



**Minutes of Swim Ireland Annual General Meeting  
Saturday 10 April 2021  
Via Zoom in Irish Sports HQ, Blanchardstown, Dublin 15**

	Topic
<b>Moderator Introduction</b>	<p><b>11:00:</b> The meeting went 'live' and Moderator Aisling McKeever, Swim Ireland Club Support Manager, explained the Zoom housekeeping rules to all Attendees and the functions that would be used during the AGM. The Moderator advised attendees that the meeting would be recorded to facilitate minute-taking. She referenced the documentation that had been sent out in advance of the meeting to Delegates. The relevant documents were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Swim Ireland Standing Orders for General Meetings</li><li>• Swim Ireland Financial Statements for the year ending 31 December 2020</li><li>• Notice of Motions</li><li>• Election information</li><li>• Minutes of Swim Ireland AGM 2020</li><li>• Swim Ireland Annual Report 2020</li></ul>
<b>1. Welcome &amp; Opening Address</b>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 1: Welcome &amp; Opening Address</u></b></p> <p>Swim Ireland Board Chairperson, Peter Conway, welcomed everyone to the AGM and advised that there were 126 Delegates in attendance, and therefore the required quorum (50 Delegates) had been achieved.</p> <p>The Delegate List is attached to these Minutes as <u>Appendix A</u>.</p> <p>He advised that the Moderator, was situated in Sports HQ and supported by Discipline Support Manager, Sarah Kelly, who was based in her home. He also welcomed Sign Language Interpreters, Catriona Finlay and Katie Cannon, to the meeting and explained that non-voting attendees could view the meeting via live streaming on YouTube.</p> <p>The Chairperson reminded delegates of the housekeeping rules advising that microphones were on silent, and cameras were switched off. Any comments or queries could be submitted via the <u>chat</u> function and only individual presenters would be visible on-screen during presentations.</p> <p>He advised that the meeting would be run under Swim Ireland Standing Orders, a copy of which was provided in the delegate packs along with the other documentation that the Moderator had referenced. He advised that all documentation would be taken as read.</p> <p>The Chairperson then invited Swim Ireland President, Eugene Hillick to give the Opening Address.</p> <p>President, Eugene Hillick welcomed everyone to the meeting. He congratulated family, staff, coaches, volunteers and athletes on their hard work and commitment, as well as their resilience through these very difficult times. He commended the Swim Ireland team for their comprehensive approach to managing the response to the Pandemic over the last year and referenced the sheer number and</p>

