

NORFOLK COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION
MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
HELD ON SUNDAY 29 NOVEMBER 2009 AT HEWETT SCHOOL, NORWICH

PRESENT

OFFICERS: K Rumsey (President), M Watkins (Chairman & Secretary), S McCormack (Treasurer), A Smith (Asst. Secretary), Mrs J Andrews (President Elect)

PAST PRESIDENTS: R Caton, D England, G Garner, J Peggall, Miss K Starling

OTHER ATTENDEES: D Adams, Mrs D Applegate, K Belton, P Kendall, A Lelean, Mrs S Lelean, S Murray, J Rose, Mrs M Tallowin, W Thompson, Mrs D Webster

1. APOLOGIES: Mrs J Baker, Mrs D Barrett, R Barrett, M Bateman, G Clark, R Fletcher, J Frankland, C Galer, J Toll, Mrs J Witting (for Aylsham Vikings SC)

2. MINUTES OF 2008 AGM

It was proposed by Kay Starling, seconded by Julie Andrews and agreed unanimously that the minutes be accepted as a true record.

3. ANNUAL REPORTS

President The President said that it had been a huge honour and he had had a thoroughly enjoyable year. There had been far too many invitations for him to take them all up. It had been good to see so many swimmers doing well at county and East Region galas and the county teams doing well despite strong opposition. He had particularly enjoyed the synchro event where it was refreshing to see all the participants staying on the poolside to support their fellow competitors. He regretted having to miss the Masters and the Open Water championships. He had been able to help two clubs where problems had arisen – a different but important part of the job. He thanked everyone who had helped throughout the year and wished his successor the very best for 2010.

Hon. Secretary The Assistant Secretary explained that, after the decision last year to reduce from 5 to 3 Executive meetings, attendance had not improved so the committee had decided to try having four meetings in the coming year.

Facilities There are no known firm plans to build any new pools in Norfolk and, indeed, Sport England (in its Norfolk Sports Facilities Strategy for 2008-2016) suggests that the present facilities are adequate for the next seven years and that funding would not be available. Only two outstanding needs were identified. These were a 25 metre training pool (which could be used as a warm up/swim down facility) at the UEA Sportspark and a high performance centre – though it was thought that the Beacon status recently awarded to the UEA City of Norwich SC met this need anyway.

Competitions/Team Manager Norfolk were 2nd in the Three Counties Gala at Peterborough in December 2008. At the East Region Inter Counties Championships held at Thetford in July, Norfolk had finish in 5th place. The County had finished in 10th place in the Division 2 gala at the Inter Counties Championships in Sheffield in October.

Championship Secretary/Records/County Colours. In the County Championships & Age Groups, Suffolk had again joined Norfolk at the UEA Sportspark for the 800m and 1500m events. All the County Championship galas at Thetford had run smoothly. The County Relay Gala had been well supported and had been attended by a number of enthusiastic Past Presidents. There had been a welcome 40% increase in entries for the County Challenge galas at Dereham. 36 swimmers had been awarded ‘flashes’ for first time swims for the county and there had been 13 ‘colours’, 6 bronze and 1 silver awards. One relay and 5 individual records had been claimed during the year.

Norfolk Junior League UEA City of Norwich SC had won the Copeman Cup and Thetford Dolphins SC had won the Christine Clark Cup. This year the first round had consisted of two 6-team galas instead of three 4-team galas as before.

Masters Swimming The Norfolk Masters Championships & Open Meet had taken place at the UEA in May where some European, British and East Region records had been broken. In its best ever performance, Norfolk had finished in 1st place in the East Region heat of the ASA Masters & Seniors Inter Counties Competition at Newmarket. Norfolk stands in 11th place out of 29 counties nationally, its highest ever position.

Synchronised Swimming It is still regrettable that there is only one synchro club in Norfolk (and none in Suffolk). A successful and enjoyable development day had taken place. The President had attended the annual display and awards evening at Wymondham.

Water Polo Norfolk entered the East Region Senior Men’s Championships in February but had failed to reach the semi-final stage.

Open Water For the past three years East Region has run a successful open water championships at Whitlingham Broad, just outside Norwich, which is regarded as one of the best open water venues in the UK. Medals are awarded by the county to the top Norfolk swimmers. More assistance at this annual event would be appreciated. Several local pool swimmers are now competing successfully at open water events.

Disabled Liaison Norwich City Council had organised a disability gala at Norwich Riverside pool in June with participants from several areas of Norfolk and North Suffolk.

County Handbook & Web-site 70 handbooks were produced and distributed to clubs. It is planned to revamp the web-site so that the results of county galas can be displayed promptly.

Officials Liaison Thanks to all those officials who supported County galas this year. Suffolk had provided the most of the officials for the long distance championships but then they had the majority of the swimmers there too.

Officials Examinations One candidate (Paul Kendall) passed the Referee exam at the end of 2008. Four Starters passed their final assessments during the year. Two Judge Level 2 courses commenced in Norwich in February and June respectively with a total of 14 candidates having applied and, so far, 4 candidates have passed their final assessments and 4 candidates have withdrawn. A Judge Level 1 course commenced in May in Great Yarmouth and 17 candidates from the four 2008 courses passed their final assessments. Of the 74 JL1 candidates that have entered since the new courses started in April 2008, 26 have successfully completed the course and 25 have since withdrawn. The remaining candidates are at various stages in the lengthy process. Thanks to those who had assisted with the workshops and practical assessments.

