



**Edinburgh Artistic Swimming 2023 AGM**  
**Sunday 5 November**  
**Sir Peter Heatley Room - Royal Commonwealth Pool**

Present	7 committee members (2 of whom are also life members and coaches), life member Helen Murray, 4 swimmers and 5 parents
1. President's remarks (Antonia Delaney)	The address is attached below.
2. Apologies	Paul Bannon (Life Member) Vicky Peakman (Life Member) David Muxworthy (Life Member) who sends his best wishes to the club Sarah Wheatley (Web and Social Media Co-ordinator)
3. Approval of minutes, and matters arising, from previous AGM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The minutes from the last AGM were approved at the first committee meeting after the AGM. A copy was sent to all members and was available for anyone who had not seen it. The minutes were approved at the AGM (proposed by Caroline McGrory and seconded by Margo Wimberley).</li> </ul>
4. Secretary's report (Caroline McGrory)	The report is attached below.
5. Treasurer's report (Scott McDowall)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The report and accounts are attached below.</li> <li>Changes to the monthly fees accepted (proposed by Caroline McGrory and seconded by Antonia Delaney).</li> <li>Changes to the joining fees and Scottish Swimming fees accepted (proposed by Margo Wimberley and seconded by Neil Thrower)</li> <li>Competition fees to continue to be paid for by the swimmer (with an exception as detailed in point 8 below)</li> </ul>
6. Head coach's report (Margo Wimberley)	The report is attached below.
7. Club Captain's remarks (Lucy Foster)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The remarks are attached below.</li> <li>Rose McGrory was voted Club Captain by the swimmers.</li> </ul>
8. Alterations to constitution or bye-laws	The proposal (attached below) was accepted
8. Election of Office Bearers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jenny Goodacre has been voted President (proposed by Antonia Delaney and seconded by Cath Fleming)</li> <li>Glenys Norquay has been voted Child Welfare and Protection Officer (proposed by Cath Fleming and seconded by Jenny Goodacre)</li> <li>Paloma Flores Guzman has been voted Kit Coordinator (proposed by Viv Fleming and seconded by Cath Fleming).</li> <li>Neil Thrower has been voted Fundraising Coordinator (proposed by Margo Wimberley and seconded by Cath Fleming).</li> <li>For confirmation (co-opted onto the committee during the year): Web and Social Media Co-ordinator – Sarah Wheatley</li> <li>Vacant: see list below</li> </ul>



	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Office Bearers for 2023-24 are attached below.</li></ul>
9. Other relevant business	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Suggestion that it would be worth considering reducing the pool time at RCP on Sundays as 3 hours is costly and is a long session for both swimmers and coaches. The club will investigate.</li></ul>
10. Proposed date of committee meetings	<p><b><i>Proposed committee meeting dates 2023/24:</i></b> Sunday 26 November Sunday 21 January Sunday 21 April Sunday 16 June Sunday 8 September (budget meeting)</p> <p><b><i>Proposed 2024 AGM date:</i></b> Sunday 3 November</p>



## 1. President's remarks

Hello everyone. I'd like to welcome you all and thank you for coming along to our AGM. I'd like to give a special welcome to Helen, Margo and Cath, our life members. In case any of you haven't met me before, I'm Antonia, the current president of the club.

I have had the pleasure of being in this role for two years. Sadly my daughter left the club at the start of the summer to head off to University so I am stepping down from my role. Jenny has agreed to become the new president and I wish her well in the role. Unfortunately Jenny can't be with us today but I'm sure she will make herself known to all of you if she hasn't done so already.

It has been a difficult year for swimming in general with the threat of pool closures and problems with the floor mechanics of both Portobello pool and East Kilbride leading to the cancellation of the Scottish National Age Groups last weekend. We have been lucky enough to have avoided any closure threats and continue to train on a Wednesday and Sunday each week.

