

London Adult Figure Skating Club

Minutes of 2014 AGM, held at Dirty Dick's pub, 202 Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4NR on 25 January 2015

The AGM commenced at 3:20pm on 25 January 2015. The meeting was chaired by Jane Mackenzie ("JM") and the following members of the London Adult Figure Skating Club ("LAFSC") were also present: Kitty Swanson ("KS"), Ian Swanson ("IS"), Stephanie Sundier ("SS"), Marie Gilbert ("MG"), Suzi Hughes ("SH") and Susie Robinson ("SR").

1. Quorum

It was noted that, under the constitution, quorum for a general meeting was the lesser of 20 members or 20% of the members. On the basis that the club has 35 members, quorum was seven members. It was noted that sufficient members were present to constitute a quorum.

2. Approval of minutes of 2014 launch meeting

Copies of the minutes of the January 2014 launch meeting (which were previously made available to members online) were circulated to those present for review.

No questions were raised and a resolution was put to the meeting regarding the approval of these minutes.

Resolution 1: Approval of minutes of 2014 launch meeting

"The minutes of the 2014 launch meeting shall be approved in the form circulated at the 2014 AGM."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

3. Chair's report

JM gave the following report in her capacity as Chair for the 2014 year:

"In its first year the club has grown members, has held two club competitions and several other events. We have also begun promising relationships with some of London's rinks, coaches and judges.

The feedback from the two competitions was excellent from both competitors and coaches. Several participants got their first ever experience of competition, while the rest of us got some much-needed practice at performing in front of judges.

The opportunity to skate at the Natural History Museum rink's VIP opening party was a terrific one – the club seized it and those who came along had a fun time.

The off ice training events have been enjoyable and challenging but so far had very low turn out. It will be worth exploring what members would like, if anything, in this regard.

For the future, the club is in contact with Skate Southern, who organise the big IJS Open at Lee Valley, about supporting them to add adult categories to the event in September. One thing that would help them to do this would be if some of our members were to be available as volunteers on the other days of the event.

With more members (and thus an increased reserve of funds) it should be possible to book more ice time and hold more on-ice events.

The club has affiliated to NISA and is insured under its clubs' policy, which means club competitions can be held without additional permits and won't affect skaters' eligibility. We can also sign people's papers for international interclub/invitationals.

A very big thank you to all of the committee members for all of their hard work during the year, at events, behind-the-scenes and in the discussions we've had to work out how to achieve things for the club.

And many thanks to everyone who has joined and taken part in what the club has done so far."

4. Secretary's report

KS gave the following report in her capacity as Secretary for the 2014 year:

"Committee

The committee for 2014 consisted of the following members: Jane Mackenzie as Chair, Stephanie Sundier as Vice-Chair, Kitty Swanson as Secretary, Louise Stockden as Treasurer, Marie Gilbert as Membership Secretary and Suzi Hughes as Publicity Officer. With the exception of Louise Stockden, all of these members are standing for re-election in their respective posts – if they are elected, this will provide continuity of leadership into the club's second year. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have served as members of the committee in 2014.

Administration

The constitution that was adopted when the club was founded in January 2014 appears to be working well. No amendments have been proposed for consideration at this general meeting.

Membership

Club membership for the first year stands at 35, which we hope will grow through 2015 and beyond. Of those 35 members, 11 are aged 18-30, 15 are aged 31-45, 7 are aged 46-60 and 2 are aged 60+. 31 members have stated that they are interested in singles skating, 14 in ice dance, 5 in pairs and 10 in synchro. The membership fee was £20 for the 2014 year.

The number of people following the club's Facebook page suggests that there are a lot of people interested in increasing skating opportunities for adults – one of the goals of the club over the coming year should be to build on the solid start made in 2014 and aim to convert interest to membership.

