



Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of The National Arena Swimming League-London
via Zoom on Wednesday, 28th May, 2025

Those present: Marc Barrot(MB) (Camden Swiss Cottage), Chairman, Ian Mackenzie(IM) (Hoddesdon), Treasurer, Sheila Mackenzie(SM) (Hoddesdon), Secretary and Sofia Marcal Whittles(SMW) (Chelsea & Westminster), Elected Member
The following clubs were represented:- Bishops Stortford SC, Camden Swiss Cottage SC, Chelsea & Westminster SC, Greenwich Royals SC, Hackney Anaconda SC, Leighton Buzzard SC, Verulam ASC, Watford SC and Ware SC

The meeting commenced at 7pm,

1. **Apologies for absence** Aylesbury & District SC, Broomfield Park SC, Enfield Swim Squad and Tring ASC.

2. **Approval of the minutes of the meeting held on 29th May, 2024** These were approved.

3. **Matters arising** None

4. **Secretary's report for the year to 31st March, 2025** SM highlighted some points.

The full report is available on the website.

A question was raised, not allowing coaches behind the starting blocks. SM explained the reason for its implementation. A view had been expressed though that younger swimmers and relay swimmers might need support, so for next season a team manager will be allowed behind the starting blocks, but must stand well back, not at the block itself.

5. Financial report

a) Balance sheet as at 31st March, 2025

IM presented the accounts for the year to 31.3.25, and commented on various points.

Bank interest is well down, but £12,000 had been transferred into a fixed-term account for increased interest. This will show in next year's balance sheet. Monthly bank charges are now being incurred. The cost of pool hire has increased. Fines for late withdrawal and donations, together with the increased spectator fee income resulted in a surplus. There was no income from fines for the lack of provision of required officials.

The league finances are in a healthy state.

The accounts were adopted.

b) Contribution towards expenses

There was a proposal for a financial contribution of £500 per team towards the expenses of teams qualifying for a final on the national finals weekend in March 2026. This was agreed.

c) Registration fees 2026-2027

As there was increase in income from spectator fees this year and there were still substantial funds, IM proposed that the 2024 Annual General Meeting agreement for a small percentage increase in registration fees each year was waived for this year.

This was agreed.

The registration fee for 2026-2027 will therefore remain at £160, rising to £200 for late payment.

d) Fines

No increase is necessary this year in fines for non-provision of required officials, or for late withdrawal from the league.

6. National Secretary's report

The National Secretary's report is available on the website.

IM commented on various aspects and advised that Arena, via their UK distributor, Solo Sports, continue to be fully supportive of the League.

Those present were reminded that commencing in this 2025-2026 season, there will be a change of date for the last round. The rounds have always been on the second full weekend of the months of October, November and December, but in order to accommodate the Swim England Winters in December, the final round of the league will be held on the first full weekend of December from December 2025 onwards. Swim England will use the second weekend.

A further change will be that the finals weekend will take place on the first weekend of March 2026 at Sandwell Aquatics Centre, rather than at Cardiff International Pool.

7. The National League - constitution, conditions and changes to the finals weekend

IM explained that new documents for the National League constitution and conditions have been created. This has been done to ensure that all the constituent leagues mirror the National League in their rules and their basic conditions. Each constituent league will take the documents to their Annual General Meeting (AGM) for approval and the secretaries and representatives to the National AGM in June will then vote on them.

The National League constitution and conditions, as presented, were accepted.

All the constituent leagues will also vote on a proposal to change the selection process for the two finals on finals weekend, as well as voting on changes to the names of the finals.

SM explained that the winner and runner-up of each constituent league compete in one the finals. Currently the winner of each constituent league is guaranteed a place in the Cup Final. This has historically resulted in some weaker teams struggling to hold their own in the Cup Final. This is not a good experience for the weaker swimmers and also does not provide for an exciting close-fought gala.

The top six finalists from all the constituent league finals are entered into a virtual gala to provide a League table. The proposal is that the top fastest teams compete in The National Arena Swimming League Cup Final regardless of their constituent league.

The other final - The National Arena Swimming League Team Final/or another title yet to be confirmed - will consist of the next fastest teams in the League table, with the proviso that all the winners and runners-up of each constituent league will be included in one of the finals.

The proposed new basis for the selection of teams for the two finals was accepted.

8. The election of the executive committee to serve for the next 12 months

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| a) Chairman | Marc Barrot (Camden Swiss Cottage) |
| b) Treasurer | Ian Mackenzie (Hoddesdon) |
| c) Secretary | Sheila Mackenzie (Hoddesdon) |
| d) Administration Officer | Kay Grimshaw (Saxon Crown) |
| e) Elected Member | Sofia Marcal Whittles (Chelsea & Westminster) |

9. Election of two delegates to The National Swimming League Annual General Meeting on 22nd June, 2025 via Zoom
Sheila Mackenzie and Sofia Marcal-Whittles were elected as the two delegates to The National Swimming League Annual General Meeting.

10. To confirm the teams in the divisions on Saturdays 11th October, 8th November and 6th December 2025

Minutes subject to approval at the Annual General Meeting 2026

In April, invitations to register were sent to all those teams which competed last year. There has been no response from Berkhamsted, but otherwise registrations are now complete. Three teams - Anaconda, Braintree & Bocking and Dunmow Atlantis - have withdrawn from the league. Ealing and Hackney Anaconda B have joined the league.

Premier division: Brompton and Dunmow Atlantis were promoted to the premier division in December 2024. As Dunmow Atlantis has withdrawn, Colchester, as the next highest placed club in division one in 2024, is also promoted. The premier division will have 16 teams for 2025.

Division one: Anaconda and Saxon Crown were relegated to division one in December 2024, and Barking & Dagenham and Stopsley White were promoted from division two. There were only 15 teams in the division last season, so only one team was relegated, Stevenage - leaving 14 teams. Anaconda and Braintree & Bocking have withdrawn, and Colchester has moved to the premier division, so an extra promotion from division two is necessary to maintain the 14-team division. So Stopsley Red, as the next highest placed team in division two in 2024, move to division one.

Division two: There were 11 teams in the division last season. Stevenage was relegated from division one, three teams are promoted to division one, and Berkhamsted have not registered. Ealing, Hackney Anaconda B and Ware have joined. Therefore the division currently has 11 teams.

11. Draw for round one The draw for round one on Saturday 11th October 2025 was announced.

It was pointed out that Ware had not been included in the draw for division two. SM apologised for this mistake and a new draw for division two will be made to include Ware.

The Chairman closed the meeting, thanking those who had given up their time to attend.