

FENLAND LEAGUE

MINUTES OF FENLAND LEAGUE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING HELD
AT THE HUDSON SPORTS CENTRE, WISBECH ON MONDAY 27th
SEPTEMBER 2010 AT 8.00pm.

PRESENT:

Simon Morris (Bottisham); Richard Holt (City of Cambridge); Pauline Paines (City of Ely); Chris Shaw (Deepings); John Burling (First Strokes); Darren Smith & Zoe Lewis (Grantham); Nigel Prouten & John Richards (Huntingdon); Jamie Richardson (March); Jane Robinson (Mildenhall); Sarah Hook (West Norfolk); Graham Kelly (Wisbech); Roger Adams (Chairman); Glynis Ward (Adjudicator); David Robinson (Secretary & The Saxons).

APOLOGIES:

Guy Dix (Boston); John Rippon (Peterborough).

MINUTES OF THE LAST AGM:

It was proposed by Glynis Ward and seconded by Pauline Paines that the minutes of the previous AGM were correct and the Chairman then signed them.

MATTERS ARISING:

There were no matters arising.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Correspondence from First Strokes (Godmanchester) asking to go on the waiting list for Junior Fenland League has been received.

Correspondence from Boston withdrawing their 'B' Team from the 2011 Junior Fenland League has been received.

Correspondence from West Norfolk withdrawing their 'B' Team from the 2011 Junior Fenland League has been received.

The secretary had contacted First Strokes and they had confirmed they would enter a team for 2011. Their representative, John Burling, was welcomed to the meeting and he said that they would probably host their gala at Whittlesey and would confirm this with the secretary.

This means we would need another club to fill the other vacancy and two clubs were suggested that the secretary could contact and Grantham would look again at the possibility of entering a 'B' Team.

TREASURERS REPORT:

The treasurer presented the report which was accepted by the meeting. A full report attached to these minutes.

The treasurer proposed that the affiliation fees for 2011 should remain at £25.00 for Junior League and £10.00 for Senior League. This proposal was carried unanimously.

CHAIRMANS REPORT:

The chairman presented his report and drew attention to the following extract relating to the fact that Glynis Ward will be standing down as adjudicator.

"Sadly, Glynis has decided, after many years as our Adjudicator, to relinquish that position and I extend my personal thanks and appreciation, and that of the League, for the professional manner in which she has carried out that position. The position as adjudicator isn't easy and demands a great deal of attention to detail particularly in relation to the Junior Fenland League where the compliance with the rules in relation to swimmer registrations/cut off times etc is important to ensure fairness to all clubs and their swimmers and, I have to say, she has done this without fear or favour and ensured that, at the end of the day, the correct result has been the outcome and fairness and integrity has prevailed. Interventions by Glynis when she has checked results haven't always been welcomed by some Clubs and they have made their views known to her in no uncertain terms. This hasn't been particularly helpful but, she has 'stood her ground', to ensure that 'fairness to all' has been maintained. THANK YOU Glynis for your major contribution to the Fenland League and on behalf of the League I extend sincere thanks and wish you well for the future."

The chairman then made a presentation of a rose bowl to Glynis on behalf of the Fenland League and Glynis thanked all for this unexpected surprise and hoped someone would come forward to take on the role.

The full report attached to these minutes.

CHANGE OF RULES:

The secretary had proposed the date of the AGM be changed from "*this to take place each year normally in October/November*" to "*this to take place each year normally in September/October*". This would allow the AGM to be set earlier and give more time for the Junior League finals to be sorted as they were now being swum earlier in October.

The secretary also proposed changing of scoring the first round of the Senior League by treating both first round galas as one and scoring the teams on times from both galas. Therefore if eleven teams were competing the fastest swimmer from the two galas would get eleven points, the next fastest ten points and so on. A table would be drawn up and the second round 'A' Final to be contested by teams in the top 5/6 positions, depending on the number of teams entered, and the 'B' Final by the remaining teams.

Both these proposed rules changes were agreed unanimously.

It was asked what happens when teams tie for a position in an individual race in a gala. The current practice is that in the event of a tie or dead heat all teams concerned will be awarded the highest points for that place and it was agreed this should be included in the written rules.

The rules also need to include clearly how it would be decided which team swam in which final when, after round five, clubs in 5th/6th positions and 10th/11th positions tie on league points and gala points. It was agreed that the number of first and subsequent places will be taken into account. This would also be used to decide the positions in the finals when awarding the trophies for first to fifth places.

The adjustment of points when a four team gala takes place, as agreed at the committee meeting in March 2009, should also be included in the written rules.

ELECTION OF OFFICERS:

Chairman: Roger Adams, proposed Chris Shaw, seconded Richard Holt, all in favour.

Secretary/Treasurer: David Robinson, proposed Nigel Prouten, seconded Simon Morris, all in favour.

Adjudicator: There were no nominations and the secretary agreed to take on the role for 2011.

