



Karori Pirates

Swimming Club

Annual Report

Annual General Meeting

1 December 2011

This report covers the period 2 April 2011 until 1 December 2011. It's my first report as President having taken over from Nigel formally on 8 April 2011.

Karori Pirates Constitution – Changes

There have been two resolutions passed during this period, both now registered with the Companies Office at the Ministry of Economic Development:

1. Following changes to the Club's financial year end of 30 June (to align with Swimming Wellington) we have now formalised a change to Rule 14(2) SUBSCRIPTIONS. The wording now states "The annual subscription shall become due and payable at the commencement of each financial year".
2. Following agreement at our last AGM, we have now formalised a change to Rule 20(1) ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING which states "The AGM of members of the Club shall be held sometime after 1 July each year and after the finalising of the annual accounts". We are now adhering to the new timeframe which is why this AGM covers only an 8 month period.

Club Committee, Officials and Volunteers

It's been a big learning curve for me but I am fortunate that the club is in a good financial state with a very experienced and dedicated committee. Thanks to all the committee members for the huge effort they put into the club.

Since April there have been some changes to club officers:

- Lynda Kamstra after 3 years in the role as race secretary has stepped down, but has kindly agreed to stay on the committee in a general role. We thought it would be too difficult to replace Lynda with one person to do all that she was doing, so those tasks have been split into what we hope will be more manageable workloads. (Many of you received calls from me asking for you to take on some of these jobs – thanks to you who have and to the rest of you for giving it some thought).
- Jacqui Forsythe has taken on the Race Secretary role, including some web site updating.
- Janine Neal has taken the role of Membership Secretary.
- Dale Mitchell has taken the role of website coordinator.
- Sue Smart has taken the role of Officials Coordinator and coordinates the non-competitive squad. Unfortunately Sue just yesterday advised of her intention to step

down from her roles. So we are now urgently seeking a replacement Officials Coordinator and committee member.

- Kareen Stewart has taken on uniform ordering and sales
- Paul Wallis has continued as our Grants application officer
- Alison Dorrington our club Secretary is also stepping down after 3 years in that role. Thank you Alison on behalf of the members for all your hard work during that period. Michelle Rush has kindly put her name forward to take over that role.
- Jo Simpson our Treasurer has done a marvelous job sorting and streamlining our payments and banking systems using MYOB and agreed to continue in her role for a further year. Jo has asked for a Treasurer's assistant to help cover things as she will be away a lot in the coming year - Jo is talking to someone about that also.

There are also some further initiatives we hope to make soon to better support the membership:

- We hope to clarify and publish on our website information about financial support the club hopes to provide to various events. There really hasn't been enough clarity about what the club will pay for or what reimbursements volunteers can expect. We are in the process of finalising a spreadsheet of costs so there is more information and transparency around this.
- The committee feels we don't have enough connection with the junior squads and insufficient representation from that part of the club where the bulk of the membership lies.
- We also find it very hard to get volunteers to help with organizing events. We are setting up a group of parent coordinators – one from each squad, who will be our liaison person for that squad. They would:
 - Monitor any issues arising from "their" squad
 - Liaise with the coach
 - Be the committee's "go-to" person for organizational tasks (they would enlist a small team of helpers from the parents they know well and organize and manage some of the small but important tasks like arranging bus trips, ordering tee shirts, managing or cooking at camps, helping as team managers for away trips, etc). So far we have:
 - For the Sea Hawks Fleur Nicholas
 - For the Stingrays Dawn Morrison
 - For Electric Eels Jo WilsonLooking for someone from each of the Hammerheads and Tigersharks

Volunteer/Parent Support

Swimming requires a great deal of parent involvement and I would like to thank the many volunteers through the year who have stepped forward to support our club and our swimmers. Sue Smart has done a great job in her role as Officials Coordinator. The process of nominating yourself for a duty at the same time that you list your swimmer entries seems to be a great help in juggling who is available to fill poolside positions at meets.

Greg Forsyth who arranges officials for SW and National meets held in Wellington has also reported that he is pleased with the level of support he gets from our club.

I hope that that level of support from parents will increase over the next 12 months so that we can easily meet our club obligations to local, Wellington and National meets.

Tuesday Night Swimming

The Tuesday night coaches include:

Sue Smart
George Wiles
Rachel Smart
Craig McDonald
Milton Bevan
Sarah Gardiner
Debbie Spratt
Rory Grice
Terry Lawrence
Pete Taylor

Andrea Rogers coordinates the coaches and arranges the fun nights.
Nuala O'Conner does the registrations.

