

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.

Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 27 January 2009 – Hewett School

PRESENT K Rumsey (President), M Watkins (Chairman/Hon Secretary), A Smith (Hon. Assistant Secretary), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies/Thetford Dolphins), R Barrett (Championship Secretary), Mrs S Thompson (Competitions Secretary/Team Manager), J Digby (Norwich Swan), Mrs P Moore (Great Yarmouth), Mrs J Snell (Dereham Otters)

APOLOGIES Mrs J Andrews (President Elect), G Garner (Officials Liaison)

CO-OPTION OF OFFICERS TO COMPETITIONS SUB COMMITTEE

Membership of the Sub Committee is restricted to county officers, the sub committee secretary, the county coach and representatives of affiliated clubs (with one from each entitled to vote). It was proposed and agreed that the following should be co-opted with voting rights: Mrs D Barrett (Trophies), G Garner (Officials Liaison), R Barrett (Championships), P Thompson (County Chaperone), W Thompson (Press & PR) and J Toll (County Junior League).

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 14 OCTOBER 2008

Agreed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

There were none (other than those covered below).

REPORT ON NATIONAL INTER COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS – SHEFFIELD – SUN 19 OCTOBER 2008

All arrangements had run smoothly. Norfolk had finished in 10th place in the Division 2 Gala. Sally Thompson will book the Lion Hotel in Worksop and the coach for the October 2009 gala.

REPORT ON THREE COUNTIES GALA – PETERBOROUGH – SUN 14 DECEMBER 2008

Largely because of the very late change of weekend by the host county (Cambridgeshire) and, as a result, the clash with a National Swimming League weekend and a large open meet, many of the best swimmers had not been available for selection. Nevertheless Norfolk had finished in 2nd place behind Suffolk.

It was noted that the previous two Three County Galas had been held on Sunday afternoons rather than on Saturday evenings. Currently Norfolk, the host for the 2009 gala, has the Thetford pool booked for the evening of Saturday 5 December but it was decided that the gala should be held on Sunday 6 December in the afternoon. Robin Barrett will amend the bookings and confirm the date with the visiting counties. [Secretaries to note the change of date please].

FINAL ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS & AGE GROUPS 2009

At the previous meeting there had been some discussion on qualifying times with a proposal that they be reduced by 10% for all events from 200 metres up to omit some exceptionally slow swimmers. Robin Barrett had circulated the proposals to clubs but eventually it had been decided to reduce the times by only 5% and just for the 800m and 1500m distance events. The numbers of entries received for these events were 154 from Suffolk and only 46 from Norfolk. This led to the view being expressed that the qualifying time had been reduced by too much, though Robin Barrett thought that Suffolk simply had different criteria and more swimmers interested in doing the distance events. It was agreed that the qualifying times would be reviewed again at the May sub committee meeting.

Entries for all the other events are still coming in, though Robin Barrett has had some problems with the disc entries. Robin Barrett has booked a meeting with the Thetford pool to finalise the arrangements including lunches for officials and helpers. He has also discussed the arrangements for the distance events at the UEA Sportspark with UEA City of Norwich SC, which is hosting the events there. Plaques have been ordered and the perpetual championship trophies are now due back with Diane Barrett please. Graham Garner is seeking officials for the galas and Diane Barrett is seeking helpers for the Thetford events.

There was a brief discussion about whether the County Championships & Age Groups should be in long course format in future years, though it was thought that the UEA Sportspark would not be made available for any more weekends a year than it already is.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE COUNTY RELAY GALA –UEA SPORTSPARK – SAT 28 MARCH 2009

UEA City of Norwich SC has been invited to host the gala. Warm up is at 5.00pm. Entry forms will be sent out by Robin Barrett around 14 February with a closing date of 8 March. The arrangements and charges will be the same as in 2008. The East Region President has been invited and the Hon. Secretary will send invitations to all Past Presidents to arrive by 4.00pm for the BAGCATS awards after which the County President will host a reception (which Robin Barrett has already booked). Warwick Thompson is asked to arrange press coverage and photos for this exciting and popular gala please.

COUNTY CHALLENGE GALAS – DEREHAM – SUNS 21 & 28 JUNE 2009

Dereham Otters have been asked to host this event at the Dereham pool. There will be two morning and two afternoon sessions as previously. The entry criteria will, as usual, be decided after the completion of the County Age Groups. The President was keen to attract greater support for this competition and will be speaking to all the clubs.

Final arrangements including entry criteria will be decided at the March sub committee meeting.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A reminder that Norfolk will be hosting the East Region Inter Counties Championships this year and they will take place at the Thetford pool on the afternoon of Sunday 5 July. Team selection will take place at the May sub committee meeting.

The feeling was expressed that it would be useful, after the 2009 County Championships & Age Groups, to convene a meeting of club coaches to discuss the arrangements and format for 2010 before agreeing the arrangements at the May sub committee meeting.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Two further Competitions Sub-Committee Meetings were arranged and both will be held at Hewett School in Room A17.

[SECRETARIES: Please note both dates and ensure that your club is represented at both meetings in view of the important matters like fixture lists and changes to county gala formats that are being agreed. The County has recently had complaints from clubs that county gala dates, fixed over a year earlier, clash with league galas and that county gala formats do not suit their club. But, if the clubs do not send representatives to the meetings, it is impossible to avoid these problems.]

The first meeting will take place on **Tuesday 31 March 2009**. The main purposes of this meeting will be to finalise **arrangements for the County Challenge Galas** and to arrange **the Fixture List for 2010** (bring diaries please).

The second meeting will take place on **Tuesday 12 May 2009**. The main purposes will be to **select the team for the East Region Inter Counties Championships** and to discuss the **arrangements for the County Championships & Age Groups in 2010**.