# Portobello ASC – AGM 2023, 15/6/23

# Water Polo Report – Senior

The senior men have had a successful 2022-23 season completing a triple with success in the Scottish Cup, Scottish National League and winning Championship 2 in the British Water Polo League. The Scottish Cup victory over Dunfermline on penalties saw us retain the trophy we have held since 2015 and for 17 of the last 20 events; the SNL was secured through an aggregate victory over Dunfermline

The British League success was a bitter-sweet victory having been unsuccessful during the first phase of the season to secure a place in Championship 1, we played in Championship 2 and successfully secured that championship; and will start 2023-24 season back in Division 2.

We had 5 players selected for the Scotland team competing in the Home Internationals in Dublin over 20-21 May, winning caps were: Ben Scott, Wesley Connellan, Luca D-adderio Polllock, Matt Seward and Andrew Melville who was captain of the team. The team defeated Wales, went down narrowly to Ireland and lost to England to finish 3rd in the event.

Ben Scott won the player of the year for 2022

We have 23 senior men as members of the club plus supporting members (associate \ other \ Life). There has been a number of players join over the year as a result on moving to Edinburgh. There are also a number of junior players who are now starting to make their way into the senior team, and we were delighted with three of them (Ben W, Joe M and Alex De) scoring in the Senior Scottish Cup victory.

We continue to pursue an slight increase in pool time (to pre-Covid arrangements) for our Wednesday night session, the support from Scottish Swimming Aquatic Club Development Co-ordinator \ Edinburgh leisure regarding has been poor, we will progress and escalate within Scottish Swimming as necessary. We have requested the need for maintenance work to be carried out on the goals at the RCP and Portobello and await a response.

The Masters team won the Charlie Grierson trophy (masters Scottish Cup) in September 2022; and participated in a friendly international event in June 2023. Thanks to Barry Davidson for leading on Masters events.

Thanks for Keith Anderson as Head Coach, and Neilson Rutherford as Manager for leading such a successful season; with support from Ramon Valvona, Fraser Rutherford, Alan Anderson and Bill Moores at the Scottish Cup final.

Thanks to the following for the financial support: Aquatic Learning, Destination Edinburgh, Exception, Ravenstone Financial, Ravenstone Property, 13 Design and Martin Laidlaw.

We have a few senior women members, unfortunately not enough to compete as a team, so joining other clubs to compete, Vic \ Rachel \ Lauren played for Warrender in the Scottish Cup final. Some have also played for Caledonia in the British Water Polo League. Some of the senior women have been supporting the younger girls in their development. The ability to re-establish a senior women’s team will require some of the senior women who have stepped back in recent years to support the further development.