



**Borough of Waltham Forest Swimming Club**

**Trustees Annual Report and  
Unaudited Financial Statements  
For Year Ended 31 December 2024**

**Registered Charity Number: 1185492**

**Borough of Waltham Forest Swimming Club (BWFSC Gators)**  
**Registered Charity Number: 1185492**  
**Trustees Annual Report & Unaudited Financial Statements**  
**For Year Ended 31 December 2024**

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The trustees present their report and the unaudited financial statements of the charity for the year ended 31 December 2024.

**REFERENCE AND ADMINISTRATIVE DETAILS**

<b>Registered Charity Name</b>	Borough of Waltham Forest Swimming Club
<b>Registered Charity Number</b>	1185492
<b>Principal office</b>	59 Wellington Road, London, E11 2AS
<b>Trustees</b>	
Chair	Anna Kasparian (appointed 6 April 2025) Gary Lewis (appointed 21 January 2024, resigned 9 March 2025) Darren Ashcroft (resigned 21 January 2024)
Secretary	Louisa Elizabeth Voss (appointed 6 April 2025) Margaret Tanner (resigned 6 April 2025)
Treasurer	Kamila Zapala
<b>Head Coach</b>	Harley Hicks
<b>Independent Examiner</b>	Terri Harris 112 Chestnut Avenue South London E17 9EL



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## **CHARITY OVERVIEW AND OBJECTIVES**

The Borough of Waltham Forest Swimming Club (BWFSC Gators) was formed in 1986 through a joint initiative of the Borough Swimming Clubs and the local Borough Council. The amalgamation led to a period of growth and measured success with locally produced athletes that would have a significant importance on County, Regional and National levels as well as some international successes. We are a diverse and inclusive swimming club with a purpose to promote swimming skills in the local communities of North East London and South West Essex. We are no longer financially or otherwise supported by the Borough of Waltham Forest which put a considerable strain on club's finances particularly during the Covid years and post Covid recovery.

BWFSC Gators has enjoyed many years of producing quality athletes as well as competitive youngsters at all levels of competition and has been awarded Swim 21 Accreditation at Competitive Level since 2009. BWFSC Gators has adopted the National Plan for Teaching Swimming as the core programme throughout which young children learn to swim and develop a love of the sport. The club continues to attract children at the earliest age to undergo the basic skills of water safety, swimming techniques and further on to competitive levels of the sport. The specific programmes within the club allow for swimmers at these levels to compete as a team or as individuals for swimming events leading up to County, Regional and National as well as occasionally at International Level.

BWFSC Gators is committed to treat everyone equally within the context of its activity. This shall be, for example, regardless of sex, ethnic origin, religion, disability, or political persuasion, on any grounds and we implement the ASA Equal Opportunities policy.

BWFSC Gators plays a huge role in ensuring the community's wellbeing. Through active engagement in sports and being part of a supportive community we help improve our members physical and mental wellbeing.

## **STRUCTURE, GOVERNANCE AND MANAGEMENT**

In September 2019 BWFSC Gators was formed as a charitable incorporated organisation registered with the Charity Commission and governed by its constitution, also known as the Club's Rules. The constitution sets out the club's objects as teaching, development, and practice of swimming for its members. The club continued in this form throughout 2024.

The trustees and the committee members are elected by ballot at the Annual General Meeting each year. The Committee as set out in the constitution consists of the Chair, Secretary and Treasurer (together "the Executive Officers of the Club"). The club also has a Welfare Officer. During the financial year, Gary Lewis was appointed Chair and Darren Ashcroft resigned as Chair at the charity's Special General Meeting (SGM) held on 21 January 2024. Subsequent to the end of the financial year, Gary Lewis resigned from office at the AGM held on 9 March 2025 and Margaret Tanner resigned as



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Secretary at the SGM held on 6 April 2025. Anna Kasparian was elected as Chair and Louisa Voss was elected as Secretary at the SGM held on 6 April 2025.

