

Minutes of Annual General Meeting of Seaside Pirates Incorporated

Held at Terrey Hills Swimming Centre, 31 Myoora Road, Terrey Hills

Sunday March 6, 2016

Attendees: Jane Noake, Paul Slater, Sandra Rogers, Mark Patterson, Graham Hill, John Stroud, Cathy Codling and Richard Vander Reyden.

1 Welcome and Opening of Meeting

The President welcomed members and opened the meeting at 10am. She thanked members present for their attendance.

2 Apologies

Jodie Burke, Sandi Rigby, Richard Burchfield, Heidi Roche and Emma Rogers

3 Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting Held in March 2015

The Minutes of the previous Annual General Meeting held in March 2015 noted that there was an error in the 1st paragraph of the 2nd page – change year from 2013 to 2014. The minutes were then confirmed as correct. The minutes were proposed by Cathy Codling and seconded by John Stroud.

4 Matters Arising and Action Items

None.

5 Reports

President's Report

Our first event for 2015 was our “now annual swim” from Shelly to Manly and back on Sunday afternoon January 18th. There was a little trepidation to enter the water as there had been a shark sighting off Manly about 30 minutes before our scheduled start, but we all made it there and back before enjoying a picnic on the beach.

4 Pirate ladies entered the Great Australian swim on Australia Day from the Man O War steps at the opera house and Sandra was second in her age group accepting her medal (in the rain) from Ky Hurst. This is a fun swim and we hope to have a few more Pirates in 2016.

This was the day after the first BPS meet of the year- Campbelltown where 4 Pirates started off the year very slowly.

Myall Masters held their second annual BPS meet in February and there were a couple more Pirates than at Campbelltown. It's a lovely friendly country carnival, well worth the trip to Tea Gardens.

Our club AGM was held on 22nd February when we said goodbye and thankyou to Barry Thomas who has put many years of work into our website and facebook. We awarded the Swimmer achievement award to John Bates for his achievements at the World championships in Montreal and we awarded Richard Vander Reyden the Club member of the year.

Pirate Milton headed over to the US to work for 6 months in February and we missed his smiling face as well as his crooked turns during 2015. We are so pleased to see him back in the water again.

The State Championships at SOPAC in March was our first targeted meet for 2015 and we had 33 Pirates join us for that weekend. John Bates excelled with National records in the 50m fly (twice) and a branch record in the 100m freestyle. John was also awarded the Peter Gilmour trophy for the best butterfly swim relative to the current records. After a very exciting two days of racing Pirates were placed second behind Manly.

The National Championships were held in Hobart and we had a team of 11 enjoy the sites of Hobart and the camaraderie of the National swim. We started our trip with a visit to the Cadbury factory on the afternoon before the championships which loaded us up with chocolates for our reward after our swims. We enjoyed many dinners out and about in Hobart. We celebrated Rachel's birthday, we enjoyed a night with Mark Scullard's family and sometimes we were joined by friends from other clubs. When you go away as a club it is a great time to socialise and enjoy the company of each other and meet new friends. Oh and yes, we did do some swimming and there were some fantastic results. We were placed 11th overall, which is a great effort with so few swimmers and Sandra won her age group, but there were many medals brought home to Sydney and it was a great effort from the entire team.

In May Rachel stepped down from coaching Pirates after many years of service to our club. We thank her for her many hours of coaching and advice. Sometimes coaching can be a thankless task but we all appreciate the effort that Rachel has put into our club.

The Griffith weekend was our first 40th birthday event and Graham, Jane and Jodie represented Pirates at that weekend. Graham got involved in the coaching afternoon (by accident) and we are so glad he did, it was an excellent afternoon and many people were so thankful of his patience and knowledge- he even featured in the local newspaper the next week. On Sunday morning we had a short swim meet to show the locals how we run our meets and it was enjoyed by all. The Griffith club has grown in numbers since that weekend.

The Relay meet was our next big event and we had 37 Pirates represent us at SOPAC for a great day of fun and racing. North Sydney won the meet by a mere 30 points from a gallant Pirate team and Tattersalls took the average pointscore trophy. It was a great day and we welcomed some Pirates to their first meet with the club.

