

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.
Minutes of Development Sub-Committee –7 May 2015 – Aldiss Park, Dereham

PRESENT S Murray (ASA East Region Development Group Chairman); D Peck (County Development Secretary/ UEA City of Norwich), K Belton (Treasurer), A Smith (Assistant Secretary/Officials Exams), P Kendall (President/Open Water), Mrs M Tallowin (Synchro), Mrs N Jessop (Child Protection & Welfare/ Dereham Otters), J Digby (County Coach, Norwich Swan), Ms S Vanderloo (West Norfolk), C Galer (Referee Tutor)

APOLOGIES None were received.

INTRODUCTION

The previous meeting of the Development Sub Committee had been held on 3 October 2012 and much of the content of the plan being followed then was now out-of-date. Therefore Stewart Murray opened by briefly explaining the purpose of the meeting which was to agree a new Development Plan for Norfolk.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN

A draft development plan was distributed to those present. It was based broadly on similar plans produced by some of the other East Region counties in a format also used by East Region. The plan included any costs required for budget purposes and possible future action points. The following notes set out the main headings and any points made during the meeting.

Club Officer Courses

These include Team Manager Module 1 and Team Manager Module 2 courses which, it was suggested, might be held within the framework of a future proposed County Conference. Also a Time to Listen CPD, typically for welfare officers, was included: this would require an ASA presenter and a small charge for participants.

Promotion of E-Learning

Two courses which are available on-line are one for Club Captains and one covering administrative roles (e.g. chairman, secretary) within a club. Clubs should encourage members to participate perhaps as part of a Club and Coach Forum.

Swimming Official Courses

Judge Level 1 and Judge Level 2 courses take place periodically as required (the next ones being on 27 June 2015). There was a suggestion that separate Timekeeper courses (currently part of the JL1 syllabus) might also be arranged although participants would not be eligible to get a licence to officiate at licence level 1, 2 and 3 galas. JL2S courses also run each year as and when required. Referee courses run annually from the beginning of the year through to the written exams held in November. Some clubs pay the cost of their candidates entering JL1 and JL2/2S courses (£8). It was suggested that the county might pay for the initial licences for officials (£10). Currently East Region pays for licence renewals (£5) for those officials who perform at East Region Championship galas. Officials courses for other disciplines (i.e. synchro, open water) needed to be added to the plan and it was suggested that the county might fund these course fees. Other courses for officials include Contemporary Issues and FINA Rules Update, both of which are mandatory before licences can be renewed, (and these courses are next taking place on 27 June 2015).

Teaching & Coaching Courses

East Region and Norfolk County ASA have financially supported Swim 21 clubs on a limited basis with Teaching Level 2 and Coaching Level 2 & 3 courses in the past. Not all clubs have got Swim 21 status but it was thought that the funding offer might possibly be extended to those clubs that are working towards it. Teaching and Coaching Level 1 courses are funded by individuals and it was not proposed that financial assistance should be offered for these courses. Helpers Courses (e.g. for 13 – 16 year olds) and Swim 21 Assistance CPDs were also included in the plan.

General

A County Conference has previously been held that included a stream of courses and presentations taking place throughout a day with participants attending those of most interest to them with a get-together of all participants across lunchtime. This format could be repeated.

A County Swimmer Development Day might be held, perhaps before an inter-counties gala or at some other appropriate time along the lines of previously held team building days but including nutrition and land training. A Coaches Forum has previously been held, as have informal get-togethers of coaches to discuss various topics (most recently the 2016 fixture list); these are deemed useful and could be held on a regular basis.

A Coach Development Day was suggested, also with a respected coach from outside Norfolk, covering such subjects as land training, stroke clinics, nutrition and psychology.

AOE, Meet Manager and Recorder Training Sessions were also proposed.

It was suggested that other subjects that needed to be added to the plan included:

Disability Swimming where it was noted that the county is resurrecting the Swimability Gala in June. There also needs to be links between ASA clubs and non-ASA organisations providing swimming for disability swimmers.

Open Water training which successfully took place at Fritton Lake in 2014 and will be repeated this year with financial support from Norfolk ASA.

The draft budget for the plan totalled £12000 but this may need to be updated following the discussions.

Copies of the revised plan will be distributed at the forthcoming County Executive Meeting. If endorsed, a further meeting will then be arranged to implement the plan.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was mention of the use of Skype communications for those unable to attend meetings

Concern was expressed about the very limited club representation at this sub-committee meeting especially as individual clubs and their members have so much to gain from the proposals and the funding which might be available to them. It is hoped that many more club and discipline representatives will attend the implementation meeting if they wish to benefit from the plan.

The lack of ASA clubs in North Norfolk, especially following the closure of ASA clubs in Wells and Fakenham, was mentioned. There needs to be some link with and progression from private teaching organisations in that area. However no positive suggestions were made how to pursue this problem.

The constitution of the Development Sub Committee, as currently set out in the County Rules, needs to be reviewed. At present attendees are county officers and those concerned with individual disciplines but it was felt that every club should be represented. This should be taken up at the next County Executive Meeting with a view to a rule change being proposed at the AGM.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be arranged after the June County Executive Meeting.