

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.
Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 22 October 2013 – Hewett School

PRESENT Mrs S Lelean (President), K Belton (Treasurer), A Smith (Assistant Secretary), R Barrett (Records/County Colours), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies/Thetford Dolphins), J Digby (County Coach/Norwich Swan), L Harvey (Championships Secretary/Diss Otters), C Aris (Dereham), J Macdonald (UEA City of Norwich)

APOLOGIES G Jarvis (Competitions Secretary/Team Manager/Great Yarmouth), Mrs E Bowen (Norfolk Junior League), Mrs D McRoberts (Secretary), D Peck (Development)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 23 JULY 2013

Agreed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

The pool bookings have been made for the County Junior League 2014.

The provisional date for the East Region (incorporating Norfolk County) Open Water Championships 2014 at Whitlingham Broad is Sunday 20 July.

Suffolk had confirmed the date for the joint Long Distance (800m/1500m) Gala – Saturday 15 February 2014 - at the UEA Sportspark. The Treasurer is trying to arrange an earlier start to allow time for a separate warm up before the second event.

At the previous meeting, in connection with the East Region Inter Counties Championships, the Team Manager had stated that some swimmers had swum well below their personal best and didn't seem to care. A different view, put forward at this meeting, was that they were trying but the poor times may simply have reflected the timing of the gala.

**REPORT ON THE NATIONAL INTER COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS –
SHEFFIELD – SUNDAY 20 OCTOBER 2013**

Norfolk had finished in 10th place in the Division 2 gala – a great improvement on last year – and several swimmers had achieved good positions in their races. Suffolk was in 8th place, just two places above Norfolk, and both Bedfordshire and Cambridgeshire had finished lower than Norfolk. The Team Manager had withdrawn a week before the event but John Digby had taken over with Lyn Marzolini (Norwich Swan) and Gary Smith (UEA City of Norwich), who thanked the other adults for making him welcome at short notice, had attended as chaperones. A couple of late replacements had had to be found due to two swimmers calling off ill at short notice. Contact details had been sent out but they should go out earlier in future years. The Lion Hotel, Worksop, was fine but the question was asked why Norfolk doesn't book a suitable hotel in Sheffield. It was agreed the Treasurer should book the Lion Hotel again for 2014 but to consider an alternative for 2015. There had been no transport problems. It was felt that, in future years, there should be a team building day before the event.

**TEAM SELECTION & ARRANGEMENTS FOR THREE COUNTIES GALA –
IPSWICH – SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2013**

The Three Counties (Norfolk, Suffolk & Cambridgeshire) Gala will take place at the Crown Pools, Ipswich. The warm up will be at 1.30 pm for a 2.20 pm start. Each county has two lanes. Two swimmers from each county compete in individual events and each county has two relay teams. Swimmers are allowed two individual events and relays in their own age groups which are 10&U, 12&U, 14&U and 16&U. Age is as at date of gala.

Unfortunately the Team Manager had sent apologies only hours before the meeting and had not produced a draft team selection though he had offered to produce a team selection after the meeting provided that he knows the availability of UEA City of Norwich swimmers beforehand. James Macdonald produced a list of UEA City of Norwich swimmers who would be available for the gala. Not all clubs were represented at the meeting so it was not possible to make a team selection at the meeting. The County Coach, John Digby, agreed to liaise with the Team Manager to produce a team selection for circulating to clubs to check availability before invitations are issued. Invitation replies need to be in around mid November. Keith Belton offered his help too in getting invitations processed and to appoint other adults for the gala. The Chief Coach needed a second coach and four marshals (two for each team, one male one female). In addition Norfolk needs to take two JL2 and two JL1 officials. The incoming President should also be invited to attend (if not already done).

No transport is being provided. Swimmers need to make their own way to Crown Pools and report to the Chief Coach by 12.45 pm. Dianne Barrett needs to know as soon as possible the number of hats, T-shirts and hoodies required by the swimmers.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS & AGE GROUPS 2014

The galas will run as in 2013 on the dates previously fixed. Pool bookings have been made or are in hand. Qualifying times will be the same as in 2013 – but this information needs to go to clubs earlier (e.g. after the July meeting) in future years. Entry forms are being prepared and will go out shortly. The closing date for entries could be as late as two weeks before the long distance gala for 400m, 800m and 1500m events, and three weeks before the first Thetford gala for other events. There are separate arrangements for importing the Suffolk entries for the long distance events. Liam Harvey will be getting all the galas licensed this week. UEA City of Norwich were invited to host the long distance gala (and also the County Relay Gala which they alternate with Norwich Swan), Norwich Swan were invited to host the 400m gala at Wymondham and Thetford were invited to host the other galas at their pool. Club representatives at the meeting will take these invitations back to their respective committees.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were questions about the presentation of County Colours including one case where a badge had gone missing two years ago. It was explained that Norfolk no longer presents county flashes for first-time competitors who get a T-shirt with the badge printed on it. This means they do not get a presentation (as other counties still do) so it was suggested that their names are read out at the appropriate inter-counties gala and they may be invited to parade around the pool. The President also asked about County Colours for Masters' swimmers and will liaise with Robin Barrett over which swimmers had qualified.

Robin Barrett was concerned that only one swimmer had claimed a county record so far in 2013. Clubs were asked to check their records to see if other swimmers had broken records but had overlooked claiming them. The claim form is on the web site.

There was some discussion about Regional qualifying times which had been made more challenging to reduce the large number of entries.

Norfolk had been asked by the East Region Swimming Committee to organise non-technical helpers (10 volunteers per session) for the Winter Championships to be held at the UEA Sportspark in December. Elaine Bowen is checking on the precise requirements.

The Team Manager has notified the Assistant Secretary that he is resigning with immediate effect. There is therefore a vacancy for the post. If any clubs can nominate a suitable person to take on the duties, it would be helpful if they could let the Secretary know.)The job, which includes the position of Competitions Secretary, essentially revolves around arranging for the selection of teams for three inter-county galas each year, in conjunction with county officers and club representatives, and making the travel arrangements (two day trips, one overnight) to them.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21 January 2014 at Hewett School in Room A17 at 7.30 pm. The main purpose of the meeting will be to finalise arrangements for all the forthcoming County Galas.