The Pirates meet followed two weeks later at the Knox pool and was our largest Pirate meet in recent times. Seems we may have got the formula right and people enjoy swimming at the great Knox pool. It was a very successful meet with every Pirate helping out in some way- a wonderful club effort- thankyou everyone. Congratulations to Clary Munns from Blacktown who set a world record in the 200m IM at our meet.

The State Long Distance championships were also held at Knox in August and a very small but enthusiastic Pirate team competed, coming a very close second to Tuggeranong. Congratulations to Sandra on setting a branch record in the 400m butterfly at this meet and well done to our small team of distance swimmers.

This year was Masters swimming 40th year and we celebrated many times but officially with a state dinner on September 12th at the Ryde Eastwood leagues club. It was a memorable night with a speech by Gary Stutsel, a founding member of our organisation and lots of fun and memories. There were quite a few members from the early years as well as many current members. It was truly a special night for all who attended.

The State Short course meet was held at the AIS in Canberra in October and we had a team of 15 swimmers attend. We had a great weekend away, a lovely team dinner on Saturday night (with guests) and some great swimming by the team. We placed 4th on the weekend behind Tuggeranong, Blacktown and Manly. I would like to thank all the Pirates who have officiated on pool deck during the year at all the State meets. There are always a large number of Pirates officiating or working behind the scenes and I really appreciate your support. Swim meets cannot be run without officials and we certainly do our fair share- once again thank you for all your help and commitment.

Staffan stepped down as a Pirate coach late in the year after a number of years coaching. Thanks so much to Staffan for giving us so much help and encouragement in his role as coach. Staffan started a few years ago as a stand in coach when he had a back injury but stayed on pool deck for a long time. He has much to give and we all appreciate his efforts.

Unfortunately due to (very) wet weather our annual picnic in November was cancelled. It continued to rain the following 3 weekends so I suspect our picnic was never meant to happen in 2015. We will try again in 2016.

Very late in the year we lost our oldest Pirate Kevin Vickery who had only recently gone into full time care. Our thoughts are with Elvera and their families and remember Kevin not only for his swimming but also the great stories he used to tell us when we went away for National swim meets.

The year was wrapped up with the 100x100's on December 27th at Knox. In 2015 there were many new faces from other clubs and it is now becoming very much a multi club swim and heaps of fun. Well done to everyone who swam, whether they completed the 10 km or whatever distance they reached- it was a great morning.

My thanks to everyone in our club who has made a difference this year- the coaches, the committee, the technical officials and my club mates. Pirates is an awesome club to be part of and I look forward to a successful and fulfilling 2016.

Treasurer's Report

Overall the Club's net worth was reduced by \$1,792.08 during the course of the year. Under the cash accounting principles that we use, we actually finished almost \$2,000 ahead. However, payments of \$3,700 for pool hire were due and should be acknowledged. The deposit account had reduced by almost \$4,000 over the course of the year with some transfers to the cheque account needed to cover large bills from the WAC. The net worth of the Club at the close of the year was \$14,639.46, split almost exactly between the cheque and deposit account.

Spending on carnivals, without the Club's own, produced a loss of \$1,933, of which \$500 was for entries on behalf of the coaches and the rest being relay entries for the State carnivals. Once again the Club funded all the entries for the State Relay carnival at a cost of \$925.

The Seaside Pirates own carnival realised a profit of \$3457.70. The raffle realised \$1,280 and the tea and goodies made \$326.80. Thanks again to the Wensing family for the catering, Emma Rogers for supplying the highly desirable raffle prize, and to all the members who worked hard selling the tickets.

The Club provided subsidies for food at the Basin event and Shelley Beach swim as well as funding dinners for the team swimming at the National Championships. The cost of these came to \$619.

There was very little activity in merchandise this year. The Club arranged T-shirts for members to purchase and these were popular. Otherwise the sales were caps and a single fleece from stock. The merchandise made a profit of \$331.31.

The largest drain on Club finances last year has again been the cost of pool hire. Overall, the cost of hire and members' session fees cost the Club about \$16,900. This was offset by pool entry and pre-paid income of about \$14,400. The Club's training sessions therefore cost the Club \$2,500.

The Committee discussed several ways of changing the swim fees but in the end decided that having members pay the entry at Warringah and reducing the Club's fee to \$5 would provide some relief to the Club's finances and help sustain the low level of our charges compared to other clubs.

