



Oatley Amateur Swimming Club Incorporated No. Y2494114

**Annual General Meeting Minutes
Sunday 31st of October 2021**

11am OASC Club Room, Sandy Beach, Oatley Park NSW

Meeting Opened: 11am by Scott Belcher, Chairman of the meeting.

Minutes Silence: Scott Belcher asked for a minutes silence for our past members.

Apologies:

Jenny Westwood, Steve Westwood, Cathy Gallagher, Barry Gallagher, Arti Alabrandi, Geoff McNamara, Lesley Wylie, Mathew Wylie, Barbara McAneny, John Holborow, Jordyn Burns.

Attendance:

Warren Brown, Scott Belcher, Ken McAneny, Lyn Diblasi, Kerry Maynell, Darryn Lynch, Val Lynch, Fiona Burns, Phil Spencer, Alan Smith, Nick Bloukos, Alison Brancourt, Alan Brancourt, Robin Robertson, Rodger Robertson, Nick Mullen, Susan Geddes, David Ferrier, Anne Ferrier, Anne Wagstaff, Kim Wagstaff, Marcello Diblasi, Lyn Johnson, Rafe Kowron, Jan Sloan, John Klinker, Wayne Lu, Peter DeMeur, Carey Evans and Kym O'Neil.

Minutes:

The minutes of the 2020 Annual General Minutes were emailed, and tabled. Members moved that the minutes are a true record of business arising from the last AGM.

Moved: Alison B

Seconded: Fiona B

Reports:

President's Report: Ken McAneny

Ken McAneny thanked the members for the opportunity to be President for 20yrs. Now celebrating his 70th birthday, Ken has decided it is time to resign from this position, at the same time expressing his desire to stay involved with the running of the club.

Ken is happy with his achievements over the years, and with him liaising with the council, has seen the instillation of the new poles, net and pontoon.

Ken advised that recently the council sent down scuba divers to check and clean the net.

Ken thanked Phill Spencer, Jonny Klinker and Aiden Mitchell for helping him scrub the barnacles, oysters and other growth from the starting board, steps. The lane numbers have been recently painted.

Ken was given a warm well done applause from all club members.

Secretary's Report: Kerry Maynell

Good morning members, it is so good to see you back here, all together again, well and safe.

Firstly I would like to acknowledge the contribution to OASC, of Past Secretary Mathew Wiley in his eight years as Secretary.

I will begin with a few thanks:-

Thank you to the committee for giving me the opportunity to be Secretary and Public Officer.

I would like to thank Barry Gallagher, for his advice on issues new to me, therefore easing me into the position of Secretary and Public Officer.

Thank you to President Ken and Race Secretary Scotty, for proof reading the many documents that were emailed to members especially around this AGM.

Thank you to Fiona Burns, we worked together on the new Safety Plan and QR code, and for her contact with Service NSW.

Your Committee has been busy working in the back ground preparing for return to swimming. During lockdown we did have two meetings over Face Book video chat. Once we were online it was adequate for the time.

As you can imagine I have been very busy, since Mathews resignation:-

You will have noticed I have set up a dedicated email address for Oatley Amateur Swimming Club Inc. Keeping important communications in labels in that email address. This email address will remain in perpetuity for future Secretaries, making hand overs easier. The Safety Plan and QR code is also linked to this email address.

Sadly, Sharyn Cullis is very ill, and Lynn D organised a care package, which Sharyn thankfully received on Friday. It was full of fruit and wild flowers, the things we know she loves. Thanks Lynn.

Please advise me of any contact detail changes.

Please abide by the Covid-19 restrictions advised.

I have an open door policy, if you need anything please don't hesitate to contact me by email.

Treasurer's Report: Warren Brown, Lynn Diblasi

Audited Financial Accounts Reports were distributed to members.

Warren advised that as the interest rate was at 0.4% our Income/earnings were down considerably, and the committee had agreed to make no donations at this time.

Due to the shortened swim program and not being able to partake in our usual social events, expenditure was also down by less than half, to the same period last year.

Race Secretaries report – Scott Belcher

Firstly, I would like to start by saying Thank you.

Thank you to each and every one of you for your support and patience in what was a season like no other. The 20/21 season threw everything at us in one go, the Fires that made life very hard for some of our members, the floods that left pollution in the baths and cancelled swimming week after week.