We were fortunate to be joined by Bethany, one of the swimmers from Nairn to help out with our coaching for a few months this year. Unfortunately due to University commitments she wasn't able to stay long term. Our coaches work tirelessly to train the girls for Grade days and competitions keeping the sessions fun and motivating. I'd like to thank them for their hard work and continued dedication to the club.

I'd also like to thank the committee who work hard behind the scenes to ensure everything runs smoothly. Without your continued help and support we wouldn't have the club we have today. The committee has lots of vacancies so if your daughter is enjoying the world of artistic swimming as much as mine did it would be a great help if you could take on any of these roles on your own or jointly with another parent and help keep the club running smoothly, allow the girls to continue to progress and the club to go from strength to strength. If a role on the committee doesn't appeal to you then there are opportunities to become a poolside helper and see at first hand what your daughter is getting up to in the water!

Our annual awards night was held on Friday and we were able to celebrate the achievements the girls have made over the past year.

I'd like to thank all the parents for bringing your children along each week, there would be no club without them!

And finally I would like to say it has been a pleasure and a privilege to be a part of such a dedicated team of volunteers and I wish you all the best for the future.

Thank you.

**Antonia Delaney**  
**President**



#### **4. Secretary Report**

This has been a very challenging year for the club and for the sport across Scotland. With Scottish Club Championships being postponed in June and then SNAGs being cancelled this month (due to a technical fault with the pool) together with the club's falling numbers. Not to mention having to learn all the new grading and judging rules. It has been tough on both the swimmers and coaches.

It hasn't all been bad news though and we did get 3 successful competitions under our belt at the start of the year, everyone did really well at our club figure competition, the Artistic Swimming for All competition and the Scottish Figure Competition. Plus, some very successful figure and routine grading days. We are now looking forward to the postponed Scottish Club Championships in 3 weeks time in Buckie. It is great to see many of our swimmers and coaches working hard towards this, putting aside the disappointment of the cancelled SNAGs. Good luck to everyone taking part!

I'd like to say a big thank you to the coaches who have had a busy year and to all the volunteers and committee members too. And a thank you and goodbye to our outgoing president Antonia, thanks very much for all you've done for the club.

We started the synchro year with 33 swimmers in November 2022, unfortunately we now currently have 26, and is expected to be 24 by the end of the year as two of our Junior swimmers will be leaving. This number is not high enough to cover our pool fees.

We have a healthy waiting list for the next trial period; however, we are yet to decide when that will be, possibly January.

We have yet to hear when the anticipated maintenance work on Portobello pool may start. We are currently looking into an alternative venue for when the works take place.

I'll end this report with a similar plea to last year. We need volunteers to please come forward, to help on the poolside, at competitions or on the committee - the club needs you!

