

Minutes of Working Party Meeting held Tuesday 13th April 2010 At Hewett School Norwich

Present: Julie Andrews, Garry Jarvis, Keith Belton, Robin Barrett, David Adams, Stewart Park, Jamie Rush, Chris Galer, Chris Sykes, Adam Lelean, John Digby

Debrief on 2010 Championships

- It was felt that the days in general ran well and the sessions were about the right length
- The new system of signing out went well considering it was only brought in fairly late in the proceedings. It is important to raise awareness with the coaches so that they know what to do. A fine may be implemented for next year at the promoter's discretion.
- Judging appeared to be 'a little hit and miss'. There were some glaring inconsistencies and possibly a briefing session for judges before hand would iron these out.
- Warm ups were discussed at length, as to length of time and availability of another pool to ease the situation. At the Thetford pool there appears to be little that can be done about the warm up. The one hours length at both morning and afternoon sessions were felt to be appropriate
- This year there were a lot of spectators trying to get in (and succeeding) without paying. The problem was worse than ever before. There is a need for more poolside help and possibly manning the changing room doors next year to avoid this. NCASA rely on this revenue to fund the event
- Lunches cost £8 per head. Coaches being provided with meals was discussed and it was felt they should be offered lunch but maybe at a small cost.

Long Distance Events

- Long Course event works well and the inclusion of Suffolk in this event makes it more cost effective (still making a loss). This should remain at the UEA in the same format

Main Events

- A proposal was looked at whereby the Youth/Seniors had a separate event possibly to be held in conjunction with Suffolk. After some discussion it was felt that the format worked as it was and they should stay within the Age groups.
- A suggestion that the events should be held at the UEA was considered and David Adams would look into pool hire prices and availability for the events. The events would be held in the 25m pool and it would therefore leave the other pool for warm ups, swim downs etc. It would also allow 8 swimmers per heat potentially reducing the pool hire time
- Another suggestion of splitting out the 50m events into an independent event was discussed – again it was decided that the existing format worked well
- The possibility of swapping the Challenge gala to some time in the autumn was also discussed (giving swimmers a chance to gain entry time). It was also suggested that time trials could be held (County development money was available for such an event) whereby swimmers pay a small fee to have the

opportunity to gain times. Some clubs already give swimmers the opportunity to do time trials. This suggestion was left open for more discussion, if there was a demand.

- Some adjustment to the Finals of events for the older swimmers possibly to allow the older swimmers more opportunities to gain medals. Again no proposal was finalised but would be looked into
- The cost of medals was a significant cost to the County and suggestions for reducing the medals to 1st to 3rd, with possibly certificates for 4th – 6th. The blocks for 4th – 6th at present work out cheaper than rosettes!
- It was felt that swimmers liked to have presentations. A suggestion of doing presentations during warm-ups could work well. It was calculated that they would take up to 6 hours but if they were done at the beginning of each session during warm-ups this time could be covered at no increase in pool hire time.
- It was felt that it is good to have commentaries during races and introduction of the finalists was imperative.
- A suggestion of including a skins event was made. To be discussed further

Administration

- There is a need for more poolside helpers (not officials) from all clubs not just the host club
- Discipline for the swimmers was an issue this year and the coaches must be more aware of what their swimmers are up to
- A team of people, to include David Adams, Keith Belton and Robin Barrett, would get together to work out the process for getting forms out and entries in. Some discussion over how payments could be made took place and it may be that a couple of options would be offered i.e. banking direct into the County's bank account or online banking.
- The entries would be made electronically
- Hopefully paperwork would be available by the AGM
- Disability conditions would be added to the entry forms (Keith Belton would look into the correct procedures for this)
- A suggestion was made for having one program (excluding Long Distance event) for the whole of the event

Relay Gala

- Although this was not discussed at full length the number of teams entered per club could perhaps be looked into due to the length of the gala