Events and 2015 plans

As Jane has already outlined, the club held a number of events during 2014. In general, interest in on-ice events was much higher than interest in off-ice events; also, since many adults are working during the week, there was greater interest in events held on weekend days (with the Summer Skills Competition being better attended than the Winter Skills Competition). This information will be useful to the club in putting together a programme for 2015.

In addition to hoping to build its membership and hold more on-ice events in 2015, the club is also hoping to improve its website and make arrangements for club clothing to be available."

5. **Treasurer's report**

JM gave the following report which had been prepared in conjunction with Louise Stockden ("LS"), the Treasurer for the 2014 year who was unable to attend the meeting:

"The club opened a Community Account with the Co-operative Bank, which has three signatories on the committee, and requires two of those people's signatures to withdraw funds.

The majority of income came from membership fees, then competition entry fees, plus two very helpful £50 sponsorship donations for the summer competition.

The most significant expenses were NISA affiliation/insurance, which will be an annual cost, and ice hire for the two competitions. The other costs of competition are judges' expenses and trophies. The summer competition ran at a small profit to the club (when raffle takings and sponsorship are included) the winter event ran at a loss, due to the higher ice hire cost and fewer entries.

The off ice training sessions ran at a small loss to the club. The social night and Natural History Museum event had no costs.

The club had a total income of £1,481.80 and spent £1,233.25. At year end there is therefore a surplus of £248.55.

Looking forward, having more members will hopefully mean the club has a reserve to pay upfront costs (rather than borrowing from its chair, who has covered such payments this year)."

6. **Certification of the accounts**

IS, as a member of LAFSC who was not a committee member in 2014, confirmed that he had reviewed the 2014 accounts prepared by JM and LS and certified that they were a true and accurate statement of the LAFSC's affairs.

7. **Approval of the 2014 accounts**

Copies of the 2014 accounts for LAFSC were circulated to those present for review.

No questions were raised and a resolution was put to the meeting regarding the approval of these accounts.

Resolution 2: Approval of 2014 accounts

"The 2014 accounts shall be approved in the form circulated at the 2014 AGM."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

8. **Committee elections**

KS noted that the following nominations had been received for the various committee roles:

- (i) Chair – Jane Mackenzie;
- (ii) Secretary – Kitty Swanson;
- (iii) Treasurer – Ian Swanson;
- (iv) Vice Chair – Stephanie Sundier;
- (v) Publicity Officer – Suzi Hughes; and
- (vi) Membership Secretary – Marie Gilbert.

A resolution was put to the meeting regarding the committee for the 2015 year.

Resolution 3: Elections to the committee

"The committee for the 2015 year shall consist of the following six officers:

- (vii) Chair – Jane Mackenzie;
- (viii) Secretary – Kitty Swanson;
- (ix) Treasurer – Ian Swanson;
- (x) Vice Chair – Stephanie Sundier;
- (xi) Publicity Officer – Suzi Hughes; and

(xii) Membership Secretary – Marie Gilbert."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

9. **Appointment of member to certify 2015 accounts**

KS noted that a member of LAFSC who was not on the committee was required to be appointed to certify the 2015 accounts at the next AGM.

SR volunteered to fulfil that role and a resolution was put to the meeting regarding the appointment of SR to this role.

Resolution 4: Appointment of member to certify the 2015 accounts

"Susie Robinson shall be appointed to certify the 2015 accounts."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

10. **Membership fee**

KS proposed that the membership fee for the 2015 year should be £20.00, since that had seemed to work for the 2014 year and was in line with the membership fee charged by other ice skating clubs whose membership was open to adults.

No alternative suggestions were made and a resolution was put to the meeting regarding the membership fee for the 2015 year.

Resolution 5: Membership fee

"For the 2015 calendar year, the fee for membership of LAFSC shall be £20.00."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

11. **Any other business**

There being no other formal business, JM closed the meeting at 4:00pm. Those present subsequently participated in a committee meeting and a discussion regarding LAFSC plans for 2015, which are minuted separately.