

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.
Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 16 April 2013 – Hewett School

PRESENT Mrs S Lelean (President/Diss Otters), K Belton (Treasurer), A Smith (Assistant Secretary), G Jarvis (Competitions Secretary/Team Manager/Great Yarmouth), R Barrett (Records/County Colours), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies/Thetford Dolphins), Mrs E Bowen (Norfolk Junior League), Mrs J Child (Dereham Otters), L Harvey (Championships Secretary), Mrs H Molloy (North Norfolk Vikings), Mrs K Woodhouse (Norwich Swan)

APOLOGIES J Digby (County Coach), Mrs D McRoberts (Secretary)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 16 OCTOBER 2012

Agreed as a true record. The meeting scheduled to be held on Tuesday 22 January had been cancelled due to the weather and some matters have therefore been brought forward to the April meeting.

CO-OPTION OF OFFICERS

Membership of the sub-committee is restricted to County Officers, the Sub Committee Secretary, the County Coach and one representative from each affiliated club. It was proposed and agreed that the following should be co-opted with voting rights: Mrs D Barrett (Trophies), R Barrett (Records/County Colours), Mrs E Bowen (County Junior League), G Garner (Officials Liaison), L Harvey (Championships Secretary) and P Kendall (Open Water). The Press & PR Officer should also be co-opted when appointed.

MATTERS ARISING

The first round galas of the County Junior League had taken place on Saturday 16 March at Wymondham and Dereham. Details of the final round galas, to be held at Wymondham and Thetford on Saturday 27 April, have been distributed.

REPORT ON NATIONAL INTER COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS - SHEFFIELD – SUNDAY 21 OCTOBER

Norfolk finished in 15th place in the Division 2 gala (and some of the reasons for this low placing were set out in the minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting – see para 8(2) – held on 4 December 2012, in addition to which one swimmer simply failed to turn up). The Lion Hotel, Worksop, has been booked again for the 2013 competition.

REPORT ON THE THREE COUNTIES GALA – DEREHAM – SUNDAY 9 DECEMBER

With a severely weakened team following the withdrawal by their coaches of most of the City of Norwich swimmers, Norfolk finished in 3rd place. However the gala, hosted by Norfolk, ran smoothly and messages of thanks had been received from two of the county presidents that attended who congratulated all those involved in staging the event.

REPORTS ON THE COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS & AGE GROUPS 2013

400m Gala, Wymondham, Saturday 9 February. Held for the first time, this event was well supported and ran well. It was split into two separate sessions to allow for a warm up between boys and girls races. It was, however, suggested that it might follow (rather than precede) the long distance gala in future years and that it should start slightly earlier. There had been a problem about the seating areas allocated to competing teams and this will be addressed next time.

800/1500m Gala, UEA Sportspark, Saturday 16 February. This gala, held jointly with Suffolk, was also split into two sessions between the 800m and 1500m events but was oversubscribed, a matter that may need to be addressed next time.

Other individual events, Thetford, 2, 3, 9 and 10 March. The eight sessions ran well apart from persistent AOE problems despite the system having been serviced the previous week – the temporary scoreboard was adequate (a new scoreboard is promised shortly) but two or three of the finishing pads were often not working properly or at all. The PA system (owned by Thetford Dolphins) also broke down and had to be substituted by systems provided by one of the officials and by another club as the pool could not provide a back-up system. Mostly the results went directly onto the Norfolk ASA website. Lots of assessments and mentoring were carried out. Whilst the number of officials at each session was adequate, there had been a shortage of off-poolside helpers from visiting clubs. The withdrawal procedures for all the county championship galas need to be tightened up next time. Although the 400m events had been removed from the programme, other events were heavily subscribed leading to some sessions being over-long. The closing date for entries could be a little later in future with the auto system now in use. The hand-over from Robin Barrett to Liam Harvey seemed to be going well.

