

# **Minutes of the Annual General Meeting of Seaside Pirates Incorporated.**

Held at Terrey Hills Swim Centre, 31 Myoora Rd Terrey Hills  
Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2014.

**Attendees.** Richard Burchfield, Cathy Codling, Graham Hill , Rachel Ireland, Dayle McMillan, Virginia Moller, Jane Noake, Carolyn Opie, Mark Patterson, Jeffrey Price, Sandi Rigby, Sandra Rogers, Emma Rogers, Paul Slater, Sadie Thomas, Richard Vander Reyden, Cecelia Wensing, Staffan Wensing, Lilian Whiteman.

## **1. Welcome and Opening of Meeting**

The President welcomed members and opened the meeting at 9:55am. She thanked the members present for their attendance.

## **2. Apologies**

Jodie Burke, Biff Grindley, Barry Thomas, Peter Watson.

## **3. Confirmation of Minutes of Annual General Meeting held in February 2013**

The minutes of the Annual General Meeting held on 24th February 2013 were discussed. An error was found in the Treasurer's report where the Club's profit was incorrectly reported. The cheque account balance had been entered by mistake. It was agreed to amend the minutes to include the correct value.

Subject the amendment described the Minutes were proposed by Mark Patterson and seconded by Staffan Wensing.

## **4. Reports**

### **Presidents Report**

Jane presented her report based on the Annual Report made to Masters Swimming, highlighting members' and club achievements during 2013.

Seaside Pirates had an outstanding year in 2013, with all 88 members of the club contributing to the variety of activities that we organised during the year. Our offerings during the year were aimed so that everyone in the Club could take part in an activity that suited them and their family life, we recognise that everyone is at a different point in their life and cannot devote their entire life to the pool.

The first activity for 2013 was our Shelley Beach swim in January where we had around 35 Pirates, family and friends swim from Shelley Beach to Manly and back and then enjoy a BBQ.

We booked a number of training sessions on a Saturday afternoon at the Knox pool in January, February and March leading up to State and Nationals. These proved very popular and we thank Graham Hill our coaching coordinator, for coaching most of these sessions.

For the very first time we held a Pirate training camp in the Blue Mountains in February. We were delighted to have some of our "country" Pirates join us for the weekend- Mark from Dubbo, Brian from Leeton and Matt from Singleton.

Our first major carnival of the year was State Long Course held at Blacktown. We treated this as a warm up for Nationals with a team of 31 Pirates for the one day meet. This was our first victory for the year- State Long Course champions and was a testament to the hard work put in by the entire club.

At the Long Course championships Jodie Burke was announced as winner of the Ian Davis award for 2012, which was presented to her by Jerry Scelzi, Ian's partner, a great testament to Jodie's involvement in Masters swimming with Pirates, NSW and in the ACT.

The National Championships were held in Sydney for the first time in 11 years and we all trained hard for this event having a record 51 entries for the Meet. There were many great swims, many medals, some records, and a bit of Piracy but the best thing about the event was the camaraderie of our team. Our thanks must go to our wonderful coaches who prepared us so well for this event and also to the many Pirates who worked tirelessly to make the event possible. We won the Runners up trophy at the event- being beaten narrowly by Powerpoints, and we also won the 72-120 relay trophy.

After the Nationals was a time for celebration and Pirates do celebrations very well. This time Staffan and Cecelia opened up their new home for the Pirates around 50 of them with family and friends were present for the celebration.

The Relay Meet in July at SOPAC was our next big success. We had 41 Pirates swimming and 49 relays entered. This Meet is always fun and this year was no different. Our teams set a number of National and Branch records and at the end of the Meet the Pirates and Warringah both ended up with the same overall points so both were declared winners, a fitting end to a great Meet.

Our Pirates Meet in August was again held at the Knox school pool which proved a winner last year. This year we had more swimmers and it was again a great Meet. Everyone seems to love this pool so we hope the Meet grows each year. Thanks to all the Pirates who contributed to the success of this Meet, not only in the pool but out of the pool as well.

The Long Distance Championships in September was also held at Knox and we had 11 Pirates competing with some great racing particularly in the 1500m freestyle. We were named Long Distance 1st division champions for 2013 as well, so another great result for our club in 2013.

We had good numbers at the Warringah carnival this year and our congratulations to Georgie, who won the medley shoot out and Staffan who was runner up (by a fingernail) in the Men's medley shoot out.