Development Activities have mainly been through the Swimming Action Group including swimming festivals, a swim skills development day for coaches, a short course in psychology and nutrition and funding for a swimming officials' seminar. Thanks to the project officer, Daniel Charlesworth, for his help though his contract has now finished. A County Swimming Co-ordinator is due to be appointed by the ASA but the role has not been clearly defined and the appointee has not been identified to Norfolk ASA. Two clubs, Aylsham Vikings and Great Yarmouth have gained Swim 21 status.

Child Protection & Welfare The ASA Department of Legal Affairs issued a revised policy and procedures document (Wavepower 2009/2011) in August. This was copied to clubs. An East Region Welfare Officer's Day, at which all clubs should be represented, is scheduled for 18th April 2010.

East Region No report.

Emergency No meetings of the committee were needed in 2009. John Peggall had decided to step down as its secretary after 18 years.

Trophies & Stock Thanks were given to those who had helped with the distribution of trophies at a variety of events. Hoodies had proved a popular addition to the stock range.

Press & PR Several articles about county swimming were sent to the local press but, disappointingly, not published - though offerings from individual clubs have appeared. Active Norfolk has been approached in an attempt to get more publicity.

Membership The proposed change of name for the water polo club has not progressed this year. Three 'new' clubs have affiliated or are about to affiliate, i.e. Hunstanton Sea Eagles, Norwich Little Fish and Loddon White Dolphin.

The Chairman thanked the officers for the preparation of their reports. The adoption of the reports was proposed by Sally Lelean, seconded by Graham Garner, and accepted unanimously by those present.

4. BALANCE SHEET

The Hon. Treasurer reported a healthy situation at the end of the financial year. Income for the year totalled £36,923.32 against expenditure of 29,486.30. After taking into account stock purchases and sales, the Balance Sheet showed a surplus of £7756.31. Current assets, including stock, had increased to £29,430.82. A copy of the Income & Expenditure Account and the Balance Sheet (omitted from the Annual Report pack) will be appended to the minutes.

The Treasurer thanked the auditors for their work at the end of the year and wished his successor well.

The adoption of the accounts was proposed by Warwick Thompson, seconded by Adam Lelean, and agreed unanimously.

5. AFFILIATION FEES

The Hon. Treasurer said that, in view of the healthy situation and a budget for 2010 that included only a tiny deficit of £150, it was proposed to keep the affiliation fee at £1.30 per member. This proposal was agreed unanimously. Forms for 2010 affiliation fees would be going out to clubs immediately after this meeting.

6. DECLARATION OF PRESIDENT FOR 2010

Julie Andrews of Great Yarmouth SC was welcomed as the new County President. She thanked Kevin Rumsey, for all his work during the past year and presented him with a Past Presidents' badge.

7. ELECTION OF OFFICERS

President Elect	A Lelean
Hon. Chairman	M Watkins (elected in November 2007 for a three-year term)
Hon. Secretary	M Watkins
Hon. Asst. Secretary	A Smith
Hon. Treasurer	K Belton
Hon. Auditors (2)	G Clark & A Smith
Hon. Solicitor	A Sword
Hon. Medical Officer	Dr Martin Roberts

These appointments were proposed by Kevin Rumsey, seconded by Graham Garner, and approved unanimously.

9. ELECTION OF SUB COMMITTEE SECRETARIES

Competitions	Secretary	Miss K Bull
Masters	Secretary	Mrs S Lelean
Synchro Swimming	Secretary	Mrs M Tallowin
Water Polo	Secretary	K Hall
Finance	Secretary	A Smith
County Handbook	Secretary	A Lelean
Norfolk Junior League	Secretary	J Toll
Facilities	Secretary	J Peggall
Education	Secretary	Mrs J Baker
Emergency	Secretary	M Watkins
Development	Secretary	K Rumsey
Diving (Inactive)		

These appointments were proposed by Keith Belton, seconded by Deborah Applegate and approved unanimously.

10. ELECTION OF OTHER OFFICIALS AND COUNTY REPRESENTATIVES

Trophies	Mrs D Barrett
Records	R Barrett
Officials Liaison	G Garner
Officials Examinations	A Smith
County Colours	R Barrett
Child Protection & Welfare	Mrs J Baker
East Region	S Murray
Championship Secretary	R Barrett
Gala Helper Liaison	Mrs D Barrett
Team Manager	Miss K Bull
Team Chaperone	Miss M Daniel
PR	W Thompson
Press	W Thompson
Disabled Liaison	Miss K Starling
County Coach	S Park
County Membership Officer	K Belton
Open Water	P Kendall*
Lifesaving (inactive)	

*The Open Water representative post was recommended by the Competitions Sub Committee and is subject to approval at the next Executive Meeting.

These appointments were proposed by John Peggall, seconded by Adam Lelean, and approved unanimously.

CLOSING REMARKS

The dates of the Executive Committee meetings during the coming year are:
Monday 7 December/Tuesday 2 March/Wednesday 2 June/Thursday 2 September.
The AGM for 2010 is due to be held on Sunday 28 November.

The Chairman then closed the meeting.