



Annual General Meeting
Saturday 24 February 2024, Palmer Park, Reading, RG1 3PE – 3pm

1. Welcome

Ellie Gosling welcomed and thanked all those in attendance for joining us including committee members; Kirsty Scott, Ian Gosling, Juliet Fenwick, Milly Pelmore and representation from the following junior member's families; Rose, Ford, Morris, Horrock, Wagstaff, Coates, Sawyer, Swann, Kitson, Sirichantaropass, Evans and Chiu.

2. Apologies/Absence

No apologies were received.

3. Minutes of last Annual General Meeting

These were available at the meeting, no further action required.

4. Chairman's report

Ellie thanked everyone for attending the meeting and shared highlights of 2023 which included:

- Dorney Triathlon
- Cycling at Yateley Airfield
- Holiday training camps
- Junior parkrun events
- End of term triathlons
- Duke of Edinburgh Award Scheme volunteers
- Woking Aquathlon
- Caversham Lakes
- Sessions in heat waves
- New kit
- Macbeth Sponsorship
- Participation in South Central Series – special congratulations to Marcus for winning his age group

Ellie gave an update on Club Coaches – Milly Pelmore was officially welcomed to the club as coach, Milly is a huge asset to the club as a teacher, experienced swimming teacher and triathlete herself. Ian is officially back on the coaching register after a few years “break!” Dave Wood is stepping back from coaching for the foreseeable future. Lewis is still keen to coach but has lots of training and work commitments.

5. Secretary's report

Kirsty shared the following membership figures for 2023:

January – March 2023	32 members
April – July 2023	31 members
September – December 2023	37 members

In summary, the membership average 33 members per term which is an increase on the 21 members per term in 2022.

6. Treasurer's report

Ian shared a copy of the Income & Expenditure Summary for 2023

Reading Rascals 2023
Income & Expenditure Summary

1 Opening bank balance 01/01/23	£1,111.79
2 Income	
Fees & memberships	£8,291.48
3 Expenses	
Annual affiliation fee to British Triathlon	(£165.00)
Coaching Fees	(£4,084.06)
Session Expenses	(£2,584.25)
Rascals Merchandise	(£986.24)
BF Event Fees	£0.00
EA Affiliation Fees	£0.00
Aqua Park	(£150.00)
Sponsorship	£1,500.00
Other misc exp	(£244.46)
Total	<u>(£6,714.01)</u>
4 Balance at bank 31/12/23	£2,689.26

Ian explained the current state of the club finances and stated the increase in coaching fees is relative to the increase in number of members. We are very grateful to Macbeth Insurance for their kind sponsorship of £1500 to help subsidise club kit and help cover ad-hoc costs throughout the year.

A question was raised by Karen Ford as to if the club pays insurance. As part being a Triathlon England affiliated club the club receives £15m public liability insurance.

7. Welfare Officer's report

Kirsty stated there were no concerns or updates to share.

8. Election of committee for 2023-24

As per the Club Constitution Full Voting members of the club consist of the Chairman, Secretary, Treasurer and Club Welfare Officer.

The following elections were concluded:

Chairman – Ellie Gosling

Secretary – Kirsty Scott

Treasurer – Ian Gosling

Club Welfare Officer – Kirsty Scott

9. Strategy and direction for forthcoming year

Ellie stated she plans to keep doing what we're doing unless anyone had any other ideas! We would like to increase the number of younger members as we do not currently have any members born in 2016, the Tristar Start age group. Ellie suggested a Bring a Friend session to increase awareness about the club. Ellie also stated that those running parkrun, if they select their club as Reading Rascals this helps with awareness.

Ellie also stated that she intends to carry on using SPOND app to manage membership, attendance and payments as the system has helped and streamlined Ellie's administration tasks. Please use SPOND to communicate with Ellie if necessary.

A question was raised by Mr Evans as to whether we had ever thought about an additional training session in the week after school, in particular a regular swim session. Ellie stated that this has been discussed previously, however finding pool time is incredibly challenging. Ellie to discuss further with committee and coaches at their next planning meeting on Wednesday 13 March and to revert with update.

Ellie to update and circulate publicity flyer about the club which she would appreciate members to circulate within their networks – school friends, other clubs, social media etc.

10. Any other Business

Ellie stated that she had been contacted by Macbeth Insurance Brokers alerting us of the [Allianz Sports Fund](#) which we are eligible to apply for as we have a connection to an insurance broker, we are an affiliated club to a national governing body and we have a bank account registered in the club name. Ellie stated there are grants ranging from £500 - £3,000 available to apply for before Friday 8 March. The grant can be used to help cover of venue hire, equipment, club league affiliation fees, travel and kit. Ellie to submit an application on behalf of the club.

An overnight residential trip was discussed – Ellie to look at potential options.

11. Close

Meeting closed at 3.30pm.