

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.
Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 21 January 2014 – Hewett School

PRESENT Mrs M Tallwin (President), K Belton (Treasurer), A Smith (Assistant Secretary), P Kendall (President Elect/Open Water), R Barrett (Records/County Colours), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies/Thetford Dolphins), Mrs E Bowen (Norfolk Junior League), J Digby (County Coach/Norwich Swan), G Garner (Officials Liaison), L Harvey (Championships Secretary/Diss Otters), Mrs K Curtis (North Norfolk Vikings), J Macdonald (UEA City of Norwich)

APOLOGIES Mrs D McRoberts (Secretary), G Smith (Competitions Secretary/Team Manager), A Lelean (Diss Otters), Mrs S Lelean (Masters), D Peck (Development)

CO-OPTION OF OFFICERS

Membership of the Sub Committee is restricted to County Officers, the Competitions Secretary, the Championship 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: R Barrett (Records/County Colours), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies), Mrs E Bowen (Norfolk Junior League), G Garner (Officials Liaison), Mrs S Lelean (Masters), D Peck (Development). The Press & PR Officer should also be co-opted when appointed.

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 22 OCTOBER 2013

Agreed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Affiliation letters have been sent to clubs for the County Junior League 2014 and replies are required by 31 January. It seems likely that, once again, three 'B' teams will need to be invited to provide two galas of six teams in each round. No objection was raised to the inclusion of a 'C' team if this becomes necessary to fill the number of teams.

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

REPORT ON THE THREE COUNTIES GALA – IPSWICH – SUNDAY 15 DECEMBER 2013

The gala had been won by Suffolk (469) with Norfolk in second place (349) and Cambridgeshire third (186). Norfolk had performed well and the swimmers were a credit to their county. Thanks were expressed to the marshals and officials from Norfolk who had assisted with the gala. The President had enjoyed her first experience of attending a competitive swimming gala.

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS & AGE GROUPS 2014

Entry forms have been sent to all clubs. Entries are due by 31 January (longer distance galas) or 7 February (for the Thetford events). All the galas are licensed. Trophies need to be back to Dianne Barrett as soon as possible please. Sponsorship of £500 has been received from British Gas. It was suggested that officials might be given a clipboard with the county logo. The 2014 East Region President (Ian Mackenzie) will be attending at Thetford on Sunday 2 March.

UEA City of Norwich SC is hosting the long distance gala, held jointly with Suffolk, at the UEA Sportspark. They were reminded that the lap cards would be needed please. The warm up time for the long distance gala has been brought forward to 1.00 pm and there will be two separate sessions, one for the 800m and one for the 1500m, each with its own warm up session. Graham Garner has invited Suffolk ASA to provide some officials for the gala.

Norwich Swan SC is hosting the 400m gala at Wymondham with warm up at 5.30 pm. This gala too will be split into two separate sessions, girls and then boys, each with its own warm up. There will be a clearly signed marshalling area so that teams do not camp in it. Keith Belson will ensure that the p.a. system is in place.

Thetford Dolphins SC is hosting the other galas at their pool. Helpers are required for all eight sessions and clubs should contact Dianne Barrett with offers please. Lots of requests for mentoring and a few for assessments have already been received following recent JL1 and JL2 courses. It was suggested that the composite gala programme should include an advert for a Press & PR Officer: Keith Belton will arrange this. The County President will provide a photo and a foreword to go in the programme.

Clubs were reminded that, if their affiliation fees to Norfolk ASA have not been paid by 31 January, their swimmers will be unable to compete in the galas.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY RELAY GALA – SATURDAY 29 MARCH – UEA SPORTSPARK

This will be hosted in 2014 by UEA City of Norwich SC. The warm up will be at 5.00 pm. Entry forms will be distributed in mid-February for return by mid-March.

BAGCATS and any other presentations will take place from 4.00 pm in the Town Close Room (already booked) and swimmers need to be made aware of this arrangement please.

The Secretary will invite Past Presidents to attend the presentations and the relay gala. Keith Belton will book a small buffet to follow the presentations. The County President normally hosts this occasion (but Mrs Tallwin said that she may not be available due to a conflicting synchro engagement that day).

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY CHALLENGE GALAS – SUNDAYS 22 & 29 JUNE - DEREHAM

Dereham Otters SC was invited to host these galas. Liam Harvey will apply for a level 3 licence. Warm ups will be 8.30 am and 12.45 pm each day. Entry criteria will be determined by the County Age Group results. Tony Smith agreed to be lead referee. Event entry is £4. Entry forms are due to be issued around 1 May. Admission is £2 per session. A composite programme will be prepared by Keith Belton covering all four sessions. Dianne Barrett will liaise with Dereham Otters SC about the provision of helpers.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No details have yet been received of the East Region Inter Counties Championship Gala. In 2013 it was held at Luton in July and it is understood that Essex are due to host the 2014 gala. However there is a meeting of the East Region Swimming Committee on 22 January (being attended by Elaine Bowen) at which, it is understood, all the arrangements will be agreed. Details need to be passed to the Competitions Secretary/Team Manager (Gary Smith) and the County Coach (John Digby) as soon as possible please. (It is thought that Norfolk will be asked to host the 2016 gala).

The National Inter Counties Championship galas for 2014 are due to take place in Sheffield on Sunday 19 October. Accommodation for the Norfolk team is being booked by Keith Belton at the Lion Hotel, Worksop, for Saturday night. As agreed at the previous meeting, the hotel location for 2015 will be reviewed later.

Some months ago Bedfordshire had suggested holding a junior inter-county competition involving any East Midland and East Anglian counties that might be interested. At the time that the suggestion was received initial enquiries around the main clubs suggested that there would be a reluctance to release Norfolk swimmers for yet another inter-counties gala. It is understood that the inaugural gala is going ahead at Biggleswade on Saturday 1 February. Norfolk will need to consider again if it wishes to compete in this gala in future years.

For information the dates for the East Region championship galas in 2014 are as follows:
 Youth Championships, Luton, Sat 3/Sun 4 May.
 BAGCATS Championships, UEA Sportspark, Sat 7/Sun 8/Sat 14/Sun 15 June
 Winter Championships, Luton, Sat 6/Sun 7 December.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 15 April 2014 at Hewett School in Room A17 at 7.30 pm. The main purposes of this meeting will be to make arrangements and select a team for the East Region Inter Counties Championship Gala and to prepare a provisional county Fixture List for 2015.