	<p>variety of online supports available and the great uptake of these supports to date.</p> <p>He said that it was a bittersweet day for him as he had now reached the maximum length of time allowed in office, 12 years and that this was his last official role for Swim Ireland.</p> <p>The President ended by thanking the members of the Swim Ireland Board of Directors and Swim Ireland Staff and he wished good luck to the swimmers and divers for the upcoming FINA cup.</p> <p>He then handed back to the Chairperson who formally introduced the Board Directors:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Board Secretary, Sorcha Ni Chléirigh</li> <li>• Honorary Treasurer, Graham Beegan</li> <li>• Connacht Nominee, Patricia Cleary</li> <li>• Munster Nominee, Mariea Flanagan</li> <li>• Leinster Nominee: Gillian Markey</li> <li>• Ulster Nominee, Gary Stoops</li> <li>• Member Director, Dara O'Mahony</li> <li>• Member Director, Colin Morrissey</li> <li>• Independent Director, Katie Sadleir</li> <li>• Independent Director, Aidan McLaughlin</li> </ul>
<p><b>2. Apologies, Minutes of 2020 AGM and matters arising. Peter Conway, Chairperson</b></p>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 2: Apologies, Minutes of 2020 AGM and Matters Arising</u></b></p> <p>No Apologies were noted.</p> <p>The Chairperson advised that the Minutes of the previous AGM, held on 4 July 2020, had been circulated in advance and were taken as read. The Minutes were adopted without amendment.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Proposed by Ken Doherty, Ballina Swimming Club</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Seconded by Eammon Tilley, Markiewicz Masters</b></li> </ul> <p>There were no matters arising.</p>
<p><b>3. Treasurer's Report and Swim Ireland Financial Statements for y/e 31 December 2020</b></p>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 3: Treasurer's Report &amp; Swim Ireland Financial Statements 2020</u></b></p> <p>The Chairperson advised that it was not a requirement to have the Auditors at AGM and accordingly OSK had not been asked by Board to attend. He noted that the 2020 Financial Statements 2020 had been circulated in advance and that queries on the Financial Statements were invited in advance of the meeting, none were received. He then introduced outgoing Swim Ireland Treasurer, Graham Beegan, to deliver the Treasurer's Report. The Treasurer delivered his Report via a PowerPoint presentation and advised that general queries could be submitted via the Chat function.</p> <p>Key points from the presentation were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Unqualified Audit Report with no management letter issued for 2020.</li> <li>• 2020 Swim Ireland Accounts came in on target for Swim Ireland's revised 'COVID-19' Budget.</li> <li>• The Treasurer thanked Sport Ireland for their support and for the grants awarded throughout 2020.</li> </ul>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Throughout 2020, Swim Ireland was open for business, adapting services to the online environment and delivering a comprehensive programme of training and support to members.</li> <li>The COVID-19 Pandemic continues to impact on our activities in 2021, at present Swim Ireland 2021 budget deficit is forecast to be €122k.</li> </ul> <p>It was also explained that in keeping with good financial governance, it is best practice to change auditors periodically, and Swim Ireland do so every 5 years. A rigorous tendering and selection process was conducted overseen by the Internal Audit and Risk Committee. This process led to the appointment of Lombard Chartered Accountants as new auditors for 2021-2024.</p> <p>CEO, Sarah Keane, thanked the Treasurer and Finance Team for their commitment and support across the year and invited delegates to pose any questions around the Swim Ireland Financial Statements.</p> <p>The Treasurer thanked all present for their time and attention.</p> <p>The Treasurer's Report and Financial Statements were ratified.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Proposed by Brendan McGrath, Ennis Swimming Club</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Seconded by Eoin Bridgeman, St. Vincents Water Polo Club</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>4.i Board Report</b></p>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 4 (i): Board Report</u></b></p> <p>The Chairperson thanked Swim Ireland board members and Swim Ireland Senior Leadership Team. He commended the wider Swim Ireland staff for their great growth and development especially in the areas of digital and education.</p> <p>The Chairperson acknowledged the commitment and faith from Sport Ireland in our clubs and members evidenced in the level of resilience funding allocated to the sport and acknowledged the work of staff in securing the funding. He congratulated the steering group who helped in the applications for the Covid-19 swimming pool grants. He also recognised the Swim Ireland CEO, Sarah Keane, for her exemplary leadership and for how she has fostered growth in those around her.</p> <p>The Chairperson referenced the Annual Report 2020 which had been circulated in advance of the meeting and taken as read. He advised attendees that the Report contained a detailed overview of operations since the last AGM, including the Regional Reports, Anti-Doping Report and statements from the CEO and Chairperson. He invited attendees to submit any queries on the Report via the Chat Function. He also made specific reference to work of the Regions and thanked the members of the Regional Executives for their service and support throughout a very difficult year.</p> <p>There were no queries and the Chairperson asked that all the Reports contained in the Swim Ireland Annual Report 2020 be adopted <i>en bloc</i>. There were no objections to this, and the Chairperson then handed over to Swim Ireland CEO Sarah Keane to present the CEO Report.</p>
<p><b>4.ii</b></p>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 4 (ii) CEO Report</u></b></p> <p>The CEO, Sarah Keane welcomed everyone and discussed the 2020 Highlights and how much had been achieved. She delivered her CEO Report in 2 stages – retrospectively and an update on future plans for 2021.</p>

She explained that the organisation was at the end of the current strategic plan, 2017-2021, and encouraged members, attendees, delegates, and staff to share their ideas and hopes for Irish Aquatics going forward for the next strategic cycle.

Key points from the CEO update were:

**Looking back at 2020:**

- Huge resilience and close collaboration around the organisation to remain 'Open for Business in 2020', which resulted in the delivery of an extensive range of online training & support.
- Very strong engagement at a political level which has resulted in increased recognition of the importance and role of swimming as an activity, a sport, and an industry. Swim Ireland secured several financial grants both in the Republic of Ireland and in Northern Ireland throughout 2020.
- Increased collaboration across the whole organisation.
- 1000+ courses/webinars/CPD's/Clinics
- 15,000 attendees on online Webinars (availing of learning and development opportunities)
- 60 Online BY Athletes FOR Athletes Clinics delivered to 1500 athletes
- Successful delivery of McCullagh International 2020
- 22,000 views of #WePlay Online (Women in Sport Conference)
- Weekly Online Workouts viewed by over 10,000
- 21-Day May Challenge
- Aquatic Parent Programme delivered to 150 parents
- Over 4,000 downloads of our Activity Pack & Covid Capsule
- Delivery of 'Drowning Prevention Week' Campaign
- Mental Health and Wellbeing seminars delivered to over 250 participants