2024 remained challenging as engagement from the community and volunteers continued to be limited to a few performing substantial roles within the club's operations. We pride ourselves in continuing to create paths for our swimmers with many continuing to take on active roles as coaches, lifeguards or volunteers within the club.

## **ACHIEVEMENTS AND PERFORMANCE**

BWFSC Gators continued to meet its charitable objective in providing opportunities for children to take part in swimming activities for purposes of both fitness and competitive swimming. Most of the year we operate at capacity across the squads as families embrace group activities, increasing our membership.

The club operates 43 swimming sessions a week and 53 hours of training from learn to swim to masters across 4 locations: Sylvestrian Leisure Centre, London Aquatic Centre, Chingford Leisure Centre, Chigwell and Waltham Forest Feel Good Centre. We also provide land training for our aspiring performance squads at the London Aquatics Centre. We are currently at a 5-year membership high with 261 active members on the books. That's a 12-month programme increase of over 35%. Learn To Swim ("LTS") grew during the year following structural changes that allowed an extra 30-minute slot for LTS each week.

2024 was a groundbreaking year for Gators' Performance Programme. 38 swimmers competed at Essex Championships, making 69 finals, including a silver for our Senior Girls relay team as well as 6 golds, 5 silvers and 10 bronzes through the individual events. We then went on to have a fantastic Regionals and a very busy National Window. 20 swimmers competed at Regional level, with Ada Yeow being crowned London Champion in the 50 Backstroke and Noah Willer taking bronze in the 50 Breaststroke. No less than nine swimmers qualified for Nationals, Open Water Nationals and National Masters, with Thomas Chittock and Amir Zahouani making National finals. Armandas Mavropulo also made the 50 Backstroke final at the Dubai Open, racing against International swimmers in the process. 2024 was Gators' most successful year in the pool for almost a decade.

### **National Qualifiers:**

Thomas Chittock, Amir Zahouani, Noah Willer & Ada Yeow.

### **Open Water National Qualifiers:**

Ava Allison, Luke Pemberton & Ella Pemberton

### **Colombian International Team Selection:**

Nicholas Tarquino



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**British Championships Qualifier:**

Thomas Chittock

**Masters National Qualifier:**

Anna Kasparian

We were lucky enough to receive tickets and accommodation from our club sponsor to attend the Paris Olympics, with six of our most dedicated and successful swimmers picked to watch Adam Peaty live at Paris 2024. This was an experience of a lifetime and very motivating for those who went. 2024 ended with a bang as we attended the Newham County Qualifier, with every single swimmer in attendance making a significant personal best time. On the same weekend, Amir Zahouani and Thomas Chittock were back in Sheffield at Winter Nationals also performing lifetime bests.

We ran two Level 3 Home Galas during the year. These events continue to be a successful and highly profitable undertaking. We were unable to run Level 4 licensed meets in 2024 due to shortages of qualified volunteers to obtain the licence. However, we continued with the time trials as unlicensed events to provide opportunity to younger swimmers to test themselves in a familiar setting. An ongoing area of concern is our ability to host future galas due to the volunteers and personnel required to run a licenced meet. We would like more parents to volunteer in this area, we need more officials, a J2 and a club referee.

The charity continued to support parent volunteers in achieving qualifications, allowing them to contribute to the charitable aims over the next few years as we continue supporting our members with all pathways from learn to swim through competitive to masters and coach training.

**RESERVES POLICY**

BWFSC Gators is a charitable organisation. Membership fees for Training Squads and Learn to Swim (LTS) are set at an overall level that covers the club's material expenditure. The Trustees agreed a need to increase fees from 2024 onwards and run at least 2 galas each year alongside sustainable fee income to cover the club's full running costs and build a reserve. This has been included in our forecasts.