For the Short Course Championships in Canberra we put together a team of 17 Pirates who travelled to Canberra for the weekend away. We stayed in a super location just out of Canberra with a lake to watch over while we cooked our BBQ on Saturday night. We all swam well and achieved some great results but Tuggeranong came out on top of these Championships.

Our last event of the year was the 100x100's held at Knox on December 29th which saw 32 Pirates and friends swim (and mostly complete) the 100x100's and then enjoy a BBQ brunch afterwards. This excellent event closed off a very successful, and importantly, enjoyable year for our Club.

The Club had closed off the year with 88 members.

Jane thanked the Committee with a special mention to Mark Patterson who was retiring from the Committee after 5 years as Club Captain.

She thanked the coaches, Graham, Rachel, Richard and Staffan, and those present applauded the coaching team.

As ever the Club, and the State body, is in need of coaches and officials, and Jane asked anyone interested to step up and be counted.

Jane thanked Cathy Codling for her work as Registrar, and Carolyn Opie as the Club's Safety Officer.

Jane thanked Barry for the promotional video that he made during the year. It was an outstanding piece of work that drew much attention and was rightly applauded by those who saw it.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Paul presented his report with the Annual Statement; a copy of which was available to each member present. He made the following observations:

The Club made a profit on Income over Expenses of \$3,461.65

We spent \$1,955 on relay entries, the bulk of this being entries to the State Relay carnival at \$1,025. With the Nationals in Sydney we also had a good team there and spent \$640 on relay teams at that event.

Through the Coaches Credit scheme the Club subsidised our coaches' carnival entries for the year for \$458. Again, more than 75% of this was For National Entries.

On the financial statement as presented a small profit of \$225 is shown on pool hire and entry for our swim sessions. However, we have yet to be billed for December by Terrey Hills and Narrabeen for November and December. These bills will be accounted in 2014 but mean that the pool operations for 2013 will return a small loss.

The Committee had at one time considered having to abandon one of the weekday swims as we were losing money. It was decided to carry on with the sessions as the healthy financial position of the Club gave us the ability to sustain a small loss and swim sessions are at the core of Club activities. 2013 saw a good improvement in session attendances and thus income. The Committee considers that we can continue to maintain three sessions a week despite the costs.

The Pirate carnival made a profit of \$2981 this year. This was after a payment of \$662 to the Recorder and \$968 for the pool hire. An excellent income of \$908 on the raffle helped redress the balance.

The Club took the opportunity to run a raffle at the Nationals and this yielded a profit of \$1124.75. Thanks to Rachel for her great efforts in running such successful raffles at these two events.

We applied for and received in October 2012 a grant of \$2000 from Masters Swimming NSW. This year we spent some that Grant on business cards and an 'Official Photographer' t-shirt for Barry. We still have \$1105 to spend on marketing and have allocated some \$400 to an A board and having some graphics prepared for us. We reported to the MSNSW board in January on progress with the marketing funds.

Jeff Price asked why the figure on the financial statement for carnival receipts was so much higher than the carnival payments. This was because the receipts included the payments that members made to enter our own carnival. Jeff suggested that that figure should be shown separately. The Treasurer agreed and an amended Statement of Income and Expense for 2013 will be available at the next AGM, as well as the modified statement being used for 2014.

### **Club Captains Report**

The Captains report is slightly different this year. After 5 years as Captain, my view is that it's time to step down and hand over to someone younger, more vibrant, strong willed and better looking. Staffan fits the bill perfectly, and I'm proud to hand over to him. He brings a great skillset to the table which will no doubt contribute to the ongoing success of the club.

Over the last 5 years, Pirates have attained multiple successes in carnivals, especially the larger State and National level carnivals. What's more impressive is that Pirates are competing in these carnivals at their own discretion, aligning swimming and other family/ life balance activities together.

This works because of our brilliant Pirate coaches. Graham, Richie, Rachel and Staffan deserve a solid round of applause. Their sets are great, but the interaction and motivation afforded each Pirate by them is one of Pirates differentiators. That is validated by the number of Pirates who turn up to train at every session.

So the coaches provide face to face encouragement at the coal face. But behind the scenes, there's another team who also give up their time to make the club work. Paul, Barry and Jane (plus Graham and Staffan) provide a seamless service to members which goes unnoticed sometimes, but is fundamental to the strength that the club enjoys.