**Swim Ireland supporting sport and industry**

- Increased Political engagement, letters & meetings with Ministers, Government, Department of Sport, Sports Monitor Group, Sports Leadership Group, Expert Advisory Group, Sport Ireland
- Receipt of Sport Ireland NGB Resilience Fund to the amount of €100,000
- Receipt of Sports Club Resilience Fund to the amount of €500,000 (48 clubs)
- Receipt of Sports Restart and Renewal Fund to the amount of €180,000
- Receipt of Sport Northern Ireland Sustainability Fund and Club Sustainability Fund of £244,173 (17 clubs)
- Impressive media engagement across multiple platforms, e.g.: RTE News features, Radio, Newspaper Articles
- Securing Swimming Pool Grant
  - o Round 1 – 2.5m
  - o Round 2 - €700,000
- Ensuring our membership were supported and informed throughout this difficult time through:
  - o Writing of Protocols
  - o COVID Officer Training
  - o Security of Insurance
  - o Engagement and support of clubs, members and facilities

**Annual Safeguarding Report 2019-2020:**

With safeguarding as a core value for Swim Ireland, the 2019-2020 Safeguarding Report was delivered, and the CEO encouraged everyone to read this.

The CEO shared some highlights of this Report, and explained that we consistently strive to support and listen to our young people in our sports:

- 136 affiliated Clubs with u18 members

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- 191 Club Children’s officers</li> <li>- 6793 members with current Safeguarding level 1 training course</li> <li>- 5097 members with valid vetting acceptance</li> <li>- 425 members with current Safeguarding level 2 (Club Children’s Officer) course</li> <li>- 257 members with current Safeguarding level 3 (Designated Liaison Person) course</li> <li>- 402 attendees at 10 Club Children’s Officer (CCO) Forums to update and upskill CCOs</li> </ul> <p><b>Looking forward to 2021:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Highlights were shared on various upcoming training and engagement opportunities were made available.</li> <li>- Level 3 Head Swimming Coach launched in March with 30 places available (50 applications received to date). Closes April 16th.</li> <li>- Tutor Training 2021 Applications now open, with 12 Places available</li> <li>- Introduction to the ‘Retain and Retrain Programme Scholarship Programme for Teenagers’ (up to 19)</li> <li>- Attention was drawn to the awarding of the CARA Silver Inclusivity Award</li> <li>- It was highlighted that the new Swim Ireland Head of Participation, Ashley Hunter, will start later this month and attended the AGM.</li> <li>- Attention was drawn to the Employee &amp; Coach Well Being support available for both employees but particularly for coaches.</li> <li>- Launch of Swim Ireland Podcast Series</li> <li>- Focus was drawn to the Open Water Summer Series for 2021 and the Leisure Membership (Me and the Water) launching later this month.</li> <li>- The CEO referenced that Swim Ireland have established a Road Map, which is subject to change due to Government restrictions, and this was due to concerns and requests from Clubs to get an understanding of what is to come in 2021.</li> </ul> <p>The CEO concluded by thanking the Board, Clubs, Coaches, Staff, Volunteers, and all involved in the day-to-day delivery of Aquatic Sports in Ireland. She also wished all swimmers luck for the first ever Olympic trial qualification taking place in 2 weeks, on Irish soil.</p> <p>Delegates were invited to submit questions via the chat function and several questions were submitted.</p>
<p><b>5. Motions</b></p>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 5: Motions</u></b></p> <p>The Chairperson introduced Mary McMorrow, Director of Operations and Company Secretary to present a single Motion for amendments to the Constitution on behalf of the Board. She advised that Delegates were entitled to speak on the Motion, and they should indicate their wish to do so via the chat function. She advised that the Motion required 75% of voting delegates in favour of the Motion to pass.</p> <p>Mary advised that the detail of the Motion and the exact wording had been circulated in advance to Delegates. She explained that the effect of the amendments, if adopted, would be to empower and oblige National Committees to appoint additional members in order to achieve a minimum gender balance of 70/30 where that balance is not achieved naturally through the election process.</p> <p>She then handed back to Chairperson Peter Conway who invited discussion on the Motion. A query was raised around the use of ‘Chairman’ as opposed to ‘Chairperson’ in the wording. The Swim Ireland CEO and Company Secretary agreed to review options for evolution of the wording within the Swim Ireland constitution.</p> <p>A vote was called, and the Chairperson handed over to Moderator Aisling McKeever to explain the voting process, do a test and run the poll.</p> <p>The results of the poll were as follows:</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>92/110 delegates voted (84%)</b></li> <li>• <b>97% In Favour (91 delegates)</b></li> <li>• <b>3% Opposed (3 delegates)</b></li> <li>•</li> </ul> <p>The Chairperson declared that the motion was passed.</p>
<p><b>6. Elections</b></p>	<p><b><u>Agenda Item 6: Company Elections</u></b></p> <p>The Chairperson advised that there were 6 vacancies arising on the Board this year. He advised that 4 of these were Regional Nominees who had been nominated and ratified by the clubs at their respective Annual Regional Conference. Delegates were advised that these were:</p> <p>Connacht: Jo McCormack          Leinster: Gillian Markey          Munster: Helen Desmond          Ulster: Gary Stoops</p> <p><b>Swim Ireland Treasurer</b>          Nominations were invited in respect of the role of Treasurer, one unopposed nomination was received in advance of the closing date. The current Treasurer, Graham Beegan had served a full term in the role, and incoming Board Treasurer Joan Hynes was ratified with no objections from Delegates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Proposed by Aer Lingus Swimming Club</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Seconded by St. Vincent’s WPC</b></li> </ul> <p><b>Skill-Set Member Director</b>          Nominations were invited in respect of the role of Skill Set Director. The current Director, Colin Morrissey indicated his willingness to continue and was nominated by his own Club and Supporting Club. The reappointment required ratification and there were no objections from Delegates.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>➤ <b>Proposed by Half Moon SC</b></li> <li>➤ <b>Seconded by Swan Leisure</b></li> </ul> <p>The Chairperson thanked all the outgoing Directors for their hard work and excellent contribution over the last number of years and advised that he hoped they would remain involved in the organisation in different ways going forward.</p> <p>The Chairperson then called on outgoing Swim Ireland President to share a few words before handing over to Connacht Chairperson Frank Breslin.</p> <p>Frank Breslin introduced incoming President from the Connacht Region, Kevin Dowling, and Kevin expressed his thanks for being appointed.</p> <p>The Chairperson proposed that the outgoing President’s name, Eugene Hillick, be added to the list of past Presidents.</p>
<p><b>8. Date of 2022 AGM</b></p>	<p><b>Date of AGM 2022</b></p> <p>The final item for decision was the date of the 2022 AGM . The date proposed was 30 April 2022. It was noted that the date falls on the May bank holiday weekend and the Company Secretary proposed that Delegates would empower the Board of Directors to decide on a suitable date close date close to the end of April or early May. There were no objections to this approach.</p> <p>The Chairperson thanked all Delegates for attending the AGM and the meeting concluded.</p>