The Reserves Policy is to maintain sufficient level of reserves to enable normal operating activities to continue should a shortfall in income occur and to take account of potential risks and contingencies that may arise from time to time. As BWFSC has no ongoing overheads because pools are hired as required, the Trustees have agreed to aim to build a reserve to cover freelance coaches' fees for one month (£6.5k) and one month of pool hire (£7.2k); reserves of c. £15k are required. The Trustees acknowledge reserves should ideally be 3 months and will have to incorporate this into the planning over the next 2 years. We had a good year in 2024, but we acknowledge cost of living increases meant coaches pay required review and pool hire is expected to increase further in 2025. We are committed to maintaining our fees at the current level during 2025, which may impact



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our ability to build reserves. We are committed to looking for sponsors and fundraising opportunities to build reserves over the next 3-5 years. This policy will be reviewed annually by the Committee.


**PUBLIC BENEFIT**

The Trustees have complied with their duty to have due regard to the Charity Commission's public benefit guidance when exercising any powers or duties to which the guidance is relevant.

**SUMMARY**

As a final note, we would like to thank all our coaches, members, parents of our swimmers and all other stakeholders for their continued support of our activities. We also express thanks to the many local businesses that have provided prizes for our raffles. Thank you to you all for your interest, support, and commitment to BWFSC Gators now and we look forward to your continued support in the future.

The Trustees Annual Report was approved and signed on behalf of the board of trustees by:

Signed by:  
  
 7AE3DB2526F7411...

Anna Kasparian

Chair

Signed by:  
  
 42A5C6CE542C4CE...

Louisa Voss

Secretary

7 September 2025



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**FINANCIAL STATEMENTS – INDEPENDENT EXAMINER’S OPINION**

I report to the Trustees on my examination of the accounts of Borough of Waltham Forest Swimming Club (BWFSC Gators) for the year ended 31 December 2024.

As the Charity’s trustees, you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts in accordance with the Charities Act 2011 (“the Act”).

I report in respect of my examination of the Charity’s accounts carried out under section 145 of the 2011 Charities Act and in carrying out my examination I have followed the applicable Directions given by the Charity Commission under section 145(5)b of the Act.

I have completed my examination. I confirm that no material matters have come to my attention in connection with the examination which gives me cause to believe that in, any material respect:

- the accounting records were not kept in respect of the Charity as required by section 130 of the Charities Act 2011; or
- the accounts did not comply with the accounting records; or
- the accounts did not comply with the applicable requirements concerning the form and content of the accounts as set out in the Charities (Accounts and Reports) Regulations 2008 other than any requirement that the accounts give a ‘true and fair view’ view which is not a matter considered as part of independent examination.

I have no concerns and have come across no other matters in connection with the examination to which attention should be drawn in this report in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Signed by:  
  
02E653085C2B405...

Terri Harris

7 September 2025

Terri Harris, MAAT  
112 Chestnut Avenue South  
London E17 9EL





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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION**  
**As at 31st December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Fixed assets</b>					
Tangible assets	5	-	-	-	-
		-	-	-	-
<b>Current assets</b>					
Debtors	6	10,197	-	10,197	2,708
Cash at bank and in hand	8	27,329	2,152	29,481	21,567
		37,526	2,152	39,678	24,275
Creditors: amounts falling due within one year	7	30,854	-	30,854	21,691
<b>Net current assets/(liabilities)</b>		6,672	2,152	8,824	2,584
<b>Total assets less current liabilities</b>		6,672	2,152	8,824	2,584
<b>Accumulated fund</b>	9				
Restricted income funds					
Unrestricted funds		432	2,152	2,584	-
Result for the period		8,391	-	6,239	18,330
		8,824	-	8,824	2,584

The notes form part of the accounts



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**STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL ACTIVITY**  
**For the Year End 31st December 2024**

	Notes	Unrestricted funds £	Restricted income funds £	Total funds 2024 £	Total funds 2023 £
<b>Incoming resources</b>	2				
Donations and legacies		495	12,400	12,895	16,426
Charitable activities		237,007	-	237,007	244,126
Other Trading Activities					
		<u>237,503</u>	<u>12,400</u>	<u>249,903</u>	<u>260,552</u>
<b>Resources expended</b>	3				
Raising funds		-	-	-	-
Charitable activities		229,027	14,552	243,579	242,103
Other		84	-	84	118
<b>Total</b>		<u>229,111</u>	<u>14,552</u>	<u>243,663</u>	<u>242,222</u>
<b>Net movement in funds for the year</b>		8,391	2,152	6,239	18,330
Total funds at 1st January 2024		432	2,152	2,584	15,745
Total funds at 31st December 2024		<u>8,824</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>8,824</u>	<u>2,585</u>