It was asked if he would still require hard copies of the results. He agreed that he would accept the electronic copies only but they would need to include the relay swimmers names and that the host clubs would need to be alert to any changes made on the night.

DATE OF NEXT AGM:

September/October 2011, actual date to be fixed at the March 2011 committee meeting.

FENLAND LEAGUE

FINANCIAL REPORT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 AUGUST 2010

INCOME

AFFILIATION FEES FOR 2010:
JUNIOR LEAGUE
15 x 25.00 375.00
SENIOR LEAGUE
10 x 10.00 100.00

FINES 40.00

515.00

BALANCE B/F 2008/2009 828 .62

INCOME 2009/2010 515.00

1343.62

EXPENDITURE

ASA EAST REGION AFFILIATION 35.00

FINALIST'S TROPHIES
JUNIOR LEAGUE 2010 140.00

WEBSITE 93.34

HANDBOOKS 20.00

HIRE OF ROOM FOR MEETINGS 30.00

REIMBURSEMENTS TO HOST
CLUBS (CLUBS NOT COMPETING) 40.00

SECRETARY' EXPENSES 60.00

ADJUDICATORS EXPENSES 100.00

518.34

EXPENDITURE 2009/2010 518.34

BALANCE C/F 2010/2011 825.28

1343.62

FENLAND LEAGUE
CHAIRMAN'S REPORT - 2010

Another year has come and gone and brings to an end my 7th year as Chairman of this League. Once again I have to say that the task of being Chairman is not an arduous one as most of the 'real' work is done by other people and, in that respect I sincerely thank our Secretary - Dave Robinson ('Mr Fenland League') and Glynis Ward our Adjudicator for the very effective manner in which they have carried out their roles which has ensured that the League has functioned efficiently over the past 12 months.

Sadly, Glynis has decided, after many years as our Adjudicator, to relinquish that position and I extend my personal thanks and appreciation, and that of the League, for the professional manner in which she has carried out that position. The position as adjudicator isn't easy and demands a great deal of attention to detail particularly in relation to the Junior Fenland League where the compliance with the rules in relation to swimmer registrations/cut off times etc is important to ensure fairness to all clubs and their swimmers and, I have to say, she has done this without fear or favour and ensured that, at the end of the day, the correct result has been the outcome and fairness and integrity has prevailed. Interventions by Glynis when she has checked results haven't always been welcomed by some Clubs and they have made their views known to her in no uncertain terms. This hasn't been particularly helpful but, she has 'stood her ground', to ensure that 'fairness to all' has been maintained. THANK YOU Glynis for your major contribution to the Fenland League and on behalf of the League I extend sincere thanks and wish you well for the future.

With the departure of Glynis the League will need an adjudicator for the forthcoming season and beyond and consequently a volunteer is sought from participating Clubs. This is an important position to ensure that all clubs and their swimmers have a 'fair crack of the whip' and to ensure that the 'fairness' and 'integrity' I have previously referred to is maintained. Without an adjudicator the JFL could become a 'free for all' and that would be unacceptable therefore a replacement, it seems to me, is down to the Clubs to make certain that doesn't become the norm.

My perception over the past 12 months has been that compliance with the rules in relation to the Junior Fenland League in particular has improved and I thank Clubs for their attention to detail with regards to that being the case. I know it isn't easy for volunteers to ensure that 'everything in the garden is rosy' but it wouldn't take much more to ensure that is the case. Please continue with your efforts in this regard and thereby make the position of the new adjudicator less difficult and time consuming.

At the AGM in 2009 we lost Chatteris SC from the Junior Fenland League (JFL) and City of Peterborough SC from the Senior Fenland League (SFL). Fortunately City of Peterborough SC entered a 'B' team in the JFL and Lincoln Pentaca entered the SFL thereby maintaining the status quo for 2010. The Senior Fenland League was completed on 18th September 2010 and I congratulate West Norfolk who won the 'A' Final and Huntingdon who won the 'B' Final quite convincingly. Well done to their swimmers and their coaching and support staff.

I would also like to congratulate City of Peterborough SC, Huntingdon SC, and Mildenhall SC who won the Junior Fenland League Finals in 2009 and to the City of Cambridge SC who were the winners of the Junior Fenland League title. The final of this year's competition takes place on Saturday 16th October 2010 and I wish all those teams taking part the very best of luck.

In conclusion, I would like to thank the Clubs and by that I mean their swimmers, their coaching staff, officials and voluntary helpers who have been instrumental in ensuring that both the Junior and Senior Fenland League Competitions have come to a successful conclusion once again and hope that they have enjoyed their participation and will do so again in the forthcoming year. I take, what might be considered an 'old fashioned point of view' that the Junior Fenland League gives our local and younger swimmers their first opportunity to experience 'competitive swimming' and thereby progress onto Senior Fenland League and beyond and I would like to think that will continue in the foreseeable future.

Roger Adams
Chairman