



Blackpool Ice Drome Charities Association

Charity Number: 1143903

Annual Report and Financial Statement for the Year Ending 31st March 2025

Chair

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Independent Examiner

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Blackpool Ice Drome Charities Association

Registered Charity Number: 1143903

Annual report for the Year Ending 31st March 2025

1. Administrative Information

BIDCA is the official charity name for Children Helping Children and is dedicated to the furtherance of ice sport and supporting Blackpool's and the Fylde's local sick, disabled or disadvantage children and has done since 1939.

The Committee includes the following full members:

Chair – Kerry Ashton

Secretary – Anna Williams

Treasurer – Wayne Ashton

Child Welfare Officer – Sarah Buschini

Committee Member – Clare Davies

Committee Member – Louise Smith

Committee Member – Anthony Swarbrick

Committee Member – Joanne Walsh

Committee Member – Joanne Rata

Committee Member – Dudley Cox

Committee Member – Joanne Solanki

2. Structure, Governance and Management

The method of appointment of BIDCA members is set out in the 2022 Charity Constitution. All full members are encouraged to nominate themselves for election on to the committee.



The trustees have the power to act as directed in the Constitution.

All committee members must read and sign a code of conduct and a confidentiality agreement before they are able to sit on the committee. They must also sign in the minute records that they are willing to act in the trusts of the charity. Committee members will have the opportunity to discuss their role with the chair.

BIDCA has policies in place for Safeguarding. All full members and trustees undergo enhanced DBS checks on joining and every three years thereafter.

The contents and obligations of the Equality Act 2010, Data Protection Acts 1988 and 2003 and GDPR 2018 are known and complied with to the best of the committee's ability.

It is considered that all trustees and any others who could be considered as having any management responsibilities in the running of BIDCA are deemed to be fit and proper persons under the terms of the Finance Act 2010.

3. Objectives and Activities

The Charity's objectives are:

- To advance the education of the general public in all aspect of ice skating.
- To provide facilities for ice skating in the interests of social welfare for children under 18 years of age through the provision of training, recreational and other leisure time occupation with the object of improving their conditions of life.
- To relieve, within the Fylde coast area of Lancashire, poverty, sickness and distress arising therefrom by the making of grants of money or monies worth to individuals under 18 years of age in conditions of need ('the beneficiaries') or organisations dealing with such beneficiaries so as to relieve such need.

4. Achievements and Performances

We performed our annual Christmas show, Snow White a fairytale adventure on ice. 59 cast members performed 11 shows to a combined audience of 11,724 people at the Blackpool Ice Arena during December 2024. In addition, we performed our annual charity performance enabling 1,400 representatives from children's charities across Blackpool and the Fylde Coast to attend, the tickets were donated free of charge providing a £17,980 benefit to the charities.



We were invited back to be part of the opening ceremonies for the Christmas by the sea Ice rink in November 2024. The event helped to raise the profile of our Christmas show.

BIDCA made cash grants to support 2 skaters attend the Ice-skating British Championships.

We were unable to give any larger cash grants due to Stage Works Worldwide Productions (SWWP) withholding payment of our apportionment of income. This has caused BIDCA to make a significant loss this for this financial year.

5. Review of the Year (Chair)

Our principal fundraising event the annual Christmas show was “Snow White a fairytale adventure on ice”. I am delighted to report that 59 cast members with the required skating skills and enthusiasm put on an amazing show and performed to over 11,724 people over 11 performances.

A highlight of the year as always is the charity performance, we invited 1,400 representatives from local Children’s charities from Blackpool and the Fylde Coast. The atmosphere at the show was electric and reminds us just why we do what we do. Our skaters respond to the atmosphere created by the audience, and everyone had a memorable time.

In November we were invited by Blackpool Council to perform at the opening of the outdoor ice rink on the tower Headland. This was an opportunity we could not miss and this year a small group of characters were chosen to perform a short, adapted number from the show.

In addition, we were able to support BIDCA skaters competing at the British ice-skating championships.

Unfortunately, we were unable to award any larger grants in line with our third objective due to the unforeseen financial circumstances.

