



# **YORK CITY BATHS CLUB**

*Incorporating*  
**York City Swimming Club (Founded 1882)**  
**York Baths Club (Founded 1937)**  
Amalgamated 1951



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## **YCBC Honorary Treasurer's Report for the Year Ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019**

### **The Bottom Line**

The draft accounts for the year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December 2019 show a profit of £3,613. At face value, this is an excellent result, particularly considering that a small loss was being projected this time last year. However, it was only the success of an unexpected fundraising opportunity and a significantly better than expected net profit from the Club's annual gala at the end of 2019 that realised this.

The Club's basic running costs (pool hire/lifeguards, service providers and workforce, including honorary membership) are now only just covered by basic income (swimming fees and membership fees). Basic running costs increase year on year, and it is difficult to see how these could be reduced without a significant change to Club activities. Basic income is limited by swimmer numbers and teaching fees must be competitive with other providers. Part of the Club's 'pulling power' is the flow through to training. No training squad covers its costs; they are, in effect, subsidised by teaching. The Executive Committee might have to prepare itself to make some difficult decisions in this respect in the future.

For now, the Club Championships, Presentation Night, competition expenditure and general operating costs must be covered by gala profit and fundraising. The former has risen dramatically over the past five years, but it takes considerable effort to put on a gala and we rely on the support of parents to achieve this. Fundraising likewise. Fundraising outside of those integral to galas and events has centred on one-off events. The Club needs to get better at general ongoing fundraising. The potential for sponsorship also needs to be explored.

As always, careful management and prudent financial control will be key going forward.

### **Overall Income and Expenditure**

Excluding trips, overall income was like 2018. More specifically, swimming fees income was almost identical to 2018, which is not surprising given that fees were held during 2019 and numbers across all groups consistent. Expenditure was up, largely due to increased service provider and training costs.

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## Swimming Fees

Swimming fees from teaching and training dominate the Club's income streams. Stripping out "in/out" income and expenditure: teaching fees account for 39% of income; training fees account for 47% of income; £85,055 and £102,788 respectively.

Teaching numbers dropped slightly at the beginning of the year (a trend, repeated in 2019/2020 – partly due to Red Hat movements to training squads). They picked up through February and March, dropped again in April, picked up in May and June and then dropped off slightly over the Summer holiday months (new season movements to training again have some impact here). Numbers were back to pre-Summer levels in September, rose again in October and November and finally fell a little in December. The high was 242 in November; the low was 219 in April; the year end figure was 236. The average over the year was 229. The total over the year was 2746.

Following on from the end of 2018, overall training numbers remained relatively stable during 2019. At a squad level, new season movements in August/September saw the head count in National increase, Regional remain the same, County decrease, Development increase and Junior Club and Club remain the same. (Numbers in County have risen at the start of 2020.) The high was 161 in January; the low was 150 in August; the year end figure was 157. The average over the year was 156. The total over the year was 1876.

A cautious position on swimmer numbers has been taken for 2020. Budgets have been set at pretty much 2019 levels. However, with increased costs to support teaching specifically (an expanded Teaching Coordinator role, pool hire and volunteer training), it has been decided to raise some teaching group fees with effect from 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020. Fees for White, Yellow, Purple and Orange hats will be £33 (from £28); fees for Light Green and Dark Green (1 session) will be £33 (from £31). Fees for all other teaching groups and all training squads remain 'as is', underpinned by an expectation of increased gala income in 2020. Of course, given the need to ensure the Club remains sustainable and on a stable financial footing, it is incumbent on the Executive Committee to review continually its position on fees throughout the coming months to ensure that we are able to balance the books at the end of the year.

## Membership Fees

*All swimmers are members of YCBC and, as such, are required to pay an annual membership subscription. For swimmers in teaching section, this subscription is rolled up into monthly fees. For swimmers in training squads and masters, this subscription is explicit. The membership fees reported in the accounts are the latter. The membership year runs from March to February the following year. A swimmer joining either a training squad or masters part way through the membership year pays a pro-rata fee. There is no refund given when a member leaves. The fee is set at the AGM and becomes due shortly afterwards; for 2019 it was £42.*

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Membership fee income for 2019 was £8,751 from 183 full payments from training squad and masters swimmers, plus additional pro-rata payments throughout the year.

It is proposed to keep the fee at £42 for 2020/2021. Based on current 2019 Swim England fee renewal data, 155 training squad swimmers and 35 masters swimmers will yield initial membership income of £7,938.

## Swim England Fees

*Swim England is the English national governing body of swimming. As a Swim England affiliated Club, all Club members must be members of Swim England and pay the appropriate fees (including regional and county levies), which the Club collects on their behalf and passes straight on. The Swim England membership year runs from January to December, and fees must be paid in the early part of the year. There are three categories of fees: CAT1 - non-competitive swimmers (all those in teaching section and some masters swimmer); CAT2 - competitive swimmers (all those in training squads and some masters swimmers); and CAT3 - anyone involved in a club who isn't covered by CAT1 and CAT2 (for example, coaches, teachers, poolside helpers and volunteers). Note that if a swimmer moves from teaching to training, a CAT1/CAT2 top up must be paid. Importantly, Swim England membership provides general insurance cover, including personal accident.*

These fees are in/out. The difference between income and expenditure arises because the Club pays the CAT3 fees for honorary members, i.e. teachers, poolside helpers and other volunteers (note this excludes Committee members, who must be paid up Club members). Just over 80 honorary members were registered in 2019, at a cost of around £850.