And who could forget the 1st strain of the Corona Virus that brought with it many new restrictions and changes to the swim club, like we have never seen before. Those changes aside we stayed safe together and have come out the other side a much stronger club for it.

But with the many challenges we have all endured last season there has also been many things that have stayed consistent year after year, and kept me entertained in my role as race secretary:

The excuses you give me every week, the lane you're in or the time you are going off at, wondering why you're in the heat you're in, and of course, who could forget our resident foxes. Which I'm putting a team together to keep an eye on!

But all fun aside, we also had the tightest end to the season's competition with all 3-point scores, the top 3 places only separated by 3 points and had we been able to run our final swim of the season, which I Abstained from giving an opinion on, the lead could have changed a few times during that day alone. Luckily for me we couldn't, so on that note I would now like to congratulate our point score winners and present them with their prize. A brand-new car!

Please put your hands together for our lady's winner Kerry Maynell.

Our junior winner Aiden Mullen.

The men's winner Myself (Scott Belcher).

One more thing, if you could help out by coming down to race a little earlier so I can get started on time.

If you're going to be a bit late, let us know and I'll add you to the list.

So, now let's start the 2021/22 season on a high and make it the best season yet.

All reports presented, were applauded by members.

Proposed Amendment to Club By-Laws

See attached two by-laws, the two proposed by-laws were distributed by email.

Proposed By-Law: Timing Device :

Scott B read the proposed by-law, and the reasons for the proposal.

We will have three vote options
Agree, Disagree, Abstain

With a show of hands those in favour: unanimous
With a show of hands those against:
Those abstaining:

This By-Law has been passed by a **unanimous** vote.

Proposed By-Law: Prohibition of Members Dogs:

Scott B read the proposed by-law, and the reasons for presenting this by-law being:

“Committee has considered our duty of care, in managing and mitigating safety risks to members and the public, and to limit the clubs legal liability.
During race meetings the boardwalk and race assembly areas are used as a thoroughfare for competitors and park visitors (family and children) who should be allowed to move freely.
Allowing members to bring pets to race meetings would present safety risks to members and visitors.”

Jan Sloan advised that she thought the committee were being personal in proposing this by-law, and that it was directed at a past club member.

An extensive discussion ensued:

Jan was assured by committee, that in the past, members and the public had been bitten by a members dog, necessitating this by-law for the safety of all, going into the future.

We will have three vote options:
Agree, Disagree, Abstain

With a show of hands those in favour: Majority
With a show of hands those against: 4
Those abstaining: nil

This By-Law has been passed by **Majority** vote.

Election of Office Bearers:

We will now have election of office bearers.

This committee will now stand down, all positions are declared vacant
The Committee has asked Rodger Robertson to be Returning Officer.

Returning Officer- Rodger Robertson

Rodger commented that it wouldn't be an AGM if there weren't varying and opposing opinions put forward.

Rodger advised, good processes were now in place with our new Constitution and By-Laws, ensuring the smooth running of OASC.

With these processes in place Rodger was pleased to be handed completed, signed and accepted:

“Nomination Forms for Office Bearers or Ordinary Committee Member”

The Committee is to consist of:

The office bearers:

The President, Two Vice-Presidents, Secretary, Treasurer and Race Secretary.

And 3 Ordinary Committee Members.

President: Scott Belcher

Vice President: Val Lynch

Vice President: Ken McAneny

Secretary: Kerry Maynell

Treasurer: Lynn Dibiasi

Ordinary Committee: Fiona Burns

Ordinary Committee: David Ferrier

Ordinary Committee: Darren Lynch

The new Committee took office, to warm applause from all members.

President Scott Belcher thanked past President Ken M for his contribution to OASC over the preceding 20 years. He presided over the new constitution which has brought the club up to date with current legislation and practices.

He liaised with council for the acquisition of new nets, poles and the pontoon. The club is in a strong position with a growing membership under your watch and you should be applauded for that.

Scott thanked past Secretary Mathew Wylie for his work on the constitution and other duties over the last 8 years as Secretary and Public Officer. Thank you for taking on this position year after year.

Scott congratulated Kerry M for taking on the position as Secretary and Public Officer, and her hard work leading up to the AGM.

Scott thanked the quiet achievers who every swim meet put the lanes in, set the buoys, cooked the BBQ, refill the gas bottle. Stacking and retrieving the baskets of lane ropes from the club room. Set up the tables and gear and pack up at the end of the day.