As I reflect on my final year as chair after being involved with this amazing organisation for 16 years, I am disappointed to report that all this great work has been overshadowed by a backdrop of significant financial pressure caused by SWWP withholding our 2024 show settlement of circa £80,000. I want to reassure members that I am working closely with the Trustees to look at all options of recovering the show settlement as soon as possible. This issue has also delayed the planning of the 2025 show and is the primary reason why we have been unable to confirm the 2025 show details, hold cast auditions and put tickets on sale.

6. Financial Review (Treasurer)

Our principal fundraising event, the Christmas Show at Blackpool Ice Arena attracted 11,724 ticket sales. We held our prices the same as the previous year. With 3 ticket prices. a £15



ticket, a £13 nonpremium ticket a £10 ticket for the fold down seats. The trustees took this approach to balance the need to cover our costs whilst ensuring our show provides good value and is accessible to as many people as possible.

Total income for 2024/25 was £42,130 a reduction of £50,152 from the previous year.

This year saw the most significant financial challenge BIDCA has faced in the past 13 years. Stage Works Worldwide Productions (SWWP) withheld our financial settlement of circa £80,000 from the 2024 production of Snow White. This caused a £45,000 financial loss in our accounts for the 2024/25 financial year. Despite regular chasing, we have received limited communication from SWWP. In addition, Blackpool Pleasure Beach limited the parent company of SWWP released their 2023/24 accounts which showed a £2.7m loss. This is very worrying situation given BIDCA is owed around £80,000. The Trustee's will be meeting in April to agree the actions required to recover the settlement figure.

From an income perspective the front of house team were able to increase our sales despite the Arena introducing a wide range of merchandise. The front of house team refocused their efforts by selling just raffle tickets and programmes. This year saw an increase in raffle prize donations, which contributed to an increase in front of house income.

We also received £6,798 in gift aid from HMRC, this was up this year because it included the 2023/24 gift aid income which we received on 2nd April 2024. All other income was in line with our forecast.

Total expenditure for 2024/25 was £87,436 which saw a reduction in £22,718 of last year's expenditure.

This year we made a loss of £45,306 due to SWWP withholding our 2024 show settlement figure of circa £80,000. Fortunately, our reserves policy enabled us to be able to pay all our suppliers and for us to continue to operate. If we do not receive the settlement figure from SWWP, it will seriously impact our ability to carry out our main fundraising activity. This is because BIDCA requires the reserve fund to mitigate the financial risks associated the producing a Christmas show at the Pleasure Beach Arena and we will not have sufficient reserve funds to manage this risk.

Despite this, our production costs this year were reduced, by £20,000. We were able to do this by utilising of our inhouse costumes, and props. It was also our second year of our new approach to choreography; this allowed us to reprofile the coaches time now they were familiar with the BIDCA approach and associated requirements.



The overall position at the year-end of March 2025 leaves BIDCA in a weakened position. Our reserves have been significantly impacted and if we are unable to recover the outstanding money owed, it is unlikely that we will be able to perform a show in December 2025.

Risk Assessment

BIDCA recognises that in relation to 'Risk Assessment', risk is defined as a 'threat of any action or event which will adversely affect an organisation's ability to achieve its objectives and execute its strategies'. It also accepts that the term 'risk' can include any circumstances that may, or do, have an adverse effect, and is wider than financial matters.

Risks relate not only to the negative consequences of a threat, but also to the impact of not taking advantage of opportunities.

BIDCA carries out Risk assessments for all its purposes and activities.

BIDCA has insurance policies to cover its activities as well as its commitments associated with its storage unit.

7. Reserves Policy

BIDCA has a requirement to maintain a cash reserve to cover its committed liabilities and any uninsurable risks. These include the non-insured risks costs associated with its storage unit and the risk of any short fall because of a lower-than-expected ticket sales that mean BIDCA is unable to cover the show production costs. In addition, this is also used to cover our financial liability should we not be able to perform our show due to external factors like the Covid Pandemic. BIDCA currently has allocated a minimum reserve fund of £100,000 to cover these liabilities. This will be reviewed on an annual basis by the Trustee's.

8. Future Plans

The main focus for the Trustees is to recover the outstanding show settlement from SWWP. The next priority is assessing the risks associated with entering an agreement with SWWP for the 2025 show given their financial position and any changes/additions to the agreement. The Trustee's will need to ensure they understand the risks and associated implications as well as their ability to produce a show. This is further complicated because all activities associated with the show production have been suspended until the financial situation has been resolved. In real terms, we have not been able to undertake the detailed show planning, cast auditions or sell any show tickets.



