

Ipswich Octopush Club AGM 2009

Tues, 5 May 2008

Location: The Lord Nelson, Ipswich. Meeting commenced at 7.30 PM

Present:

Clare Williamson; Bob Rice; Bob Hickson; Nathan Peall; Ken Kirby; Charlie Simms; Alan Hardcastle; John Miles; Fritz Watson; John Wright; Martin Golding

Ken Gould & Robin Merritt (from 8.20PM)

Jim Darby (from 8.40PM)

Apologies:

Graham Timson;

We have quorum – 10% or 3 whichever is greater

1. Chairman's Report (Ken Kirby)

The Chairman welcomed all to the meeting.

Nathan has arranged for our club to play another local club (Sawston, near Cambridge) so that non competition players get to understand what it is like to play against players they have never played against before.

The annual competition at Berck, France was well attended. We came third amongst some stiff competition, let alone French Development Squad team!

Ken Kirby & Charlie have done a lot of very hard work over the past few years in order for us to gain the Clubmark award, and I would like to thank them for this. However both wish to hand over this work to someone else to give them time for other projects.

Even though we haven't had any significant change in membership, I feel that some of the extra competition that guests have provided has brightened up our competitive spirit.

BOA News - Charlie will be standing down as BOA Chairman this year & Nathan & Ken Kirby have been clocking up many hours as referees.

(update as of July 2009) Ken Kirby is now BOA Chairman, Nathan is BOA Chief Referee, and Charlie is BOA shop manager.)

2. Treasurer's Report – Accounts & discussion of fees for next year (Charlie Simms)

The club accounts were presented by Ken Kirby. All members are now paying by standing order except Willem & Tim who pay £50 annual membership & £5 per session.

Looking to 2009-10, based on 17 full paying members and assessing the clubs outgoings for next year results in a projected net loss to the club of £832 which has to be accounted for.

In addition the club's accreditation to Club Mark expires in August this year. If we do not re-apply & gain accreditation we will lose our 40% discount on our pool fees. Given that we are currently paying 60% of the full price for pool hire, this will equate to an increase of 66% on what we are currently paying!

So in order to break even for the coming year, the projected outcomes are:

- With Club Mark accreditation £38.73 per club member per month
- Without Club Mark accreditation £62.75 per club member per month

Obviously, this alarming statement resulted in a significant amount of discussion which is summarised below:

1. Need to focus on increasing the number of members

- Sell the virtues of the club to local diving groups. Fritz offered to take on the Argonauts dive club; Ken Gould to try Sunstar.

- options to get students involved that would spread the word within the university (although they have limited budget & the club has a max. limit to the number of members that it can support with the pool times allocated)
 - All members to use their contacts & bring along new people to at least try the sport
2. All members agreed to keep their eyes open for alternative pools in the area
- Nathan to discuss with Felixstowe
 - Ken Gould to discuss with Deben Pool in Woodbridge

Membership Fees:

Given the above statement three proposals were put forward by Ken Kirby & seconded by Nathan on how to manage the finances for this year.

Proposal 1 – Leave membership fees as they are & absorb any losses, with all members driving to encourage new people to try the sport & hopefully become members

Proposal 2 – Increase the pool fee to £35 a month and review in six months time

Proposal 3 – Increase the pool fee to £40 a month and review in six months time

There was concern raised by some members that £40 a month was too much and that they may consider giving up the sport at this cost.

After further discussion Proposal 2 was carried unanimously by those present.

Ken Kirby then further proposed that the Ladies fee should be increased to £25 /month, but that the Junior fee would remain unchanged at £15/month.

Proposal carried unanimously by those present.

Ken Gould proposed that all membership fee increases will be from the payment that is due in June 2009.

Proposal carried unanimously by those present.

For clarity the new membership fees will now be:

	Membership Type		Notes
	Annual	Monthly	
Full	£420.00	£35.00	Increase of £5 per month (£60/year)
Ladies	£300.00	£25.00	Increase of £5 per month (£60/year)
Junior/Student	£180.00	£15.00	No change

	£50 annual membership	£5.00	No change.
Per Session Fee (Ladies & Men)	+ per session fee		IOC annual membership fee of £50 will be due & will include BOA membership & insurance

It was also felt that it should be stressed that the membership fee is an ANNUAL one that members are allowed to pay monthly and that monthly payments cannot be 'missed' due to holidays etc.

3. Election of Officers:

Nominations for the following three honorary officers were received:

- Chairman – Nathan Peall
- Treasurer – Ken Kirby
- Secretary – Ken Gould

& up to three co-opted members to represent the views of specific areas of the club. Currently just one was received:

- Clare Williamson - Ladies representative

All officers elected by a unanimous vote.

The club wishes to thank Charlie for the sterling work that he has done with the BOA.

A vote of thanks to the committee was proposed by Fritz (& seconded by those present) in reflection of the work that they put in to run the club.

4. Clubmark

Clubmark accreditation was awarded to the club back in August 2006 & is due for renewal after 3 years. The majority of the work (>60%) has already been done by Ken Kirby to which the club is very grateful, however, Ken is not in a position to update the folder for re-accreditation in August 2009. Adam Keer is the Ipswich contact for Clubmark.

If the club does not retain its Clubmark status, this will result in the club losing its 40% discount on pool fees with a potential membership fee increase to over £60 per annum. Clearly, it is within everyone's interest to ensure that we maintain this accreditation!

The task of re-accreditation will be shared as follows:

Training Coordinator – Fritz Watson. Responsible for ensuring that the required number of club members attend the required courses to maintain Clubmark accreditation. Ensuring that copies of the certificates are obtained from club members. All members present agreed that they will assist by volunteering to attend at least one course.

Records Keeping – Ken Gould. Responsible for updating the membership list to include which members have attended which courses, that members have signed up to the club's policies etc.

Clubmark File update – Nathan Peall, assisted by Ken Gould. Ensuring that the file is updated ready for re-accreditation in August 2009

It was proposed by Fritz that the small course fee that is required should be paid for by the club as it was in the interests of the club as a whole that people attended these courses.

Proposal carried unanimously by those present.

5. 50m Pool in Ipswich

Nothing specific has changed with regard to the Ipswich 50m pool. However, Charlie informed the club that Snoasis are planning to build a pool at their complex, but no details were available. Apparently Snoasis is still the subject of a public enquiry so its future is still not certain either. (update from Fore St Closure meeting July 09 with Steve Kemp – 50m Pool plans shelved until further notice)

6. AOB

None

7. Adjourn for Indian at the Dhaka

Meeting adjourned at 8.45, retired to the Dhaka for Indian.