



## Albatross Diving Club EGM 21<sup>st</sup> May 2024 – Minutes

The Abbey School, Kendrick Road, Reading RG1 5DZ

### Attendees

David Saunders – Chair  
Emma West – Presenting  
Malcolm Green  
Anne Green Jessel  
Richard Jessel  
Lukasz Baniewicz  
Ilona Kowalewski  
Anjali Colton  
Charlie Minns  
Amanda Fox  
Ben Hughes  
Irene Tang  
James Rodgers  
Tim Parker  
Elisabeth Cullen  
Kelly Jones  
Grace Butler  
Jo Stratford  
Mariia Chesnova  
Fay Knight  
Vikki Roberts  
Laurence Fox  
Nicholas Blaker  
Charlie Chan  
Michael Chan

### Welcome

Emma welcomed all attendees to the meeting and explained that the agenda was twofold:

To ratify the new fees structure as circulated to all members 22 April 2024 and to disseminate as far as the club are able the plans for the move to the new pool at Rivermead Leisure Centre and the new programme timetable. The meeting was run as a Powerpoint presentation which is included with these minutes.

### Club training fees

At the AGM last autumn, you were advised that the squad fees were being held until such time that the new Rivermead pool hire rates had been received and the training programme for the new pool could be formulated by the coaches. This meeting is held to ratify the new fee structure and invite any questions relating to it and our move to the new facility at Rivermead Leisure Centre. As Committee members we will not be able to answer any questions relating to your individual training plans which will be addressed by your coach over the coming weeks.

Albatross Diving Club Reading is dedicated to the advancement of excellence in diving and the personal fulfilment and achievement of all those involved with the sport. Over the past 6 years, since the closure of Central Pool, we have all worked together to ensure that the club remains sustainable and true to its ethos to promote and deliver the sport of diving: **'We exist to serve all sectors of the community through recognising local diversity and encouraging inclusion for all aspirations and levels; whether this is for recreational participation through to elite competition performance.'**

The new pool has been a long time coming, but we now find ourselves on the brink of a new chapter in Albatross' story and, within the dive pit availability parameters set us by GLL, the new programme has been put together in such a way as to best support existing divers and their coaches and ensure that the club remains strong in both its delivery of quality training and sustainable going forward. Additionally, you will be aware that since its inception Albatross has been an entirely volunteer run club, but we are now taking this opportunity to start to pay our coaches in line with all our peer groups. The fee structure presented supports this, is comparable with swim school prices and reflects the offer of new facilities with additional 3m and 5m boards and, for our competitive divers, no more regular costs of travelling. The new programme is both exciting in the opportunities it presents and achievable in its delivery by our committed team.

The monthly fees paid by standing order are proposed at:

<b>Squad</b>	<b>July 2024 Proposed Fee</b>	<b>Monthly Increase</b>
Learn to Dive 30-minute session	£33	£3
Teen Squad – 1 hour	£60	£5
Adult Diving – New 1 hour	£60	
New Squad – Pre-Skills	£85	
Skills	£105	£10
Age Group	£135	£20
Elite	£135	£20

The fee structure has been considered taking into account all the new pool and dry training hire agreements and coaching payroll costs, but our sustainability will be down to your support, our continual review and our application to further fundraising to support the day-to-day cost of financing the diving programme and our children. All of us, committee, coaches and parents, have a responsibility for this. We have always demonstrated our ability to pull together in ownership of our club and the sport we are bringing to our children, this cohesive spirit will be more important than ever moving forward. There will be standing order letters to take away and you will be invited to ask any questions relating to the fees.

**Those attending voted and the new fee structure was ratified.**

#### **New Pool Presentation of Facilities and Programme**

The new training programme was presented at a high level as the detail is being finalised. We will have pool training during the week and weekends for the whole programme from Learn to Dive lessons through all the current squads at Rivermead Leisure Centre. We will be offering all divers sessions on their existing days, but some session times may be later to fit with the pool availability given to us by GLL. Where we can, we will be sympathetic to requests from families to change session, but you will appreciate to migrate a club of over 90 divers to a new programme has been challenging. The new Rivermead pool has 2 x 1m springboards, a 3m springboard and a 5m platform. We have also been fortunate to be awarded Sport England funding for the purchase of poolside blocks to advance our poolside work.

Please see attached Powerpoint presentation.