For and on behalf of the Trustees –

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read 'Wayne Ashda', is written over a horizontal line.

Position Treasurer

Dated 11th May 2024



**Blackpool Ice Drome Association, Charity Commission Registration No. 1143903.
Financial Statements for the year ended 31st March 2025**

Receipts and Payments Account.	2025	2025	2024	2024
General Fund - Unrestricted.	£	£	£	£
Receipts				
Show Income	-		57,325.75	
Cash Reg & Costume Contribution	16,898		18,690	
Good Luck Messages	518		520	
Donations	6,372		5,128	
Raffle, Programme, Glow Sticks	7,408		3,944	
Gift Aid	6,798		-	
Hoodies	1,264		1,452	
DVD Sales	-		-	
Aftershow Party	1,020		1,346	
Costume Rental/other income	1,010		2,232	
Bank Interest	843		770	
Total Receipts		42,130		91,408
Payments				
Costumes	9,926		11,875	
Wardrobe	12,212		13,257	
Show Production	45,400		55,708	
Aftershow Party	1,630			
Raffle Costs				
Props	4,383		3,921	
I/T Website				
Administration	2,758		3,108	
Hoodies	2,323		2,632	
DVD	-		-	
Charity Donations	1,000		7,000	
DBS/CRB	90		174	
Insurance/Membership	2,147		3,533	
Advertising, Flyers, Marketing	5,568		8,071	
Total Payments		87,436		109,279
Excess of Receipts over Payments		(45,306)		(17,871)
Bank Accounts as at 1st. April 2024		122,406		140,277
Bank Accounts as at 31st. March 2025 inc.		77,100	(45,306)	122,406 (17,871)
		(0) Diff		(0) Diff



**Blackpool Ice Drome Association.
Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31st March 2025**

Monetary Assets	2025	General Fund Unrestricted £	2024	General Fund Unrestricted £
Current Account		4,525		4,031
Notice Account		77,100		118,375
Fund Raising Account				
Total at Bank		81,625		122,406
Cash in hand				
Total Funds		81,625		122,406
Debtors		750		750
Creditors		300		300
Other assets.				
Props.		25,000		25,000
Wardrobe/costumes		50,000		50,000
Equipment		5,000		5,000

Notes.

1. The accounts have been prepared on the Receipts and Payments basis.
2. No Trustee has received any remuneration for being a trustee of the charity.
3. The valuation in respect of Props, Wardrobe/costumes and Equipment is based on the assumption that such items have a continuing worth for future productions.

Approved by the Trustees of the Blackpool Ice Drome Charities Association on 10th May 2025 and signed on their behalf by -

Wayne Ashton - Treasurer

**Independent Examiner's Report.**

Independent Examiner's Report to the Trustees of the Blackpool Ice Dome Charities Association.

I report on the accounts of the charity for the year ended 31st. March 2025, which are set out on pages 8 to 9 of this Report.

Respective responsibilities of the trustees and examiner.

The charity's trustees are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. The charity's trustees consider that an audit is not required for this year under section 144(2) of the Charities Act 2011 (the 2011 Act) and that an independent examination is needed.

It is my responsibility to :

examine the accounts under section 145 of the 2011 Act;
follow the procedures laid down in the general Directions given by the Charity
Commissioner under section 145 (5) (b) of the 2011 Act; and
to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the independent examiner's report.

My examination was carried out in accordance with the general Directions given by the Charity Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the charity and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts and seeking explanations from you as trustees concerning any such matters. The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently no opinion is given as to whether the accounts present a 'true and fair view' and the report is limited to those matters set out in the statement below.

Independent examiner's statement.

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention:

1. which gives me reasonable cause to believe that in any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with section 130 of the 2011 Act; and to prepared accounts which accord with the accounting records and comply with the accounting requirements of the 2011 Act have not been met, or
2. to which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Alan A Clements
Rev'd. A. A. Clements.
Fellow of the Association of Charity
Rev'd. A. A. Clements MA, ACIB, F
15 Carleton Road, Great Knowley, C

Date 21st. May 2025.