Thank you to girls and guys involved with the catering, all supplies need to be bought and ferried down to the club house, special mention to Val and Fiona.

Scott congratulated Fiona B on her new appointment on the committee, and her roll being assistant secretary to Kerry, social media, and welfare officer.

Other Roles in OASC:

Social Coordinator Report: Jenny Westwood - Season 2020/2021

Sadly COVID-19 put the skids on much of our socializing for the last season. Due to restrictions we had no BBQ in the first half of the season and only two in the second half. We had an impromptu sausage sizzle on a cold and wet swimming day on the 14th March and a simplified BBQ for our closing party on 18th April.

As usual there was no shortage of helpers on the BBQ days but special thanks go to Kerry, Fiona and Val for extra efforts with shopping and delivery of items to the club house prior to each BBQ day as well as organizing some snacks for some swims in place of the cancelled BBQs.

This season we will still be faced with some restrictions and BBQs could be a bit different to allow for these and may be dictated by allowed numbers so RSVPs will be important.

Looking forward to the new season of swimming and socializing!

Jenny

Chook Race Co-ordinator:

Lyn Johnson and Martin Johnson after many years running this fun event (so many years Lyn couldn't remember), have decided to step down from this position. Many thanks to Lyn and Martin.

Alison and Alan Brancourt have volunteered to be our new Chook Race Co-ordinators. Warm applause for both parties.

Tide and Race Schedule Co-ordinators: Susan Geddes & Nick Mullen

Susan and Nick are happy to continue in this position.

Susan presented an A3 size copy of the Race program, which will be displayed in the window of the club room.

Trophy Points:-

Membership Fees:-

Members agreed to keep Trophy points and Membership fees as is – see by-laws.

Any Other Business

Any business from the floor?

- Kym and Anne Wagstaff were approached by Matt Allison an Oatley resident who requested the following:

“He was talking to Michelle Davidson who lives in Burke St Oatley and relies on a wheelchair to get around. She would love to swim regularly at Sandy Beach in Oatley Park but she (and any other wheelchair confined person) needs a broad tyre chair and (saltwater proof too) to enable her to access the water at high tide. If she was to become a member of the Swimming Club is this something that could be organised.”

Kym advised he had done some research on this, the price range is \$2000-\$8000.

A discussion ensued where, members offered some advice, questions were asked as to: the persons swimming ability, were there carers to assist? etc. The answers to these questions were unknown. Carey E advised she has a friend who manufactures products and was happy to contact him and approach Michelle D.

The committee had been advised prior to the AGM, of this request, and had considerable discussions and were able do some research. However it was decided unanimously that:

Though we promote and encourage swimming, the club is run by volunteers, and this request was beyond the resource's available to OASC. Storage would not be available, the club room is full when all the gear is packed away, and the risk/liability of an accident is a huge factor to consider.

The committee suggested that as this is council property, and there is an access ramp in place, that this person would be better served to approach council. The council have the resources, "paid" manpower, Occupational Health and Safety officers, the lawyers, the Risk Assessment Officials and specific insurance policies in place.

- Treasurer Lynn D announced she would set up an, Online Working Account with the bank, this will be used for large purchases. Ensuring the committee are reimbursed in a timely manner. Members approved.
- Nick B asked would a roster be a good idea for BBQ days etc. Scott B advised there are always people that do help. Nick B also reminded members that all positions were on a voluntary basis, and if a member had an issue to please approach volunteers in a respectful manner. Nick B announced he is happy to take photos, date to be confirmed, each member requested to wear a blue shirt, to produce the best photo.
- Alison B asked if OASC were still donating swimming encouragement awards to the three local public schools. Mortdale, Oatley West and Oatley. Oatley West had their carnival, Rodger R was going to enquiry as to whether Oatley had their carnival this year. Four trophy's were generally donated to each school. Two encouragement awards, 1 girls, 1 boy. Two Championship awards 1 girl, 1 boy. It was suggested a voucher from a sport store eg Rebel would be appreciated more so than an actual trophy.
- Phil Spencer requested more help needed, placing the new buoys and collecting after swims, a new trolley has been purchased to assist with this.

Meeting Closed by President Scott Belcher:

12.06pm

President
Scott Belcher

Secretary, Public Officer
Kerry Maynell