

HERTFORDSHIRE AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

SWIMMING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at the Welwyn Civic Centre, 6th March 2013, at 8.00pm.

Present: Grant Chivers, Caroline Holt, Mark Horrod, Karen Huckle, Derek Hughes, Louise Hughes, Marilyn J Hughes, Ian Mackenzie, Sheila Mackenzie, Derek Milton, Bryan Thompson and Su Tysoe.

NB Item numbering started at S13/1 in these minutes (ie for new calendar year) although numbers in notes from previous meeting (held in January 2013) continued with 2012 numbering.

1. Apologies for Absence

S13/1. There were no apologies for absence.

2. Minutes of Previous meetings

S13/2. The notes of the previous meeting of 10th January 2013 were confirmed as minutes by the quorate committee subject to two minor amendments (also see note above)

- in S12/64 where Management Board should read Swimming Committee.
- In S12/74 'apposed' should read 'opposed'.

3. Matters Arising

None

4. Masters update

S13/3. DH noted that a Masters' Bulletin was sent out to a new extended mailing list in February 2013 and uploaded onto the website. Work had started on the 2013 Herts Masters paperwork. Chris Hisgrove and Louise Hughes confirmed for AOE and results. Borehamwood pool is confirmed booked for the evening of Saturday, 22nd June 2013.

S13/4. IM noted that the name of the 2012 'Top Club' should be on the Herts ASA website.

ACTION: DH to liaise with Alan Doyle

5. Competition update

5.1 Novice Meet 2013

S13/5. BT/IM were going to discuss the future of the event with Coaches. However, due to adverse weather this did not happen.

BT/IM/KH have discussed the idea of running an unlicensed, time-banded B-Grade 'Duel in the Pool' between Herts. and two or three other (non-local) counties. The intention being to target swimmers who might not usually feature in such an event. Planned date would be 17th November 2013. The event programme would be based on Division 1 Herts Major League. Given target of more distant competitors aim for a 2 hour long gala starting at about 14.00 (warm-up at 13.30). Target Hatfield SV pool for venue.

The Swimming Committee was in general agreement with the idea.

ACTION: BT to identify and contact possible competition

5.2 Daplyn Trophy

S13/6. The date for the event is fixed for 7th December 2013. The gala is to continue to be unlicensed. BT still to explore with After Dark the idea of doing a 'light-show' during the gala (not during races!) to add excitement to the event. Apparently Borehamwood lights do dim adequately and rapidly.

ACTION: BT to book pool and discuss lighting with After Dark

5.3 BAGCATS/ County Championships 2012

S13/7. The meeting agreed that the review of the overall fine detail of the event should be left to the Event Management Meeting. Some issues reported were:

- a. Event Support Staff were in limited numbers for the first (long-distance) event.
- b. Inspire Luton required that no cups were used for drinks, water bottles to be used.
- c. Some new swimmer's times have been re-submitted, these will be considered/accepted as previously.
- d. The Venue, Borehamwood is happy to have TV screens in foyer. Two screens to be hired for overflow spectators.
- e. Audience size still causing concerns despite mitigation activities.

6. Officials and Education update

S13/8. MJH reported on plans to provide those officials who attend significant numbers of County events a free shirt. It was agreed by the Committee that the 'entry level' is that those who have participated in 18 sessions over the last three years will get a shirt (at Counties).

ACTION: MJH to supply shirts to appropriate Officials during Counties.

S13/9. MJH reported that, to date, 99 Licensed Officials had volunteered their services for Counties.

S13/10. MJH reported that training courses continued to be well-attended and were following the agreed schedule. Some additional 'top-up' sessions to catch up with those who missed the original sessions were also being completed (at MJH and DH's home, to minimise cost and inconvenience).

7. Open Water

S13/11. Lee Valley facility has now been re-opened after the Olympics enabling ST to try to contact regarding availability for events.

ACTION: ST to report by next meeting.

S13/12. ST reported on a number of Open Water opportunities around the south-eastern region (at Stanborough, Henley etc.). These should be communicated to those interested in Open Water swimming via the Herts ASA website. However, it was agreed that it was important to note that these are not Herts. ASA events, but events organised by third parties.

ACTION: ST by as soon as possible.

8. County Development Plan

S13/13. IM and BT had met to discuss the Plan and presented it at the meeting where it was reviewed and discussed. Points emerging were:

- a. For 1.2 in the Plan a well-known Olympian was now engaged to lead a training session for the top 8 swimmers in each age group (potential total of 88 swimmers). The event is to be held at St Alban's School. This event should be strongly promoted in the local media.
- b. Satisfaction forms should be made available at the various fora in order to assess impact and need for improvement.

- c. The County was in danger of not meeting targets around novice swimming. There was a discontinuity here between the commitment of Coaches with respect to non-licensed novice meets and the objective of encouraging all levels of competitive swimming.
- d. A budget would be needed for Officials training.
ACTION: MJH to provide budget details before next meeting.

9. Records

No records were tabled at the meeting.

10. Any Other Business

None