The notes form part of the accounts

The financial statements were approved by Trustees and signed on their behalf by

Signed by:  
  
 7AE3DB2526F7411...  
 Anna Kasparian  
 Chair

Signed by:  
  
 19FB76F334684ED...  
 Kamila Zapala  
 Treasurer

7 September 2025



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**NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS**

**1185492 BOROUGH OF WALTHAM FOREST SWIMMING CLUB**

**Note 1 Accounting Policies**

**Basis of preparing the financial statements**

The financial statements have been prepared in accordance with Accounting and Reporting by Charities: Statement of Recommended Practice applicable to charities preparing their accounts in accordance with the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland (Charities SORP FRS 102) issued on 16 July 2014, the Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland (FRS 102) and the Charities Act 2011. The financial statements have been prepared under the historical cost convention. The financial statements are prepared in sterling, which is the functional currency of the company. Monetary amounts in these financial statements are rounded to the nearest £.

**Financial reporting standard 102 - reduced disclosure exemptions**

The charity has taken advantage of the following disclosure exemption in preparing these financial statements, as permitted by FRS 102 'The Financial Reporting Standard applicable in the UK and Republic of Ireland':- the requirements of Section 7 Statement of Cash Flows.

**Note 2 Income**

All income is recognised in the Statement of Financial Activities once the charity has entitlement to the funds, it is probable that the income will be received and the amount can be measured reliably.

**Note 3 Expenditure**

Liabilities are recognised as expenditure as soon as there is a legal or constructive obligation committing the charity to that expenditure, it is probable that a transfer of economic benefits will be required in settlement and the amount of the obligation can be measured reliably. Expenditure is accounted for on an accruals basis and has been classified under headings that aggregate all cost related to the category. Where costs cannot be directly attributed to particular headings they have been allocated to activities on a basis consistent with the use of resources.

**Note 4-9**

**Independent examiner's fees**

Independent examination has been conducted on pro bono basis for 2024.

**Tangible fixed assets**

Charity currently owns no assets but if such existed depreciation would be provided for at an appropriate annual rates in order to write off each asset over its estimated useful life. Fixtures and fittings including equipment at 20% on a straight line basis.

**Taxation**

The charity is exempt from corporation tax on its charitable activities.

**Fund accounting**

Unrestricted funds can be used in accordance with the charitable objectives at the discretion of the trustees. Restricted funds can only be used for particular restricted purposes within the objects of the charity. Restrictions arise when specified by the donor or when funds are raised for particular restricted purposes. Examples of such include Jack Petchey funding and Scutum sponsorship.

**Reserves Policy**

Trustees commit to building up to the equivalent of at least £15k in reserve to safeguard against future changes in income and expenditure. Trustees also commit to reviewing the reserve policy at least annually.



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**Note 2 Income**

Analysis of income		Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	2024	2023
				£	£
<b>Donations and legacies:</b>	Donations and gifts	495	-	495	1,426
	Grants	-	12,400	12,400	15,000
	<b>Total</b>	<b>495</b>	<b>12,400</b>	<b>12,895</b>	<b>16,426</b>
<b>Charitable activities:</b>	Membership Fees	20,280	-	20,280	16,606
	Joining Fees	4,260	-	4,260	5,700
	Training Sessions	162,744	-	162,744	136,325
	Bootcamps	-	-	-	-
	Galas	12,729	-	12,729	11,501
	Home Gala	35,700	-	35,700	65,288
	Club Champs	-	-	-	4,900
	Kit Shop	1,114	-	1,114	1,790
	Disco	-	-	-	1,858
	Interest received	181	-	181	161
	<b>Total</b>	<b>237,007</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>237,007</b>	<b>244,126</b>
<b>Total Income</b>		<b>237,503</b>	<b>12,400</b>	<b>249,903</b>	<b>260,552</b>

**Restricted Fund** of £10k represents the Scutum Group grant for performance element of the club and wish to even the playing field when it comes to opportunities given to high performing and committed swimmers at a smaller local club like ours. The remaining amount relates to Jack Petchey grant.