**Caroline McGrory**  
**Secretary**

## 5. Treasurer's report – 2022/2023 accounts

EDINBURGH SYNCHRONISED SWIMMING						
STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS 2022/23						
<b>RECEIPTS</b>	31/08/2023	31/08/2022	31/08/2021	31/08/2020	31/08/2019	31/08/2018
Affiliation/Licences	100	160	170		0	
Camps	0	3,910	-1,000	2,345	16,341	8,344
Competitions	825			885	2,372	
Development	0	1,275		880		
Equipment						
Fees	15,771	15,931	16,124	17,627	22,281	20,805
Fundraising	722	2,546	2,207	1,067	1,324	1,478
Grade assessments	930	705		573	975	
Interest/charges					2	20
Kit	1,329	182	205	929	2,603	1,131
Miscellaneous (incl Donati	100				923	259
Social						
Training costs			384		1,094	533
	<u>19,777</u>	<u>24,709</u>	<u>18,090</u>	<u>24,306</u>	<u>47,915</u>	<u>32,630</u>
<b>PAYMENTS</b>						
Affiliation/Licences	2,235	2,322	1,459	2,542	3,094	2,335
Camps	583	2,299	-1,874	4,708	16,261	5,580
Competitions	1,469	321		2,321	8,529	4,600
Development	0	1,890		173	1,910	
Equipment					159	0
Fees				39	76	
Fundraising	692					224
Grade assessments	1,035	690		588	1,395	
Interest/charges	0	0		0	0	
Kit	1,530	323	361	1,580	1,694	871
Miscellaneous	522			-69	592	169
Social		417	92	729	1,145	
Training costs	14,396	17,552	11,868	9,995	18,267	17,054
	<u>22,462</u>	<u>25,814</u>	<u>11,906</u>	<u>22,606</u>	<u>53,122</u>	<u>30,833</u>
Surplus / (Deficit) for year	<u>-2,685</u>	<u>-1,105</u>	<u>6,184</u>	<u>1,700</u>	<u>-5,207</u>	<u>1,797</u>
Funds at Start of Year	<u>16,418</u>	<u>17,454</u>	<u>11,594</u>	<u>9,836</u>	<u>14,792</u>	<u>12,759</u>
Funds Available	<u>12,672</u>	<u>16,418</u>	<u>17,454</u>	<u>11,594</u>	<u>9,836</u>	<u>14,556</u>

### Treasurer's Report - 2022/2023 accounts

It is my pleasure to present the 2022/23 accounts for Edinburgh Artistic Swimming Club (the 'Club'). Paul Bannon (previous Treasurer and Life Member) has audited the accounts. The club made a £2,685 loss in 2022/23 up from a loss of £1,105 in the previous year.

It should be noted that the Club's accounts are prepared on a cash basis for its financial year, which runs from 1 September to 31st August. That is, they are a record of receipts and payments to a given point in time, and do not show anything outstanding (owed or due) out with the year.



Funds available as at 31<sup>st</sup> August 2023 were £12,672. The Club is committed to reserve a fund of 50% of a year's pool hire fees (circa £8,900), which means that, in practice, a lot of the 'funds available' amount is not available to be spent.

#### Review of the last financial year

2022/23 was a challenging year for the Club. The table below provides a breakdown of the main items impacting the Club's bank balance. In the following paragraphs I will briefly explain and present the Club's proposals going forward designed to put it in a better financial footing at the end of the 2023/24 financial year.

<b>Category</b>	<b>Surplus/(Deficit)</b>
Membership fees/Training costs	1,375
Affiliation/Licences	(2,135)
Competitions	(644)
Camps	(583)
Kit	(201)
Grade assessments	(105)
Fund raising	30

#### **Membership fees/Training costs**

Fortunately, our membership fees covered training costs this financial year. However, this was more a result of the reduced pool time in January, February and March (pool issues at Edinburgh Leisure) rather than the Club returning to a strong financial footing. Swimmer numbers fell from 31 to 25 but the Club received a similar amount in membership fees showing, the benefit of increasing the fees this year. Falling swimmer numbers were reflective in the older age groups with a good recruitment of beginner swimmers this year from successful trial days. Nevertheless, the current fee structure will not cover training costs so the Committee would like to propose increasing the fees for this coming financial year. It is appreciated that in the current economic climate increasing fees is undesirable but the Club has to remain a going concern and when compared to other clubs our new fees were comparable. If approved, the new fees would be effective from 1 January 2024.

#### Proposal 1:

*To increase monthly membership fees to the below:*

	<b>Current</b>	<b>Proposed</b>
<b>Beginners</b>	45	50
<b>Grade 1</b>	46	55
<b>12&amp;Under/Grade 2</b>	47	55
<b>13-15</b>	50	60
<b>Juniors</b>	50	60

#### **Affiliation/Licences**

SASA and East District fees were a £2K outflow for the Club. In the past, the Club agreed to pay these but, when compared to similar clubs it was apparent that other clubs do not follow the same approach. The Committee felt it be financially prudent for these costs to be borne by the swimmers.