**Swim Ireland AGM 2021: Delegate List**

Club name	First Name	Last Name
Piranha SC	Aidan	Brennan
Ennis SC	Alison	Deane
Portadown ASC	Andrea	Herron
Alliance ASC	Andrew	Scott
Aer Lingus Swim Club	Audrey	Clancy
Curragh CST	Audrey	Solan
Newry and Mourne Water Polo Club	Barry	Magill
Otter Swimming Club	Bernie	Cullinan
Ennis SC	Brendan	McGrath
Viking SC	Brendan	Ryan
Killarney SC	Brian	OConnor
Templeogue Swim Club	Brian	Sweeney
Co. Sligo Swimming Club	Brid	McCole
Tallaght Swim Team	Carmel	Moran
Diamonds Water Polo club	Catherine	Hanna
Bluefin SC	Christine	Watterson
Drogheda SC	Ciaran	Doyle
Guinness SC	Ciaran	McNerney
Sliabh Beagh Asc	Claire	Sheridan
Portadown ASC	Conor	McKeown
Titans SC	Damien	Camlin
Crosshaven Triclub	Darren	Morrissey
Crosshaven Triclub	Darren	Morrissey
Cookstown ASC	David	Moan
NAC Masters	david	yeates
NAC Masters	declan	Harte