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**Note 3 Expenditure**

	Unrestricted funds	Restricted income funds	2024 £	2023 £
<b>Expenditure on raising funds:</b>				
Sundry costs	-	-	-	-
<b>Total expenditure on raising funds</b>	-	-	-	-
<b>Expenditure on charitable activities:</b>				
Pool hire	81,448	1,904	83,352	86,222
Coaches	83,862	-	83,862	75,267
ASA Membership	11,779	-	11,779	9,548
Gala Costs	13,138	-	13,138	10,427
Home Gala Costs	25,611	-	25,611	31,643
Bootcamp Costs	-	11,500	11,500	11,800
Equipment	342	-	342	934
Training	835	-	835	1,770
Kit Shop	1,272	-	1,272	2,382
Payment processing fees	7,392	-	7,392	6,683
Website	86	-	86	1,082
Sundry	3,262	1,149	4,410	4,346
<b>Total expenditure on charitable activities</b>	<b>229,027</b>	<b>14,552</b>	<b>243,579</b>	<b>242,103</b>
<b>Other</b>				
Bank charges	84	-	84	118
Bad debt write off	-	-	-	-
Accountancy	-	-	-	-
<b>Total other expenditure</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>84</b>	<b>118</b>
<b>Total Expenditure</b>	<b>229,111</b>	<b>14,552</b>	<b>243,663</b>	<b>242,222</b>



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**Note 4 Independent Examiners Fees**

	2024 £	2023 £
Independent examiner's fees		-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Note 5 Tangible Assets**

	2024 £	2023 £
Tangible Assets		-
<b>Total</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>-</b>

**Note 6 Debtors and prepayments**

	2024 £	2023 £
Trade debtors		-
Prepayments and accrued income	10,197	2,708
<b>Total</b>	<b>10,197</b>	<b>2,708</b>

**Note 7 Creditors and deferred income**

	Amounts falling due within one year	
	2024 £	2023 £
Trade creditors	4,941	-
Bad Debt Provision	-	-
Accruals and deferred income	25,913	21,691
<b>Total</b>	<b>30,854</b>	<b>21,691</b>

**Note 8 Cash at the bank and in hand**

	2024 £	2023 £
Cash at bank and on hand	29,481	21,567
<b>Total</b>	<b>29,481</b>	<b>21,567</b>



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**Note 9 Funds movement in current year**

	Fund balances brought forward £	Income £	Expenditure £	Transfers £	Fund balances carried forward £
<b>Unrestricted funds</b>					
General Fund	432	237,503	(229,111)	-	8,824
				-	-
<b>Restricted Funds</b>	-	-	-	-	-
Restricted Fund	2,152	12,400	(14,552)	-	-
<b>Total Funds as per balance sheet</b>	<b>2,584</b>	<b>249,903</b>	<b>(243,663)</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>8,824</b>

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**Note 10 Related parties**

No related party transactions took place in the year to 31 December 2024. Trustees received some remuneration, in the form of fee rebate, for the services provided to the charity as follows:

Kamila Zapala	£518 rebate for accounting & bookkeeping services
Margaret Tanner	£322 rebate for administrative support
Anna Kasparian	£414 rebate for administrative support

In addition to Trustees a selected members have also provided services to the charity as follows:

Catherine Murray	£2,964 invoices for administrative support
Louise Chittock	£1,264 rebate for administrative support
Matthew Hart	£322 rebate for administrative support

Going forward Trustees agreed to rebate up to £70 per month for the 5 key roles.

