

London Adult Figure Skating Club

Minutes of 2023 AGM, held via Zoom on 8 January 2024

The AGM commenced at 8:00pm on 8 January 2024. 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"), Sara Bertie, Linzi Barber, Dawn Hannay and Peter Hambleton ("PH").

1. Quorum

It was noted that, under the constitution, quorum for a general meeting was at least six members, including at least three members of the outgoing committee. On the basis that seven members of the club were present, including six members of the outgoing committee, quorum was satisfied.

2. Approval of minutes of 2022 AGM

Copies of the minutes of the 2022 AGM had been circulated to members in advance of the AGM.

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

Resolution 1: Approval of minutes of 2022 AGM

"The minutes of the 2022 AGM shall be approved in the form circulated prior to the 2023 AGM."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

3. Chair's report

JM presented the following report in her capacity as Chair for the 2023 year:

"In 2023 the club offered both a competition and a seminar at Streatham, building a relationship with the new company running the rink, which we hope will lead to more events there in future.

Both events were attended by newcomers as well as long-standing club members and feedback from those who took part was good. Thanks once again to all the volunteers who help make competitions work.

We were also delighted to take part in the opening event at Glide Battersea, building on our previous relationship with the company that used to run the rink at the Natural History Museum.

The reopening of Lea Valley happened later than hoped and has not yet resulted in us

finding ice availability for events in north London any easier than before, though we remain hopeful of using a bigger variety of rinks next year.

Club members have once again competed locally, nationally and internationally – well done to everyone!

My thanks to all the committee members for all their work in making events happen and to everyone who gave their time over the year to support adult skating in London."

4. **Secretary's report**

KS presented the following report in her capacity as Secretary for the 2023 year:

"Committee

The committee for 2022 consisted of the following members: Jane Mackenzie as Chair, Linzi Barber and Nicola Mckenzie as Vice Chair, Kitty Swanson as Secretary, Ian Swanson as Treasurer, Sara Bertie as Membership Secretary and Dawn Hannay as Publicity Officer. All seven members of the 2023 committee are standing for election to the 2024 committee. I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who served as members of the committee in 2023.

Administration

The constitution has largely been working well – no amendments have been proposed for approval at this AGM. The committee have noted that some amendments to the requirements relating to in person/video-conference committee meetings would benefit from being updated, but this was not proposed in time for amendments to be put forward for approval at this AGM so it is proposed that this is picked up next year.

Membership

The club had 42 members in the 2023 year. This is a reduction in membership from the pre-covid years (65+ members for each of 2017-2019) but similar to 2021 (37 members) and 2022 (46 members). The membership fee was £25.00 for the 2023 year.

Events and 2024 plans

The club held a successful competition and an on-ice seminar in 2023. Access to ice is a continuing problem, especially with increasing costs, but we hope to at least match this number of on-ice events during 2024 as well as exploring options for social and off-ice events."

5. **Treasurer's report**

IS gave the following report in his capacity as Treasurer for the 2023 year:

"2023 saw the club's first increase in the membership fee. This was proposed due to increasing costs, particularly the NISA affiliation fee and the expectation of rises in ice hire fees.

Per-event, ice hire costs were indeed fairly high this year, although it should be noted that they did not exceed the prices which have been charged by Alexandra Palace in previous years. Also, due to limited ice availability, the club only managed to hold two events this year. Together, this meant that ice expenses, while fairly high, were not as bad as might have been feared. The NISA affiliation did rise by 8% this year, following increases in previous years.

Of the two events held by the club, the on-ice seminar was popular with those who attended, but had low attendance. This low attendance was likely to be caused by the short notice and conflicts with other events—both factors which were directly linked to the challenges of booking ice. In this case the committee felt that it was important to try to run the event, and with the higher membership fee income and existing reserves, it was felt that this was a reasonable position. The seminar ran at a significant loss of almost £500, but as mentioned, it was popular with those who could attend.