#### Proposal 2:



*Parents/swimmers to pay the affiliation fees to the Club at the point of joining and on an annual basis thereafter. This will be invoiced separately.*

### **Competitions**

The outflow from competitions this year was largely due to the cost of travel which the Club previously has tried to cover. Other clubs request the athletes to pay for these costs and so the Committee felt that the Club should follow the same approach.

### Proposal 3:

*Swimmers to pay competition and travel fees.*

### **Camps**

There were no camps this year but the amount paid in the current financial year was a payment made for the Whithaugh trip towards the end of the 2022 financial year. This is a purely timing difference.

### **Kit**

With the Club name change new kit was sourced and, although a loss made in the current financial year, it is hoped that the remaining stock will provide a surplus in the financial year to come.

### **Grade assessments**

The Club's policy is for Grade assessments to be covered by the swimmers. This amount is purely a timing difference between receipts and payments.

### **Fund raising**

The Club made a slight profit in fund raising and a huge thank you to those willing volunteers who run and help at the events. That said, fund raising was significantly down on prior year and so the Club encourages all parents to suggest future opportunities as well as to offer help, support and run fund raising events in future. This is a useful and relatively untapped source of income which can be used to reinvest back to the Club, for example equipment is getting old and will represent a significant future expenditure. As well as fund raising events there are other avenues to generate income such as [easyfundraising.com](https://www.easyfundraising.com) which donates a percentage of your online purchases to a club of your choosing and the Club encourages parents to look into this option.

I would be happy to answer any questions you may have on the Treasurer report. If unable to answer them now, I am more than happy to take them away and include in them in the AGM minutes.

**Scott McDowall**  
**Treasurer**

## **6. Head Coach Report**

2023 was the start of a new era for Artistic swimming. FINA or World Aquatics as it is now known, brought out new rules for the sport and there were a lot of changes to the way that routines were going to be judged and how they were to be made up. This took a lot of training for our officials and also our coaches which Scottish swimming did by holding a seminar at the start of the year. These new rules are being introduced slowly to our competition structure in order for people to familiarise themselves with them.

Sarah hung up her coaches hat at the end of last year which left us short on poolside. However we were lucky to have Bethany Thomas join us from Nairn synchro as she was studying in Edinburgh. She became a valuable asset to our club and was coaching our junior group.



We had a busy start to the year with our Artistic Swimming for All competition in Dunfermline in January. We had 13 swimmers take part, for many it was their first competition. They all swam well and had an enjoyable event. This competition also helps some of our junior coaches to take part as judges which is vital for the continuation of the sport.

February saw our first figure grade day where 9 of our swimmers were successful in gaining their grades. March was a busy month with our own club figure competition and also the Scottish figure competition for our competitive swimmers. Well done to all the swimmers who medalled in these competitions.

May saw our first routine grade day where all 15 swimmers who entered passed their relevant grades. Unfortunately in June the Scottish club championships had to be postponed due to a lack of officials. This is the first time that I remember this having to happen and it just shows us how important it is to have as many volunteers in our sport as possible in order to keep it running. We decided instead to have a mini display of some of the routines which would have been swum at the club competition so the parents could see what we had been working on.

July and August training continued with depleted numbers due to the holidays. It was tricky at times to continue with the sessions due to low numbers and also the coaches being on holiday at the same time. We may have to look into this for the future. Over the summer period we dropped our numbers quite considerably to 23 swimmers. We also lost Bethany as a coach due to her University commitments which has left us quite short on poolside. I would just like to say at this point a HUGE thank you to all the girls who have worked incredibly hard to maintain the training programme without always having a coach to watch over them. It just shows how much dedication they have to the sport.

September saw our second figure grade day where a number of swimmers were successful in gaining their grades.

It was with great disappointment that the SNAGS competition in October had to be cancelled at the last minute due to a pool malfunction at East Kilbride. All of our competitive swimmers had been working extremely hard to create and perform a number of routines. We do however, have the Scottish club championships to look forward to at the end of November where a number of the routines will be able to be swum.

