet
17/18 November 2017	SMNE Summer championships
11 February 2018	Speedo heats
11 March 2018	Speedo finals

More details can be found in the SMNE Annual Report.

Development Report

David noted he had taken on the role at short notice last year. The big challenge last year was finding pools. The pools have now been locked in for upcoming events so that challenge has been well and truly overcome.

David explained the SNSW Parallel streams of competitors that aims to enable swimmers to move into the elite stream as they develop.

Last year the coaches really did teach objectives and intent of SNSW Parallel Stream. This will continue.

David reported that the coaches did a fantastic job of achieving the mission that they had been set.

The Area attended the A squad programme despite limited numbers. This was the smallest group due to the activity level of these swimmers. The swimmers that went were fantastic and our commitment will continue given what the swimmers got out of participating.

B and C squads experienced 7 swimmers per coach. This was intense training and the kids left knowing what it would be like to participate in an elite swimming squad. The Area did not participate in the swimming NSW meet as we participated at the Willoughby meet due to calendar commitments but they did get to swim as a team.

Achievers squad was very big and the events went very well. Our swimmers did very well at the competition.

The success of the establishment squad is reflected in the fact that almost all the kids have returned and signed up for the upcoming squads.

In summary there were 45 coach days and 166 enrolled swimmers.

David saw no reason for increasing fees. PLC pool is not expensive and well appointed.

Special guests included Kurt Herzog (who stayed all day and was fantastic) and Lynn Elliot ASCATA Vice President for E squad.

David made special mention of John Bladon as David relied on his assistance quite significantly over the year.

A Paypal failure caused significant issues in payments as Paypal did not notify payees of the failure so they had to be manually followed up.

The 2017 programme will be very similar. David will aim to ensure a team like environment. Medium term goal is to take kids away but we need to build up to that.

Cost will be the same. Anticipate there will be an increase due to growth. Will probably need more coaches.

Head coaches have been appointed.

Budget the same. This year agreed to pay the coaches.

Will continue to follow the programme.

Concept of the development squads is that it is an investment.

Technical Report

Firstly Ben started with thanking all volunteers for attending and for the fantastic results. 7000 hours of volunteer time over the year.

It is getting easier to get technical officials but still want to increase the pool of available volunteers to reduce the hours of those participating.

Trying to change the culture to enablement, inclusion and transparency.

He asked for everyone to spread the word so we can get more people involved. He noted the goal of wanting to improve the standard.

Treasurers Report

The Area had experienced some anomalies in the accounts before Ariel was appointed. The accounts are now in order following her forensic analysis and the books are now with the Auditor.

The Auditor has been very helpful with suggesting processes for the future to avoid discrepancies and ensure transparency.

In the future we need to ensure we reinvest back into the swimmers as we continue to make a profit each year.

Affiliation fees are up to date.

The Area is aiming to be as cashless as possible with no entry fees. We are trying to reduce the number of programmes printed and sold and to not have any cash and reduce wastage.

The Area's Balance Sheet is very healthy.

The biggest expense is the pool hire and the Area has been conscious of cost control.

End of forum: 8:50

Questions from the floor

Nil

SMNE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Minutes from 7th Annual General meeting 2 June 2016

The Minutes had been distributed previously to all club secretaries, delegates, SMNE committee members and life members. No adjustments had been requested and there was no business arising from the minutes.

Motion to accept minutes as read was moved by Ben Ramsden; Seconded by Peter Shell, CARRIED.

Presentation of Reports and Financial Statements

President, Competition, Development, Technical and Treasurers Reports

These reports were summarised by the respective convenors during the Forum and contained in the Annual Report.

Special thanks to Ariel who has done a huge job in taking over the financial role.

Move by Ben Ramsden and Seconded by John Bladon: CARRIED

Notice of Motion

There were no Notices of Motion received by member clubs prior to the AGM.

Election of Office Bearers

The President stood down and Mr Mark Heathcote, CEO of SNSW, declared all positions vacant.