It's a big undertaking by so few people, a big thanks to them all.

Club Statistics

Competitive Squad

Total numbers 140

Non competitive squad (Tuesday night swimmers)

Total numbers varies from 100 to 110 swimmers

Australian Age Group Camps (April)

Ted Taylor was very fortunate to earn a place to attend the meet in Adelaide.
6th in 400Fr, 9th in 1500 Fr, 12th in 200Fly, 16th in 200Fr

Division II (July)

Ben, Devlin and Liam entered 18 events between them.
Achieved 13 gold, 2 silver and 3 bronze medals = 18 medals!
This small team finished 8th out of 63 teams competing.

NZ Short Course Champs (August)

9 swimmers entered 51 events.
Achieved 2 silver, 2 bronze and 33 top ten placings

Wellington Short Course Champs (September)

Our biggest meet ever with 60 competitors including lots of new young faces. The club finished 3rd out of the 17 clubs competing. We finished the 2 weekends with a total of 25 gold, 35 silver and 16 bronze medals. 187 top ten placings from 409 entries.

Wellington Records since April to date

Ted Taylor 400Fr in the NZ Short Course Champs on 8 August (4.02.80).

Judging by the way some of the other senior swimmers are performing I am hopeful for some new records at the upcoming Wellington Long Course meet in January.

Away Trips

Because swimming in Christchurch is not possible through pool damage there, more National meets are being held in Wellington. And because our swimmers are based here they have less opportunity to travel to away-meets. For that reason Steve Francis is keen to take opportunities to get teams away to other regional meets for team building, training and competitions – for a change of scenery to keep our swimmers interested and motivated.

There was a very successful trip to the Manawatu Champs. Following that a trip was planned to the Iceberg Spring Carnival in Palmerston North. This unfortunately had to be cancelled due to a low number of entries - we think partly because entries closed during the school holidays and people still had their minds very much on the Rugby World Cup final. We have just had the bus trip to the Mitch Tait meet in Masterton last weekend, a good way to focus on the new long course season.

Summer Camps

In January 2012 the Hammerheads and Tigersharks are attending a summer camp at the Millennium Institute of Sport in Auckland where they will live-in, train hard and be well managed and cared for by Shayne and Brigitte Plunkett and Tony Dawbin.

The junior squads will attend the popular Marton Summer Camp staying in the dorms at Huntley School and enjoying the lovely grounds and warm weather there. We have Fleur Nicholas and Karen Jacobs managing and a good team of helpers for the week away. We are sure this camp will be a big success also.

The costs of these two camps combined is approx \$30,000 – roughly \$12,000 of which will be funded directly from club funds with the remainder split between Grants and the parents of swimmers.



27 Nov 2011. Pirates car washing at BP Karori – fundraising for Millennium summer camp uniforms

Grants and Sponsorship

This year we applied to the New Zealand Community Trust for approx \$7000 towards the summer camps and have received a grant from them of \$3000. In late October Paul Wallis completed our application to the Winton and Margaret Bear Charitable Trust for a Grant of \$8,800 for those same camps. We expect to hear the result of that application in late December. We are very grateful to these two organizations for their support of our swimmers.



We were also approached by Hell Pizza who are keen to give a small sum back to the club in return for each pizza sold to members. So far the return has been small. They also provide a free small pizza for swimmer of the week from each squad. We are grateful for their support.

Coaches

We have retained our most important of assets – our head coach Steve Francis, and his assistant coaches Mark Heath, Olivia Melbourne, Jono Griffith and earlier in the year, Amber Kay. They are reliable and committed. Recently we have all seen Steve hobbling into the pool nursing a very painful back, leg and foot. Coaches suffer injuries and ailments like the rest of us but continue to be poolside. It's that level of commitment that allows our swimmers to excel. A big thanks to the whole coaching team.

Steve reported to me today that from his perspective the club is in great shape, the senior squads are working very well together, and are definitely moving forward. There are a lot of youngsters coming through as well.

Swimmer Conduct

I am delighted to note the good conduct that our swimmers display at meets and away trips. We had good feedback about the Rotorua Div II team with their positive support for each other there.

Also from the owners at the Feilding Motel attended by our team at the Manawatu Champs "Please pass on to your young people our appreciation of their mature manner and for understanding the need to be considerate towards our other guests", and from our team managers at that meet, Brigitte and Shayne Plunkett "we will team manage you guys any time".

And finally from BP Karori who are allowing us to use their forecourt for carwash fundraising. They advised that our swimmers have been polite and well behaved.

Don Taylor
President
Karori Pirates Swimming Club