We are also hoping to have a Christmas display at club on Wednesday 6th December to which we invite all parents and friends to see our girls perform their routines.

I would like to conclude my report by thanking all of my fellow coaches for all the hard work they put in throughout the year. Also to the committee for their continued support in running the club and especially to Caroline for all the hard work she does, mostly behind the scenes, which ensures we can run smoothly. Lastly I would like to thank all of the swimmers for all the hard work they put into training and making it an enjoyable club to be part of.

**Margo Wimberley**  
**Head Coach**





## **7. Club Captain's remarks**

This year I've had the pleasure of being your club captain. I've enjoyed getting to know everyone in the club a lot better and also loved being able to see the support and care everyone in the club has for one another throughout the past year.

I'm so impressed with how everyone has done this year, with passing their grades and also the first competition from this year. Although we haven't had the competitions that we expected this year the routine that I have watched and all the hard work I've seen put into them is something that we should all be proud of.

I want to say a massive well done to everyone for what they have achieved this year and wish you all good luck for upcoming Scottish Clubs. I also want to say a huge thank you to you all for the amazing opportunity of being your club captain for my final year here, and a thank you to all the coaches for their continued support. I've enjoyed my time in the role and I'm very grateful I was able to be a part of it. Wishing you all the best for the new year and I'm happy to be passing the role to your new club captain, Rose.

**Lucy Foster**  
**Club Captain**



## 8. Alterations to constitution or bye-laws

### Proposal 1:

Change to EAS competition fees policy

Proposer – Viv Fleming

Seconder – Margo Wimberley

-----

### EAS Competition Fees Policy

Addition highlighted in yellow

- Swimmers pay entry fees\*. Swimmers should notify coaches immediately if unable to attend any competitions. If swimmers have been entered for a competition and have to pull out, for whatever reason, they may be charged for any penalty charge that the competition organisers impose.
- Soloists and duets are responsible for organising their own routine costumes and hairpieces.
- Swimmers are required to pay for their food.

\* Junior swimmers entering the same routine into more than one category should only pay for one category per routine, any additional category fees will be paid for by the club.

If the competition does not require an overnight stay the following applies:

- The club will levy a £10 competition fee per day for each competition. This will cover preferred type of gelatine, hair pins and nets, and team routine costumes and hairpieces. This will be invoiced in advance of each competition and should be paid before the day of the competition.

If the competition requires an overnight stay the following applies:

- The club will organise travel and accommodation for volunteers and swimmers. This cost will be divided between the swimmers.
- The club will levy a £10 competition fee per day for each competition. This will cover preferred type of gelatine, hair pins and nets, and team routine costumes and hairpieces. This will be invoiced in advance of each competition and should be paid before the day of the competition.

Swimmers can pay in instalments and the club will encourage anyone who is having difficulty meeting the cost to contact the club to discuss this.



### 9. Office Bearers 2023/24

Position	Holder
President	Outgoing: Antonia Delaney Incoming: Jenny Goodacre
Vice President	Cath Fleming
Secretary	Caroline McGrory
Treasurer	Scott McDowall
Head Coach	Margo Wimberley
Wellbeing & Protection Officer	Outgoing: Jenny Goodacre Incoming: Glenys Norquay
Vice Wellbeing & Protection Officer	Vacant
Team Manager Coordinator	Vacant
Fundraising Coordinator	Neil Thrower
Kit Coordinator	Paloma Flores
Camp Coordinator	Dagna Szcotka
Social Coordinator	Vacant
Development Coordinator	Vacant
Volunteer Coordinator	Vacant
Web and Social Media Coordinator	Sarah Wheatley
Club Captain	Rose McGrory
Life Members	Helen Murray Cath Fleming David Muxworthy Susan McFeeters Margo Wimberley Paul Bannon Vicky Peakman
East District Delegates	Margo Wimberley Cath Fleming