

Ipswich Octopush Club AGM May 2011

Those Present:

Nathan Peall (Chairman); Ken Kirby (Treasurer); Ken Gould (Secretary); John Wright; John Miles; Alan Beaumont; Robin Merritt; Martin Golding; Clare Williamson; Fritz Watson; (Bob Hickson, ex member)

Apologies – Jim Darby

Meeting Started at 7.50 in the upstairs room of St. Jude's Brewery Tavern, Ipswich

1. Chairman's Report – Nathan Peall

The Chairman welcomed those present & started by saying that it was sad that the number of club members are reducing. However we have had some competitions with Sawston from Cambridge. We're getting a reputation for a drinking club with some hockey being played as we don't appear to be competing around the UK in the Nationals or Nautilus competitions. This seems to be due to the competition pool in Sheffield being 3 metres deep. We do have a return invite to go to Sawston though.

Berck has been a great tournament this year & we only lost by one goal. Thanks to Charlie for providing the accommodation at such a reasonable rate.

It is a credit to the club that we've not had any issues to deal with over the past year – well done.

There is an option for us to attend the Kingsbridge Craze tournament around 2nd week in September if we want to take this up. Plus players can also just turn up to competitions & be invited onto other teams so the club doesn't have to take a full team.

Refereeing – Czech Republic this year. KenK & Nathan are very active in this area, as indeed is Jim.

There then followed an open discussion about low membership. We have had number of people come & try it & they haven't continued. We had several from Deben Masters swimming club as they were going to be disbanded, but then the club continued & they went back to their swimming. The general age of the club is getting older & this isn't sustainable.

We do allow about 4 sessions free to new members before they start to pay, but perhaps we need to look at doing more?

2. Treasurer's Report – Accounts & discussion of fees for next year - Ken Kirby

Monthly payments sheet was distributed & discussed.

All equipment has been sold – gullies etc

Accounts: The club made a loss of £75 last year. So predicting that costs will increase by some +5% half way through the year means that we need a monthly membership fee of £38.60 based on 18 members). However, the simple truth is that in order to bring this back down to the current level of £35 we need 20 members.

Potentially we will loose Crown Pools for a bit as a result of further refurbishment for which we'll get a refund for 2 ½ to 3 months. Club reserves are at about £6k. We will need at least £2k in the accounts to pay for the quarterly pool fees in advance - paying these in advance gets us additional discount.

There then followed an open discussion membership fees & reduced fees for new members.

Nathan then summarised & put forward the following proposal for membership fees for those present to vote on. This was seconded by KenK.

Proposal 1 – Monthly membership fees:

Option A) No Change – 5 votes

Option B) Up to £40 - 4 votes

Option C) Up to £37 - 2 votes

Option A Carried - No Change in membership fees

Proposal 2 – Reduced fees for new members

To have a £20 monthly fee for first six months (after the first 4 free sessions) – **carried unanimously**

Attracting New Members to the Club

Let's make a pact together to try & get new members. I know we say this every year, but we really need to do this.

Nathan proposed that we accept the accounts from Ken Kirby, seconded by KenG - **carried unanimously**

3. Clubmark registration update. – Nathan Peall

Our Clubmark folder has been submitted Chloe McMorran, Suffolk Sport Development officer @ Melton office Suffolk Coastal and we are waiting for them to come back to us with comments. We have submitted all the details, but it has gone a bit quiet.

ACTION – All Members - Nathan would like any updates on people's referees; life guarding & first aid qualifications etc. to keep the Club Mark Folder up to date.

4. Election of Officers:

No one else wished to stand & all three current officers were prepared to continue in their existing roles

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

All voted through unanimously

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

- Claire Williams - Ladies representative
- No other nominations received

Voted through unanimously

5. AOB

None

AGM ended at 20.45

Adjourn for meal at the Taj Mahal, thanks to Fritz for arranging this.