The Summer Skills competition was much better attended although still ran at a slight loss—compared to previous years where competitions have been slightly profitable, the main difference was the cost of the ice. In the last few years the club has been very lucky with ice costs, even occasionally getting ice for free, or using lower priced rinks. It remains to be seen whether 2024 will show ice costs remaining high or if other rinks will retain lower prices. The accounts show a loss of around £25 for the competition, although this does not include the cost of medals which will appear on next year's figures. With those included, the loss comes to around £75.

Overall, the club finishes the year with an increase of £220 (excluding the medals mentioned above) and a sum total of reserves of around £5000. This puts us in a good position to consider if we want to run larger and potentially more risky events for next year."

6. Certification of the accounts

Jose Cano-Ruiz ("JC-R"), who was appointed at the 2022 AGM as the independent member to review the 2023 accounts, was not able to attend the meeting but had confirmed by email that he had reviewed the 2023 accounts and certified that they were a true and accurate statement of the LAFSC's affairs.

A vote of thanks to JC-R was recorded.

7. Approval of the 2023 accounts

The 2023 accounts for LAFSC were shown on screen to those present.

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

Resolution 2: Approval of 2023 accounts

"The 2023 accounts shall be approved in the form circulated at the 2023 AGM."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

8. Committee elections

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

- (i) Chair – Jane Mackenzie;
- (ii) Vice Chair – Linzi Barber and Nicola Mckenzie;
- (iii) Secretary – Kitty Swanson;
- (iv) Treasurer – Ian Swanson;
- (v) Publicity Officer – Dawn Hannay; and
- (vi) Membership Secretary – Sara Bertie.

A resolution was put to the meeting regarding the committee for the 2024 year.

Resolution 3: Elections to the committee

"The committee for the 2024 year shall consist of the following seven officers:

- (i) Chair – Jane Mackenzie;
- (ii) Vice Chair – Linzi Barber and Nicola Mckenzie;
- (iii) Secretary – Kitty Swanson;
- (iv) Treasurer – Ian Swanson;
- (v) Publicity Officer – Dawn Hannay; and
- (vi) Membership Secretary – Sara Bertie."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

9. Appointment of member to certify 2024 accounts

It was noted that a member of LAFSC who was not on the committee was required to be appointed to certify the 2024 accounts at the next AGM. PH did not feel qualified to undertake this responsibility and, since no other non-committee member was in attendance, it was agreed that the committee would ask JC-R if he would be prepared to undertake this responsibility again for 2024. On the assumption that JC-R would

be prepared to assume this responsibility, a resolution was put to the meeting regarding the appointment of JC-R to this role.

Resolution 4: Appointment of member to certify the 2024 accounts

"If he is willing to do so, Jose Cano-Ruiz shall be appointed to certify the 2024 accounts."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands. If JC-R is not willing to assume this responsibility for the 2024 accounts, the committee will arrange for another member to certify the 2024 accounts in due course.

10. Membership fees

It was noted that two categories of membership fees would need to be considered for 2024, as a result of the introduction of single event group membership in January 2017.

It was proposed that the fee for ordinary adult membership should remain at £25.00, following its increase last year.

It was proposed that the fee for single event group membership should be increased to £50.00, noting that it had not been increased since this category of membership was introduced and that this would be commensurate with the increase in the ordinary adult membership fee last year.

The matter was discussed and a resolution was put to the meeting regarding the membership fees for the 2024 year.

Resolution 5: Membership fees

"For the 2024 calendar year, the fee for ordinary adult membership of LAFSC shall be £25.00.

For specific events during the 2024 calendar year, to be determined by the committee in its sole discretion, the fee for single event group membership of LAFSC shall be £50.00."

The resolution was carried unanimously on a show of hands.

11. Any other business

It was noted that the club's 10th anniversary would fall in 2024 and the club intended to celebrate, including holding a gala (everyone in attendance was keen to hold a gala event).

The committee outlined some of the 2024 proposals for those in attendance who were not on the committee.

PH suggested that the charity to be supported by a gala should be a large charity capable of assisting with promoting the event. It was noted that no discussions had yet been held about which charity would be supported but that the club wanted to be careful with advertising to ensure that spectators were not expecting a professional level show.

There being no other formal business, JM closed the meeting at 8:40pm.