Please join me in congratulating Staffan in stepping into the Captains shoes.

### Coaching Director's Report

The Seaside Pirates were fortunate to have a stable year within the coaching ranks. The Coaching Team agreed to simplify the weekly training focus with Tuesday nights at Warringah being directed at race speed for 100m swims under Rachel's enthusiastic guidance, Thursday nights becoming a sprint focus for 25m and 50m swims with the Narrabeen (now Terrey Hills) sessions coached by Staffan, and Sunday mornings remaining as more endurance based with Richie holding the fort on alternate weekends.

I would like to have it formally noted that the Club has benefitted from the work and time of these three members and I wish to thank them for their dedication.

As coaches we have seen much effort, probably a lot of sweat and possibly a tear or two (thankfully no blood that I know of!) put into our sessions this year and the target meets have been evidence of some excellent results that are too many to note individually.

While the coaching staff are pleased that our membership is enjoying its swimming, we would all ask for coaching support from our ranks as well. Anyone who is prepared to assist us on deck would be very welcome. We can mentor and help you to become, hopefully one day, one of the Seaside Pirates' coaches. We do need your assistance. We can teach you what you need and it can improve your own swimming and understanding of the training sessions.

We look forward to another year of fun and laughs in the pool and on deck and seeing everyone in the water achieving their goals. For all chlorine fanatics, your coaches thank you.

### Website Report

Barry had produced a written report that Jane presented on his behalf:

We have two primary online assets – our website at seasidepirates.com and our club Facebook page. The Facebook page is typically the most interesting of the two, with frequent updates and contributions from club members as well as from the committee. The website is more static (more a billboard for educating potential new members and a repository of official stuff) but it also has a feed from the Facebook page embedded in it so that members who aren't on Facebook don't get left out.

### Website

	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan
Page Views	359	566	512	492	445	446	438	411	475	391	272	202	341
Unique Visitors	101	179	157	156	135	149	141	135	110	117	100	85	105

2013 Visitor stats

That's just over 5,000 page views over the course of the year, at an average of about 14 page views per day. For a club our size, and given that most of the "action" tends to be on the Facebook page, this is pretty reasonable.

## Facebook

We have 108 page “Likes” (people who have chosen to see our posts in their own Facebook streams). We started 2013 with 40 “Likes” so we’re doing well and clearly we are attracting some attention from more than just our own members now.

Our peak “Total Reach” (the number of individuals who saw activity from our page on any one day) occurred on October 13 when we were seen by 709 people.

Our best single post (a short promo video for the club) reached over 1,200 people over several days in August.

Over the course of the year our average daily reach was just over 50 people.

After a slow start in 2012 (we started on Facebook in April that year) when our daily reach was only 13 people things have really taken off. Clearly our Facebook page is working well for us as a promotional tool, as well as being a great way for members to contribute to an online conversation.

To keep up the good work and to further extend our reach we need more content! Photos and videos work best – anyone can contribute to our Facebook page but if you have something that deserves to be showcased please send it through to the webmaster at [bazzat@me.com](mailto:bazzat@me.com). The same email applies if you have any suggestions on how we can further improve our online presence.

## Acceptance of Reports

Acceptance of all reports was proposed by Richard Vander Reyden and seconded by Sandra Rogers.

## 5. Election of Committee for 2014

Only one nomination had been received for each of the positions on the Committee. Accordingly Jane announced the Seaside Pirate Committee for 2014.

<b>President</b>	Jane Noake
<b>Vice President</b>	Dayle McMillan
<b>Treasurer</b>	Paul Slater
<b>Club Captain</b>	Staff Wensing
<b>Coaching Co-Ordinator</b>	Graham Hill
<b>Website</b>	Barry Thomas
<b>Secretary</b>	Sandra and Emma Rogers

## 6. General Business

The two agenda items posted with the Notice of the Meeting were discussed.

- 1) Changing the Club constitution so that the Registrar position becomes a Sub-Committee position rather than a Committee position. This was voted on and received a majority vote in favour.
- 2) Changing the title of Head Coach to Coaching Co-Ordinator. Jeff Price spoke against this motion with several people including two coaches speaking in favour. The motion was put to the vote and the majority voted in favour of the motion.

## 7. Meeting Closed

There being no other business the meeting closed at 10:40 am