



NORFOLK COUNTY ASA

Executive Committee Meeting –Tuesday 8th December 2020

PRESENT: K Rumsey (Chairman), K Belton (Treasurer), Mrs C Rose (President Elect), Mrs K Woodhouse (Secretary), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies), R Barrett (Records), C Galer (Officials Training), (Diss Otters SC), Mrs J Grimes (Diss Otters), L Harvey (Championship Secretary), A Lelean (Website), Mrs S Lelean (Masters), A Moore (Disability), S Murray (Past President), , Iain Patterson (City of Norwich), S Rose (West Norfolk), A Smith (Past President), Mrs T Spinner (City of Norwich),

1. APOLOGIES: G Applin (President), Mrs S Buchan (North Norfolk), P Kendall (Past President), D Peck (Development), J Salmon (Norwich Swan).

2. MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE MEETING HELD ON 2nd September 2020

The minutes were agreed as a true record.

3. MATTERS ARISING

There was confusion regarding Item 35 in the previous Executive Minutes. The Finance Committee (Finance sub-Committee Minutes 14/08/2020) had agreed to use money from the 'Restricted Fund' to boost funds raised by clubs choosing to take part in the Sport England Crowd Funding Scheme. The maximum amount would be 129/130 of the affiliation fee a club paid. However by the September Executive, the Sport England Crowd Funding scheme (whereby Sport England would match the amount raised by up to £5k) had ended. The minutes did not make it clear that clubs could apply to access this fund as long as they were actively fund raising and preferably crowd funding.

The Chairman also wanted to make it clear that the Development Sub-Committee remit only allowed funding for coaching/vocational courses and that clubs should continue to apply for this on behalf of their candidates. The Development budget also included money set aside for open water training and the County Talent programme. The Development group are always keen to hear about any development requirements. Whilst they haven't the budget to support strength and conditioning sessions, they could help support the professional development of S&C coaches. Norwich Swan have an extensive S&C resource bank and other clubs also have designated S&C coaches which other clubs are welcome to access. One club had requested £450 from the Development Sub-Committee so they could continue to run S&C sessions for their swimmers (paying for a coach and a hall) and felt let down when this was declined. Others who attended the September meeting also felt that there was the intention to consider funding for delivering S&C to swimmers (a letter from the Development Secretary had also implied that bids would be considered) although they agreed that this may be beyond the remit of the Development budget.

The Treasurer explained the Development Budget:

£500	Open Water Training
£12,000	Talent Camps
£150	Officials Training
£100	Referees Training
£750	Coach Education

The County approach to development is a long term one whereby it is preferable to help pay for a coach to attend courses thereby potentially benefiting many more swimmers, than paying for a finite number of sessions. The Development fund is separate to funds in the County reserves. Even £70,000, which seems quite a lot, does not go far if shared between all the clubs and can easily be eaten into particularly in the current uncertain economic climate. The Treasurer illustrated this in four possible budget scenarios where in all cases the County would be in deficit.

Scenario 1: Running a County Championships in the usual window with reduced entries and income but with a County Challenge Gala in the summer – deficit £22,119.

Scenario 2: No County Championships - deficit of £8,619.

Scenario 3: No Challenge Gala and no allowance for running County Championships at all – deficit £10,969

Scenario 4: Running a split age group County Championships in line with the preferred Swim England model producing a deficit of £40,469. Worryingly this would eat into our finances leaving £29,954 in the bank from £70,000. The impact on 2022 would be huge because we need to make estimated advance payments of approximately £32,000 but would have less than this in the bank. The issue is one of cash flow.

The President Elect reminded the Meeting that the Clubs themselves ARE the County and that we all need to be more proactive particularly with regards to ideas.

The longer the pandemic continues the more our clubs, particularly those with a smaller membership, will struggle financially. Concerned clubs may be entitled to help from the Swim England Hardship fund and should fill out the online survey. The Chairman and Emergencies Secretary will discuss hardship and how it is affecting Norfolk Clubs and how best to support them. The Chairman reiterated that the Sport England Crowd Funding Scheme had been re-launched and that clubs should access this if at all possible.

The Chairman apologised for any misunderstanding and advised clubs that further news on affiliations and support for clubs would be discussed later on the agenda.

4. CORRESPONDENCE

Swim England East Region – explaining that Norfolk could send four representatives to the Members Forum with further details and a job description to follow.

Swim England East Region – notification that Norwich and Thetford Water Polo Club wished to change their name to Norwich Water Polo Club. This was followed up with notification that the name change had been approved.

Swim England – various COVID updates including information on the second lock down in November and on the revised Tier restrictions.

Swim England – News on the resumption of Level X Racing.

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

The balance sheet will be sent out with the minutes. There has been little in terms of income and expenditure since the start of the new financial year. Income from affiliation fees is low due to the revised charges. Expenditure includes the Zoom licence and Course support allowance which is waiting to be paid out.

6. CO-OPTION AND APPOINTMENT OF OFFICERS

a. Co-option of Officers to the Executive Committee (if any). None

b. Election of Sub-Committee Secretaries, Officials and Representatives . Mrs C Rose was co-opted as Inter Club Gala Secretary. Mrs T Spinner was co-opted as Volunteer Co-ordinator.

c. Membership of Sub-Committees.

Masters: TBC

Emergency: Chris Galer (secretary), Stewart Murray, Tony Smith.

Development: Darren Peck (secretary), Chris Galer, Keith Belton, Stewart Murray, Richard Every.

7. PROPOSED FINANCIAL SUPPORT GRANT TO CLUBS

In October all clubs received a rebate on their 2020 affiliation fees to the tune of £1.29 per member out of the £1.30. A total of £3581.04 has been returned to clubs. Following the second lockdown it is proposed the county will repeat the rebate to all clubs meaning an additional £3581.04 will be distributed. The decision to reduce the Affiliation Fee from £1.30 to £0.01 also means clubs have more money available to them.

The second rebate was agreed unanimously and will be sent to clubs this week. A further review will take place at the March Executive by which time the COVID-19 situation should be much clearer.

8. REPORTS

None

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Following an enquiry, C Galer explained that County records could not be set during Level X Racing as it doesn't comply with Swim England regulations. It was agreed that times that were faster than County records could be included on the County website. Swimmers would be encouraged to submit their time to the Records Officer on a special form which once verified would be posted on the website. K Belton to liaise with R Barrett.

Date of next meeting: Wednesday 3rd march 2021

Please note that the following Executive dates have been confirmed: 1st June 2021, 1st September 2021

AGM - Wednesday 24th November 2021

All meetings will be held remotely via Zoom.