## Fundraising

Net fundraising income of £2,142 came entirely from a bucket collection at York Racecourse in August, during the Ebor meet. This was an 'out of the blue' opportunity, the original request for a permit having been submitted by Jez Russell in 2010!

Note that income and expenditure from fundraising activities incorporated into events and galas is reported in those areas, rather than fundraising *per se*.

## Events

The net loss of £1,154 came from Presentation Night.

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## **Club Shop**

The running down of the Club's direct involvement in selling branded goods and kit for swimmers started in 2018, continued in 2019. Essentially, the only such items now sold by the Club are hats and certificates, and then at only slightly more than cost. The net loss of £164, in effect, reflects stock held.

Basic YCBC hoodies, tops, shorts and onesies can be sourced locally. YCBC-specific 'club-kit' can be purchased through the Club's appointed supplier during identified windows.

## **YCBC Galas**

The Club ran two galas during 2019: the closed Club Championships; and the open annual gala (The YCBC Winter Swim Extravaganza 2019).

The Club Championships is a loss maker. Nominal entry fees are charged (£1 per event) and there is fundraising on the day, but these are outweighed by expenditure on pool hire, event management (including electronic timing) and medals. The net loss in 2019 was £1290.

The open annual gala, held at John Charles in December 2019, was a major source of revenue for the Club, with an overall profit of just over £12,000 (50% up on 2018). In round figures: income items were entries/coach passes (£17,805), takings - door receipts/programmes/raffle/tombola (£4,900), and advertising/commission (£400); expenditure items were pool hire (£4,500), catering (£2,240), entry management (£550), medals (£2,000), race license fees (£550), printing (£700), expenses for officials (£400) and sundries (£150). (Note that both income and expenditure reported in the accounts includes an £800 cash float sum.)

The increase on 2018 was largely due to a record number of entries (2800+ - the move from a September slot to a December appeared to be a good one) and an increased race fee (£6.00, £5.50 in 2018). Takings over the weekend were also well up, presumably a reflection of increased attendance.

John Charles is booked for December 2020 (The YCBC Winter Swim Extravaganza 2020). A very prudent budget has been set, with profits around 2018 levels. A second open gala will also take place at John Charles in March 2020 (The YCBC Spring Swim Extravaganza 2020). This is a 'toe dipping' exercise and expectations have been set at a much lower level (current entries stand at just over 2200).

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## **External Galas and Competitions**

Gala entry fees are in/out. Particular attention has been paid in 2019 to tracking payments. At the end of the year, just over £1,500 of entry fees remained unpaid. The vast majority of this creditor amount has now been collected.

Expenditure on coaches passes and expenses is a function of the number of galas attended and the proximity of venues to York. A similar level of expenditure has been budgeted for 2020.

Expenditure on team competitions rose sharply in 2019 due to entries into NER competitions and the subsequent qualification of 4 teams for the British Summer competition in Glasgow. The Club contributed to the travel costs of swimmers who represented YCBC in those teams.

## **Pool Hire**

Pool hire is, by far, the Club's largest expenditure (nearly 60% of total costs, having stripped out "in/out" income and expenditure). The withdrawal of pool time at York Sport at the end of 2018 and the dropping of the Friday session from January 2019 was offset by annual price increases at the two GLL pools, Yearsley and Energise, from April 2019. Overall, pool costs were slightly higher in 2019 than 2018. Pool hire costs will increase in 2019; an overall rise of around £5,000 has been budgeted.

## **Lifeguards**

Lifeguard costs are for the Masters session on a Tuesday at The Mount.

## **Service Provider Costs**

After pool hire, service provider costs is the largest outlay for the Club (28% of total costs in 2019, having stripped out "in/out" income and expenditure). At the end of 2019 there were contracts in place for a head coach, 6 lead coaches, two assistant coaches and a teaching coordinator. Overall costs in 2019 were up 9% on 2018. Service provider costs will increase in 2019.

## **Training Courses**

After pool hire and service provider costs, training provision is the Club's most significant expense (5% of total costs in 2019, having stripped out "in/out" income and expenditure). Expenditure in 2019 was 30% up on 2018 at just over £11,000. This was well over budget but deemed necessary to cover anticipated losses of teaching and lifeguarding resources.

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In 2019 the Club funded: 8 Level 1 teacher courses; 6 Level 2 teacher courses; 2 assistant coach courses; 12 NASTC courses; and 21 safeguarding courses. Investment in training will continue to be a priority in 2020.

Note that individuals who receive funding for either a teaching or coaching course are required to sign an agreement, which commits their time as a teaching/coaching resource to the Club.

## **Management Accounts**

Comprehensive management accounts are produced each month for presentation at Executive Committee meetings. The same data is used to produce end of year accounts for submission to the External Auditor. Swimming fees, Swim England fees, YCBC Membership fees, pool hire costs, external gala fees and open gala revenue and costs are also subject to separate detailed analysis and reconciliation.

## **Trips**

National Squad have just returned from a successful training camp in Fuerteventura. This was entirely funded by parents.

In June 2020, the Club is taking a party of over 50 coaches, swimmers and chaperones to complete at the 28<sup>th</sup> Meeting du Lac in Vevey, Switzerland.

## **2020**

The budget for 2020 has been set very conservatively and projects a loss of around £10,000. Initial fee income has been better than budget, and the Executive Committee remain hopeful that the success of the 2019 Winter gala can be repeated. The bi-annual "Big Swim" should happen this year, but no fundraising income has been budgeted.

The Executive Committee would like to revamp the Club website this year specifically to provide support for membership management and gala entries. This of course would come at an additional cost.

**David Jordan**  
**Honorary Treasurer**

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