Athlone Swim Club	Deirdre	Lowe
Clontarf Swimming Club	Dermot	Marron
ESB Swimming Club	Dermot	Dorgan
Lurgan Amateur Swimming Club	Donna-Marie	Craig
Crosshaven Triclub	Douglas	Deane
Corrib WPC	Eamon	Caulfield
Sunday's Well SC	Eamon	Curtin
Markievicz Masters	Eamonn	Tilley
UCD	Earl	McCarthy
Alsa SC	Egiziana	Fragiotta
Piranha SC	Eimear	Mathews
St. Vincent's Water Polo Club	Eoin	Bridgeman
Otter Swimming Club	Fiona	Arnold
Armagh Swimming Club	Fiona	Clelend
Limerick Swimming Club	Gearoid	Yelverton
Lahinch Swimming club	Geraldine	O'Hara
Fortunestown Swimming Club	Gerard	Ryder
Bangor Swimming Club	Gillian	Prue
Dolphin SC	Giuseppe	Whelan
Lahinch Swimming club	Grainne	Henegan
SwimWest Masters	Helen	Gunning
Tribes Waterpolo Club	Helen	Crudden
Glenalbyn Swimming Club	Helena	Burke
St fiaccs Swim Club	Irina	Dawson
East Cavan swim club	Iris	Behem
Castlebar Swimming Club	Jackie	Grady
Fermoy swimming club	Jackie	Power
Viking SC	Jackie	Roche
Waterford Crystal Swimming Club	Jacqueline	Quinn
Bangor Barracudas Water Polo	Jamie	Branigan
Bangor Barracudas Water Polo	Jane	Reilly
Coolmine SC	Janet	Jacobs
Portmarnock swim team	Janette	Penney
East Cavan swim club	Janis	Sungals
Kells Swimming Club	Jeff	Phillips
Templemore	Jill	Whitten
Leander ASC	Jillian	Newberry
Longford SC	Jo	McCormack
St. Vincent's Water Polo Club	Joan	Hynes
ESB Swimming Club	Joe	Gavaghan



Markievicz Masters	Johanna	Tilley
Fermoy swimming club	John	Hawe
New Ross Swimming Club	John	Bayley
Trojan Swimming Club	Jonathan	Preston
Portmarnock swim team	Joseph	O'Keeffe
Ballyshannon Marlins SC	Karen	Summerville
Aer Lingus Masters SC	Katherine	Murphy
Ballina Swimming club	Ken	Doherty
Laser Swimming Club - Galway	Kevin	Dowling
Templeogue Swim Club	Kevin	Potts
New Ross Swimming Club	Leighann	Culleton
Askeaton Swimming Club	Leona	Blackwell
Armagh Swimming Club	Lisa	Mc Gleenan
Sliabh Beagh ASC	Louise	Skeath
Trojan Swimming Club	Louise	Campbell
Ballyshannon Marlins SC	Mairead	Gallagher
Fortunestown Swimming Club	Mara	Prah
Castlebar Swimming Club	Marian	English
Templemore	Mark	Wolseley
St Fiacc's Swim Club	Martina	SHEEHAN
Aer Lingus Masters SC	Mary	Fitzpatrick
Ballina Dolphins	Mary	Dunne
Ballina Dolphins	Mary	O'Connor
Laser Swimming Club	Maura	Blanchard
Claremorris Swimming Club	Maureen	Walsh
Bluefin SC	Maurice	Boyle
Leinster Open Sea	Michael	O Kane
Dolphin SC	Micheal	McCormack
Kenmare Bay Swim Club	Mike	Merrigan
Clontarf Swimming Club	Mike	McNieve
Tallaght Swim Team	Naomi	Fogarty
Coolmine SC	Neil	Curran
Courtown Swim Club	Nicola	Nugent
Courtown Swim Club	Nivard	Rush
Corrib WPC	Padraig	Smyth
Alsaa SC	Paolo	Di Paola
Kingdom Swimming Club	Pat	McTigue
Asgard Swimming Club	Paul	Ivory
Lecale SC	Paul	Naughton
Tribes Water Polo Club	Paul	Connery

Minutes of Swim Ireland Annual General Meeting held on 10 April 2021

Leander ASC	Paula	Cunningham
Claremorris Swimming Club	Pauline	McNamara
NAC Swimming Club	Peter	Hussey
Glenalbyn Swimming Club	Renee	Martin
Alliance ASC	Robbie	Dougan
Mallow Swans Swimming Club	Ronan	Garvey
Asgard Swimming Club	Ronell	Williams
Laois Marlins	Rose	Bergin
Templemore	Ross	Gillespie
Bangor Swimming Club	Samuel Ian	Wright
Titans SC	Santi	Ibarz
Cookstown ASC	Shauna	Mulligan
Limerick Swimming Club	Shirley	Finnan
Kells Swimming Club	Sue	Phillips
Kenmare Bay Swim Club	Tom	Meagher
Sunday's Well SC	Tom	Cross
Lurgan Amateur Swimming Club	Trudy	Cochrane
Cathal Brugha	Wally	Clarke
Aer Lingus Swim Club	William	Irwin