

CHAIR REPORT & COMMITTEE REPORT SUMMARY

RUNNYMEDE SWIMMING CLUB AGM FRIDAY 15th Oct 2021

Since the last AGM the club and all those involved have been through a unique and challenging experience.

The club is now in recovery from a financial perspective and in terms of swimmers. Our coaches Steve & Julia had given the club notice of their intended retirement, thankfully, they agreed to stay on to help the club recover. Julia will be making a soft exit from the end of this month, still offering support to our younger coaches. We are extremely grateful to Julia and thank her for her massive contribution to the clubs past success and her continued support.

We continue to rely on our willing volunteers and the club is conscious that a majority of the burden of day to day administration of the club is handled by 3 particular volunteers, the Treasurer Jacquie Owen, the Secretary Neil Read and myself the Chair.

We are grateful to all our volunteers (**Committee positions in bold**):

Jacqui Owen – Treasurer

Neil Read - Club Secretary

Amanda Easter - Chair

Vacancy– Competitions Secretary

Nicola Morley – Membership Secretary

Sarah Jones - Media/ Press Officer, eNewsletters & Trophies Manager

Vacancy - Swim 21 Coordinator

Chris Pagan - Website and email account admin

Russell Pagan - Disability Officer

Vacancy (currently covered by Andy Rouyer- Brown and supported by Cheryl Ellis) - Welfare Officer

Sam Baker - Jack Petchey Awards

Vacancy - Social Secretary

Alex Comber - Officials Coordinator

Darren Easter - Health & Safety

Cheryl Ellis - Schools Co-ordinator and Swim School Manager

Carolyn Read - Swim Shop

All the volunteers give up their free time juggling their own family/home life and demanding fulltime jobs, I am sure you can appreciate the demands are high of a small group of people. The RSC coaching and lifeguarding teams rely on the organisation and resilience of the volunteers to maintain the club from an administrative perspective. We are always looking for more volunteers to spread the load.

In the past, we have had a core group of parents always willing to lend a hand and we do need to build on that so please speak to a member of the committee if you can help or are interested in a specific position:

Steve Winnell remains at the helm of the RSC team, supported by Julia Winnell as development coach as well as Andy Rouyer-Brown, Dina Day and Amy Rose. Steve continues to work tirelessly for the club to build our numbers back up and engage our swimmers to get them back in the right mindset and fitness levels.

We are actively looking for permanent replacements for both Steve and Julia; this is proving challenging in the current climate. We need your support to keep the swimmers engaged and working hard for the coaches now more than ever.

The club is run for the community and we are invested in developing young people not only as swimmers but in preparing them for life outside of the club. Whilst the last 18 months have meant that the way we interact with each other has changed we must try to get back to the family ethos and self-discipline ways that have always been at the heart of the core values of the club. It is good to see parents starting to get back to watching the swimmers and encouraging them to attend all sessions **including early mornings!!**

The club operates on a not for profit basis which obviously brings challenges when additional expenses arise, prompt and regular payment of fees is vital for the club's continued success. Social events have been off the table for some time but we are pleased to start bringing these back, the next being a visit to Mulligans in November.

We are privileged to have a swim school aligned to the club with Cheryl Ellis as the appointed manager. Cheryl also assists the committee on many matters. In past years the swim school has been a source of much needed additional funding for the club, like everything this has been impacted in the last 18 months. Thankfully, under Cheryl's management the swim school is also getting back on its feet and numbers are rapidly returning to normal, which will ensure we have younger swimmers coming through to the club.

We are looking forward to a positive year.