



SOUTHAMPTON
ATHLETIC CLUB

Southampton Athletic Club

Minutes of the Executive Annual General Meeting

Monday 8 December 2025

The View

**Southampton Sports Centre
and via Google Meet**

Present:

Tracey Jones - Chair
Diane Reavey
Richie Pearson
Noel O'Dowd - online
Debbie Callaway
Emly Fry - online
Alex Waugh - online
Nicci Bolinger
Hannah Willson
Gisela Hoppe - online
Alan Forse
Pete Haynes
Rob Shenton

1. Apologies:

Christine Smears
Mike Smears
Katy Odell

2. Minutes of the Last Meeting & Matters Arising:

The minutes of Annual General Meeting held on 9 December 2024 were approved as a true record. There were no actions or matters arising from these minutes.

3. Chair's Report

Tracey Jones referred the meeting to her report which had been posted on the SAC website prior to the meeting.

4. Treasurer's Report 2024/25

The Trustees' Annual Report and the Receipts and Payments Accounts had been posted on the SAC website prior to the AGM. The Independent Examiner's Report has yet to be received, but no issues are anticipated.

In accordance with Charity Commission guidelines, the accounts were received by the meeting.

Debbie Callaway summarised the keys points from the accounts:

- Income from subscription fees at just over 53K is similar to last year's level
- General income increased slightly due to the receipts of deposit account monies and kit sales by Alexandra Sports
- Expenditure is down over last year's levels due to a negotiated reduction in track hire fees due to a shortfall in service provision, and no transport costs to fixtures
- Competition entry fees for fixtures had decreased slightly due to the cancellation of one fixture
- Website costs were slightly lower due to a reduced site maintenance fee having been negotiated
- The Club took Investment opportunities by purchasing Photo Finish equipment (£36K)
- A deficit of just under £21K was reported
- Healthy reserves with £168K cash at bank

There were no questions tabled.

5. SAC Membership Report 2024/25

Emily Fry referred to the membership report which had been posted on the SAC website prior to the meeting, with membership levels broadly the same as those for the previous year. There were more First Claim athletes for 2024/25 at 291. Academy numbers remain healthy. The number of paid members stands at 531, to date. Coaches and Team Managers number 20 for each category, with 17 officials recorded. Thanks were extended to all club volunteers

6. Sports Centre Redevelopment Update

Tracey Jones updated the AGM on the recent developments and progress. The frame for the new SAC Clubhouse is up, with completion for the SAC phase of the redevelopment set for April 2026. Attendees were encouraged to view the Morgan Sindall and Local Authority websites for full details of the redevelopment plans. In response to a question regarding the height of the perimeter fencing to the track, the meeting was advised that no further details have, as yet, been confirmed, although the Local Authority has been made fully aware of the incidents of vandalism.

It is not yet known if there will be charges for parking on the site; the Club noted its concern regarding any potential financial disadvantage to its volunteers.

7. Election of Committee Members and Trustees, Confirmation of Committee members standing down

Re-Election of Current Committee Members:

In accordance with SAC's constitution, one third of the current committee membership with the longest terms in office, should stand down at the AGM and, if they wish, stand again for re-election. For 2024/2025, this applied to:

- Hannah Willson – Officials' Secretary
- Jon Tilt – General Member
- Noel O'Dowd – General Member

All of the above have stated their intention to stand again.

Proposed by: Alan Forse

Seconded by: Richie Pearson

The above members were duly re-elected.

No new members joined the Committee during 2024/25, and no members stood down within that same period.

The AGM is to note that during 2026 the following SAC Committee members are to stand down:

- Tracey Jones - Club Chair
- Debbie Callaway - Club Treasurer
- Diane Reavey - Club Secretary

The Committee will be seeking candidates to fill these roles in 2026.

8. Member Resolutions

Diane Reavey confirmed that three resolutions had been received with associated paperwork posted on the website prior to the meeting.

➤ Resolution: Term of Office of the SAC President

This resolution had been tabled in order to bring the election to this club role into line with

that of other Club roles, to be a fixed three-year term and voted upon at the AGM at the end of each term. The incumbent would be eligible to stand again if they so wished. This would result in a change to the Club's bye-laws

Upon a vote, this proposal was unanimously approved

➤ **Resolution: That SAC withdraw from either the National Athletic League (NAL) or the Southern Athletic League (SAL)**

This resolution had been tabled in the light of dwindling participation rates in both leagues, and difficulties in securing an adequate number of officials for these fixtures. In the ensuing discussions it was acknowledged that falling participation levels was a nationwide issue with athletes preferring to attend specialist events or locally organised meets. Local discussions held with Portsmouth Winchester and Basingstoke corroborate this, with all in favour of hosting more locally-based events. It was noted that the SAL, with broader entry standards, offers competition for younger athletes, with the option for other athletes to join another club as a Higher Claim athlete and so participate in the NAL. This resolution had also been discussed at length at a recent SAC Committee meeting, where it has been agreed, albeit reluctantly, to withdraw from the NAL

Upon a vote, the AGM unanimously agreed to withdraw from the NAL and remain in the SAL

➤ **Resolution: Membership Fee Increase wef 1 April 2026**

This resolution had been tabled to meet the increase in the England Athletics fees and an increase in fees levied by the LoveAdmin platform, the former of these having been absorbed by SAC over many years. The proposal is to increase the membership fee for all First Claim and Academy members by £5.00 to a new annual fee of £125.00. In response to a query as to why the increase was not higher, Tracey Jones advised the AGM that a full review of the fee structure is to be undertaken during 2026, following completion of the Sports Centre redevelopment, which will be tabled at next year's AGM, with a view to implementation in the membership year commencing April 2027

Upon a vote, this proposal to increase membership fees was unanimously approved

Tracey Jones formally closed the meeting at 8.00pm and thanked everyone for attending.