

Ipswich Octopush Club AGM April 2014

Tuesday 29th April 2014

Those Present:

Nathan Peall (Chairman); Ken Kirby (Treasurer); Ken Gould (Secretary); John Wright; Martin Golding; John Miles; Charlie Simms; Robin Merritt; Lee Merritt; Alan Beaumont

Apologies –; Willem Hendricks; Bob Hickson; Fritz Watson; Graham Timpson; Bob Rice; Clare Williamson; Alan Hardcastle; Jim Darby

Meeting Started at 7.30 at The Water Tower, Freston, Ipswich

1. Chairman's Report – Nathan Peall

Had Sawston over a couple of times this year & will have them over for another session later this year

Claire & Amy played for Sawston in Leeds recently too.

The club had a good result in Berck in February, despite the ringer' that turned up in many opponents teams - the dreaded Gold Glove!. Amy turned up for her first competition & enjoyed it.

New recruits - Tim, who is in the army & based in Portsmouth during the week, but plays at the w/e & when he is available during the week. Also, David - had a try out this week. He has played before & we hope that he'll continue to come.

The Club needs more people, but the pool times we have is a bit of a barrier, particularly at Crown pools which is the best session to bring in new members to try the game.

We need to review the 'spare' kit that the club has to ensure that we have sufficient 'come & try it' equipment.

Need to approach Crown Pools for a secure area where we can leave stuff specifically for this purpose

Need to have others take on the responsibility to help train new people - AlanB offered to help. However, in order for this to happen & be 'useful' for the prospective member the trainer will need some overview notes to identify the capability of the prospective member to ensure training is gradual & achievable

KenK & Nathan spent two days at the dive show representing the BOA to attract new members to the sport. They reported that there was lots of local interest too, but no results yielded yet.

The club is also registered with 'Live Well Suffolk' and we have had some people turn up to try our sport.

Robin asked about getting new recruits from swimming club like the Water Polo clubs do. Alan offered to approach the coaches to see if he can email out to their members or request that the coaches do on our behalf.

Also look to approach the diving clubs to give an overview & taster session after their training sessions had been completed.

BOA posters are available should anyone want to promote the club - Hint!

Lee Merritt has also started coming with a view to being a referee ☺

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

We do need some more new members to ensure that we have a buffer to support the club in future years.

Concern with the number of members to meet the projected outgoings for next year. As an absolute minimum we need to leave a minimum of £2k in the bank to cover the pool fees each quarter when required.

We need another two members or increase the pool fee to £46.84 to cover this.

A discussion ensued following Ken's statement above. Hedge the difference - whip round between members to contribute a bit more as a one off payment so that the fees are not increased which tends to put people off. This will maintain the buffer that the club has. The buffer is around £3-4k, which is approximately 6 months pool fees.

There are members that are struggling to find £40 already, although with most members attending perhaps 10 sessions per month that is £4 a session which seems reasonable

Per session fee is still £5. (NB - Sawston charge £4 for visitors)

There is some concern that we have other members that may stop playing in the future, so we all need to focus to get some new members into the club. The age profile is quite high.

Voting on Club Fees - Proposal – Maintain clubs fees at existing level:

Proposal - keep the rates the same- carried unanimously

Proposed by KenK, seconded by Nathan - Agreed - **Vote carried unanimously**

NB - Remember that we voted two years ago to have a reduced fee for new members of £20 for the first six months (after the first 4 free sessions).

3. Election of Officers:

Charlie put forward a vote of thanks to the current officers for their contributions to the club; echoed by those present.

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. We assumed that Clare would be happy to continue as Lady's representative so we voted in her absence:

- Clare Williamson - Ladies representative
- No other nominations received

Voted through unanimously

4. AOB

Ken's BBQ 26th July, with a local 4 piece band (Kio) coming as well from about 5/6PM. Ken has a new all singing/all dancing Bar B which is due to arrive & needs a test run ☺

Charlie - Berck competition has been moved to 6/7th December 2014 rather than February 2015

KenK - Club tops & club logo will be discussed & an order raised for those interested.

AGM ended at 20.20

Adjourn for a cracking meal at the Jorna Indian Restaurant, Wherstead