REPORT ON COUNTY RELAY GALA – UEA SPORTSPARK – SATURDAY 23 MARCH

A good gala with all the 'A' teams in the top heat – though this arrangement may need to be reviewed where only one or two teams are left for the second heat. Disappointment had been expressed that a lot of City of Norwich swimmers

had been omitted from the gala but it was pointed out that team selection is a matter for the club's coaches. There was a problem with non-participating swimmers roaming around the poolside so access needs to be tightened in future.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY CHALLENGE GALAS – DEREHAM – SUNDAYS 23 & 30 JUNE 2013

Dereham Otters were invited to host the galas. There will be two sessions (8.30 am and 12.45 pm warm ups) each day. Entry criteria will be determined by the County Age Group results. **Liam Harvey will apply for a Level 3 licence.** Tony Smith offered to be lead referee. Graham Garner will appoint officials. Event entry will be £4. Door admission will be £2. Programmes covering both days (to be produced by Keith Belton) will be £1. Entry forms will be issued by Liam Harvey by 1 May for return in electronic format by 31 May. Age will be as at 10 March (the final date for the County Age Group galas). Diane Barrett will liaise with Dereham Otters (Cheryl Rose?) over off-poolside helpers and catering/refreshment arrangements. Some sessions overran last year so it may be necessary to restrict entries. This will be done once entries are all in and each session length can be assessed, probably by taking the slowest swimmer out of each age group. This was agreed but the possibility needs to be clearly stated within the entry conditions.

TEAM SELECTION & ARRANGEMENTS FOR EAST REGION INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS – LUTON – SUNDAY 7 JULY 2013

Age is as at the date of the gala. Age groups are 11/12, 13/14, 15/16 and 17 & over. Swimmers can enter two individual events plus relays in their own age groups. Garry Jarvis produced a draft team selection based on current rankings. Minor changes were made based on very recent times achieved by some swimmers. Without a representative from City of Norwich at the meeting, it was assumed that all their selected swimmers would be available. There had been some unjustified criticism of the county received from some of their parents about the omission of their swimmers from the Three Counties Gala (see above and also note * below). A team list will be sent to each club. Replies are to be back to Garry Jarvis by 25 May. Garry Jarvis will book the coach which will start from Great Yarmouth and call at Hewett School, Norwich, and Waterworld Leisure Centre, Thetford (times to be advised to swimmers). Gala warm up is 1.15 pm for a 2.00 pm start. Garry Jarvis (Team Manager) and John Digby (County Coach) will accompany the swimmers along with a chaperone (Lynn Marzolini?). Garry Jarvis will invite officials – three qualified judges are required (at least one of them aJL2). The President (and possibly her spouse?) will travel with the team.

*Norfolk County ASA Rule 10 reads: 'Any affiliated club member having been selected to represent the County shall be released by his club for that purpose unless prior approval for not doing so is given by the Competitions Committee'. It was suggested that, if any selected swimmer refuses the current invitation or the club stops them from accepting the invitation to compete, they should not be considered for selection at the next inter-counties gala.

FIXTURE LIST FOR 2014

A provisional list is set out below subject to pool availability and, in the case of the County Junior League, confirmation at the league AGM in June. Dates and locations will be confirmed at the next meeting but **club secretaries are asked to note the dates please and copy them to coaches to avoid clashes with club and other galas in 2014.** The Treasurer will book pools (except those for the County Junior League gala which will be booked by the league secretary). The date for the long distance gala is subject to agreement with Suffolk ASA: (**Liam Harvey to liaise with Suffolk please**).

<u>Dates</u>	<u>Events</u>	<u>Locations</u>
Sat 15 February	County Championships/Age Groups 800/1500m events	UEA Sportspark
Sat 22 February	County Championships/Age Groups 400m events	Wymondham
Sat 1/Sun 2/Sat8/Sun 9 March	County Championships/Age Groups other individual events	Thetford
Saturday 22 March	County Junior League Round 1 (2 galas)	To be confirmed
Saturday 29 March	County Relay Gala	UEA Sportspark
Saturday 26 April	County Junior League Final Round (2 galas)	To be confirmed
Saturday 17 May	County Masters and Open Championships	UEA Sportspark
Sundays 22 & 29 June	County Challenge Galas	Dereham
To be advised	County Open Water Championships	Whitlingham

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The 2013 East Region (incorporating Norfolk County) Open Water Championships take place at Whitlingham on Sunday 14 July. Officials and other helpers are required. Please contact Paul Kendall for information or to volunteer.

Although Elaine Bowen's swimmer is transferring to a Suffolk club she is willing to continue in her present county role.

A future use for the Past Presidents' Tray (gala now defunct) needs to be decided (possibly for County Relay Gala?)

Are student swimmers who are affiliated to the ASA but not attached to local clubs eligible to compete in the County Masters Championships? Not in the County Championship element but they can compete in the Open element.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 16 July 2013 at Hewett School in Room A17 at 7.30pm. The main purposes of the meeting will be to confirm the 2014 fixture list and to select a team for the National Inter Counties Championships.