President

Mark advised that one nomination from Judy Tier, Abbotsleigh, had been received for President. As there were no other nominations, Judy Tier was duly elected.

Vice President

One nomination from Graeme Field, Kur-Ring-Gai, had been received for Vice President. As there were no other nominations, Graeme Field was duly elected.

Secretary

One nomination from Bronwyn Hewish, Hunters Hill, had been received for Secretary. As there were no other nominations, Bronwyn Hewish was duly elected.

Treasurer

One nomination from Ariel Darley had been received for Treasurer. As there were no other nominations, Ariel Darley was duly elected.

Competitions Secretary

One nomination from Dennis Gorrick had been received for Competitions Secretary.

As there were no other nominations, Dennis Gorrick was duly elected.

Development Convenor

One nomination from David Beck, Seahorses, had been received for Development Convenor. As there were no other nominations, David Beck was duly elected.

Area Technical Swimming Coordinator (ATSC)

One nomination from Ben Ramsden, Abbotsleigh, had been received for the ATSC Coordinator. As there were no other nominations, Ben Ramsden was duly elected.

Three (3) Individual members

Three nominations from Cameron Gledhill, Amanda Vance, Carrol Quadrio, were received for the positions of Individual Members. As there were no other nominations these nominees were duly elected.

Election of Standing Committees

ATSC Committee (3 Members)

Three nominations, Graeme Field, Ku-Ring-Gai, Judy Tier, Abbotsleigh, and Peter Shell, Ravenswood had been received for this committee. As there were no other nominations, Graeme Field, Judy Tier and Peter Shell were duly elected.

Competitions Committee (3 Members)

Two nominations had been received from Justin Rothwell, Narrabeen and Lilian Washer from Narrabeen Carlile. Nomination of Cameron Gledhill was received from the floor and all three were duly elected.

Development and Selection committee (3 members)

No nominations were received for this committee. Cameron Gledhill was elected from the floor and the committee will confirm with Carrol Quadrio and Molly Schaefer as to whether they are willing to be appointed.

Club Affiliation and Meet Entry Fees

As decided at the most recent committee meeting it was proposed that area affiliation fees would remain at \$25 per club and meet entry fees would remain at \$7 for individual entries other than \$10 for distance meets and \$14 for relay teams. The absence of gate entry fees will continue with programmes being downloadable. A small number of copies will be printed for technical officials.

Appointment of Auditor

Mr Ian England, honorary auditor, will be asked to be our auditor again for next year. Moved by Ariel Darley; seconded by Bronwyn Hewish. CARRIED.

Appointment of Patron

Chris Fydler confirmed that he will remain as Patron of SMNE for the coming year. Chris Fydler was nominated for the position.

Message from Mark Heathcote, CEO of SNSW Board

Mark Heathcote addressed the meeting. He said SNSW had experienced a very good result in the last year. He noted the upcoming AGM and welcomed any interest and attendance. Overall SNSW had experienced an increase in membership of 5%. This growth is the second fastest behind WA.

He noted and welcomed the development in aquatic facilities such as PLC, Trinity, Bexley, Parramatta, Hornsby and Tamworth

Mark noted the appointment of a new State Head Coach and other key appointments and presented on their impact. Further appointments will be made shortly.

SNSW is focused on working with coaches towards the Commonwealth Games and Tokyo.

SNSW is working on the design of meets to prevent over subscription.

Mark presented on the Lane Ropes to Leadership forum that involved, engaged and learnt from teenagers. Retention of older swimmers is the key focus.

In the Technical Official area SNSW has been assisted by Ben Ramsden with launches of online training with more to be launched shortly. There have been over 900 candidates taking these courses and an overall increase in Technical Official accreditation.

Safe sport framework has been launched with the protection of children the focus.

There will be an informal catch up before the SNSW AGM with presidents of all areas.

Sarah Keon is organising a small clubs forum in August for SMNE clubs.

General Business

Appointment of MPIO officer - Alex Warwar

Appointment of Communications officer - Amanda Vance.

The meeting closed at 8 pm.