The WAC offers multi-entry passes that offer reasonable savings and the Club still offers a pre-paid monthly charge of \$70 that will save money for regular swimmers. Members are encouraged to take up these money saving deals.

At the last meeting of the present Committee it was agreed to terminate the deposit account held at ING and explore alternatives. For several reasons the ING account is administered through Biff's personal account and this should now be changed. The Treasurer next year will be seeking an alternative to the ING account.

The Club is very healthy financially. There is still a downward trend in the Club's net worth over time but it is a slow decline and we are in the happy position of having a very healthy bank balance.

Club Captain's Report

The NSW Masters Long Course was held at Homebush on 20th March with the Pirates coming 2nd behind Manly. We had 31 swimmers competing and age Champions were Emma Rogers, Cathy Codling and Peter Kerr.

Nationals were held in Tasmania in April and Pirates came 11th overall. The Pirates had 12 swimmers competing with one age group winner, Sandra Rogers.

The relay meet was held on 19th July at Homebush in which we had good turn out of Pirates. Pirates came second overall behind North Sydney.

The Pirates own meet went very well. It was held on the 2nd August at Knox Pool with Pirates winning the points score. We had 32 members swim on the day with many helping run the carnival as well. The meet was also successful financially for the club and thanks to all the members who helped achieve this.

NSW Masters Long Distance Championships were held on 23rd Aug at Knox Pool with Pirates came 2nd behind Tuggeranong. We had 7 swimmers competing with 2 age group winners – Sandra Rogers and Sandi Rigby.

NSW Masters State Short Course champs held on 17th October at the AIS pool in Canberra and Pirates came 4th overall. We had 13 swimmers competing with 1 age group winner – Heidi Roche.

Individual Records

State Records:

- Sandra Rogers 400 Fly
- John Bates 100 Free
- Mark Patterson 800 Free

National Records:

- John Bates 50 fly (broke record twice)

Relay Records:

National Records:

4 x 100 IM – Emma Bartley, Dayle McMillan, Emma Rogers and Amanda Rose

Coaching Coordinator's Report

To be forwarded shortly.

Web Master's Report

We have 3 primary communication methods:

- Email: Jane uses this method for advice of swim meets, training, etc. A couple of mailing lists were setup during the year to enable other committee members to email the other committee members and all members easier.

- Facebook: "Events" drive views on our facebook, during the year there were 5 events which created significant interest, these were Nationals in April, Relay meet in June, Pirates meet in August, State Champs in October and the 100x100s in December. Nationals created reach of 770 each day of the week and the 100x100s was 2300.

The tagging of people in pictures generates a lot more interest than just text or sharing other posts.

The number of people who liked our page grew from 129 to 159 during the year. Like demographics:

153 from Australia primarily in Sydney

54% female: 13-24 - 3%, 25-35 - 11%, 35-44 - 11%, 45-54 - 23%, 55+ - 8%

44% male: 13-24 - 1%, 25-35 - 5%, 35-44 - 13%, 45-54 - 12%, 55+ - 13%

2%

We are reaching and engaging more women than men (61/39%), with similar age breakdowns as the likes.

Thanks to Jodie, Jane and Sandra for their posts and Barry for photo content.

- Website: 3319 views from 1384 visitors

primarily looking at home page, training times, how to join and rouges gallery

coming from Australia with small interest from Brazil and US

People are finding our webpage via Google, Masters Swimming NSW and Facebook.

Unfortunately we do not have good visibility of what they are searching on due to google privacy policy

[Acceptance of Reports](#)

Acceptance of all reports was proposed by Mark Patterson and seconded by Cathy Codling.

6 Election of Committee

President	Jane Noake
Vice President	Sue Tompkins
Treasurer	Paul Slater
Club Captain	Sandra Rogers
Coaching Co-Ordinator	Graham Hill
Website	Richard Vander Reyden
Secretary	Emma Rogers

7 General Business

Discussion had on the numbers at training being very low. The committee needs to know what can be done to encourage more people to attend.

8 Awards

Swimmer Achievement Award: James Watson

Club Member of the Year: Sandra Rogers

Congratulations to James and Sandra

9 Meeting Closed

With no other business the meeting closed at 10:40am.