

LONDON GYMNASTICS

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GFA TECHNICAL ASSEMBLY MEETING 2016 MINUTES

**Sunday 24 July 2016
Allstarz Gym Club**

The meeting commenced at 10.15 pm with Christine Brockbank (JTC Chairman) in the Chair

1) Present (in order of signing in)

Kay Ongley	Claire Ongley	Stephanie Curtis	Tammy Curtis
June Tatch	Christine Brockbank	Salme Naylor	Becky Jones
Liz Jones	Gabriella Light	Betty Smethurst	Jade Eden
Kyle White	Becca Lockyer	Sinaid Callaghan	Anne McNeill
Anne Bevis	Kirsty Reece	Taylor Eden	Stuart Ellsworth
Dawn Lockyer	Jade Salim	Emily Burnham	Helen Korro
Layla Berrada	Lucy Ward	Elaine Reece	Freya Catmur Hill
Buki Akinkigbe	Billie Keleghar	Kataryna Bachonske	Oksana Kovichova
David Jay	Anita Merrick	Gloria Grant	Joe Dunkley
Rachel Kay	Karen McKann	Trudi Salih	Catherine Bates
Beth Lion	Philip Davis	Jackie Lewis	Jackie Lenthall
Gina Turner	Julia Bartlett	Fiona Groom	

2) Clubs represented

Alleyn's	Allstarz	Bromley Valley
Catleaps	Crystal Palace	EJB
Enfield	Gemstones	Gym Club
Ladywell	Merton	Nitro
OK Gymnastics	Redbridge Lions	Richmond
Silverline	Sutton School	Thamas's Clapham
Zodiac	Crystal Palace	JAX
Croydon School	Ashmole Phoenix	

3) Officials Present

Regional Administrator HLVP (2)	JTC Chairman Marketing and Comms Officer
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4) Apologies for Absence

Amie McGranaghan	Michelle Guiseris	Julie Ewenson	Andrew Payne
Simon Moore	Ted Maxey	Aisha Walters	Emma Sheriff
Mark Westley	Graham O'Sullivan		

- 5) CBrock and AM open the meeting. CBrock introduced herself as representative of the Management committee and would be overseeing the election. Then proceeded to explain the process 2 nominees had been received.
1. Julie Ewenson – (absent but statement sent and to be read out by AM)
 2. Anita Merrick
- It was agreed that JT could represent JE in answering any questions. The vote will then proceed and voting slips to be placed in box. To be counted by MC.
- First
Julie Ewenson – Statement read out
No Questions
- Second Anita Merrick – Anita introduced herself and gave a brief outline of her time being involved in gymnastics which stemmed from her daughter joining a club. From here she attended coaching and judging courses to help develop her knowledge of the discipline further. She told attendees of her working background with experience in many fields which she feels would benefit GfA and as Chair. She told members that she would like to carry on with the successes of GfA and get to know the clubs, by visiting and talking to the clubs directly getting feedback from individual members to help build the discipline and knowledge of best ways forward.
- Questions:
1. June Tatch stated that when she took on the role 2 years ago this would only be for one term of office. Due to stress and ill health this has meant she has had to step down after two years in office and was concerned about that. (CBrock asked JT what the question was and to proceed, JT said she was leading up to the question.) CB asked JT to get to the question. JT proceeded to ask Anita stating that it was brilliant that she was willing to come onto the TC but would she consider coming on the TC as Deputy Chair to learn and develop that role over the coming year? CBrock stepped in and told Anita that this question did not need and should not be answered. That this was a democracy and we are following the same procedures and policies set out by London Gymnastics.
 2. Cat Bates asked – What ideas do you have to get new volunteers and adults involved?
Anita answered – Getting clubs involved and to help support in those areas. Anita told attendees “I am not a coaching expert” but would draw on others expertise with the aim to get the best out of all.
 3. Rachel Kay asked – Volunteering was difficult for their club as they are so far away from the hosting venue of competitions and was impractical getting young gymnasts

there to volunteer. Would the opportunity arise for competitions to be held at another venue South of the river? CBrock said this question was not relevant or linked to the statement.

4. Jo Dunkling asked – As I understand it this post would only be for a year? CBrock reiterated that there was only one year left of the current Chairs cycle so at the end of that year there would need to be another election.
5. Liz Jones asked – I know you, but how would you intend to get others who do not know you onsite?
Anita's answer – For me face to face meetings with people, go out to clubs, using all forms of social media available. She stated again she has no agenda on standing for Chair, only to carry on the good work of GfA.
Liz Jones added – Do you understand the level of work and commitment needed to perform this role?
Anita answered – I have had many roles over many years some to name a few have included – a professional Journalist, Government role and has been used to high levels of communication at any time of day and feels this will be a benefit if she was elected.
6. Beth Lion asked – How would you achieve the continuity of judging?
Anita answered – Making sure that courses were made available and trying to get courses sorted out if not, making sure that the continuity of judges on the day of competitions were monitored and developed further.
Kay Ongley asked – You said that you would visit all clubs or as many as you can, this not practical as some clubs are not or do not have the time to take out of sessions to talk, how would you communicate with those?
Anita answered – That she would communicate with clubs in a way that would be more beneficial to them individually, what suits one may not be ideal to another.

There were no more questions and the vote was opened. Voting took place and CBrock and AM left the room to count the votes.

June Tatch delivered her report on the previous year review of this report attached. She thanked members of the committee for their support over the past couple of years and with that support moving forward GfA further. She then proceeded to give CB an award for her time served as Competition organiser.

No questions were asked.

Tammy Curtis delivered her report on the GfA finances. Report attached.

Liz Jones asked – Why is the report laid out this way, to me it is just doubling up on information with income and expenditure in 2 places?

TC explained that this format was historic from when she took over as Treasurer and she could understand what she meant and would feedback. CBrock told Liz Jones that London Gymnastics

and the management committee were aware of this and a new format was being developed and used from September.

No further questions.

Catherine Bates delivered her competition report. CB started with her experience she had gained from her working alongside games makers at the London Olympics and how important it is for volunteers within an event and that GfA needs to be the same. Over the course of a competition there are a number of sections to make that competition succeed. Friday evenings and the setup could not happen without a large number of volunteers, during the competitions making sure that warm up is a calm environment and gave thanks to members who help achieve this. Clubs, stepping up on the day to assist with volunteering.

She stated that there may be problems next year with the number of gymnasts who received a pin in certain levels and not in others. This could cause larger groups than normal. Judging consistency needs to be addressed further. All judges need to be supported as they are giving up a large amount of their time. Over the last competition to achieve this the head judges worked with Gyndata and looked at scores as they were given, then went back to those judges to help standardise them across the panels making sure that the consistency was there.

Security had been bought in for the last 3 competitions. This has made a big difference not only with the door volunteers but also with making sure that all spectators had paid. Also this helped with the dispersal at the end of each round.

Emails were sent out to clubs but not all members of clubs had this information passed on. It is very important that all coaches, judges or other members of clubs are on the mailing list to get up to date information. This can be done by just emailing London Gymnastics and asking to be added.

CB stated that clubs must inform CB about this before the competition notifying of any gymnasts with a disability so that arrangements can be put in place for that child.

Competition handbooks go out to clubs and this should then be forwarded to all parents. Signs were always placed around the venue for parents and coaches giving them information.

Social media has a big part in the region. Clubs were encouraged to send photos or event details so that this information can be shared across these forms of media.

Report ended.

CBrock and AM made a presentation of flowers thanking JT for her time and commitment of Chair and also to CB for her time and commitment to Competition organiser.

AM gave a brief statement as to what her role was as Major events Organiser meant she was there to assist and support and not take over the setting up of events.

The votes had been counted and it was announced that Anita Merrick had received the majority of votes and would be the new Chair of GfA. Congratulations were given to Anita.

CBrock read out a statement with regards to the Policy and Protocol of judges payments. This had been created under the advice of the legal team and accountant. This has been sent to all clubs and is also displayed on the London Website and that all must comply.

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Meeting finished at 11.24 am and CBrock thanked all for attended. It was agreed that we would break for lunch earlier than timetabled and resume back at 12.15pm proceeding with the Rules Revision section on the agenda.