

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.
Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 26 January 2010 – Hewett School

PRESENT Mrs J Andrews (President), M Watkins (Chairman/Secretary), K Belton (Treasurer), A Smith (Assistant Secretary), D Adams (UEA City of Norwich), J Digby (Norwich Swan), G Garner (Officials Liaison), Mrs N Hobson (Dereham Otters), D Proud (UEA City of Norwich), J Rush (Diss Otters), Mrs J Snell (Dereham Otters), Mrs D Webster (Great Yarmouth)

APOLOGIES Mrs D Barrett (Trophies/Thetford Dolphins), R Barrett (Championship Secretary), Miss K Bull (Competitions Secretary/Team Manager)

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 only one from each club entitled to vote). It was proposed and agreed that the following should be co-opted with voting rights: Mrs D Barrett (Trophies), R Barrett (Championships), Mrs M Daniel (Team Chaperone), G Garner (Officials Liaison), W Thompson (Press & PR) and J Toll (County Junior League).

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 20 OCTOBER 2009

Agreed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

Following the suggestion that there should be a County Open Water Representative, at the AGM Paul Kendall had volunteered to fill the post and this had been endorsed at the December Executive Meeting.

The membership of the Working Group, which had been set up to consider the format of future County Championship galas, needed to be reviewed following changes at the AGM. It was agreed that Katie Bull would replace Sally Thompson and that David Adams and Keith Belton should join the group, which also comprises Robin Barrett, Roy Sheperdson and Garry Jarvis. It was proposed that the Working Party should have an initial meeting after the forthcoming round of County Championship galas has been completed but before the next meeting when the dates and locations of 2011 galas are determined.

The Norfolk County ASA website has been radically improved.

REPORT ON THE THREE COUNTIES GALA – THETFORD – SATURDAY 5 DECEMBER 2009

Norfolk had finished in 2nd place behind Suffolk. There had been a problem of clubs not releasing swimmers due to clashes of dates with other galas. Suffolk, which will host the 2010 gala, propose to set the date one week later (on Sunday 12 December, the day after the final round of the National Arena League) to avoid the same clashes.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS & AGE GROUPS 2010

The President thanked David Adams for taking over the arrangements at short notice in the temporary absence of Robin Barrett. David Adams summarised the current position relating to accepting and processing entries. He proposed to run a card-less gala (as had been done successfully at the County Challenge Gala in June 2009) and he had contacted all clubs to ensure that coaches and swimmers would be aware of the system. For the sake of convenience, all the entries will be set out on the City of Norwich SC website which has a link from the Norfolk County ASA website. The entry date for the distance events has now passed: and the final entry date for the other events is 4 February. David Adams confirmed that three newly affiliated clubs had been invited to submit entries.

Tony Smith asked about the inclusion of disabled swimmers who may not quite be able to meet the qualifying times. It had been agreed (on 5 February 2008) to include provision for such entries on the entry form from 2009 onwards but it appeared to have been overlooked two years running. It was agreed that such provision must be made in 2011.

As part of a national campaign, British Gas had offered to sponsor £500 plus display material, officials' shirts and other items. In exchange the galas should be referred to as the 'British Gas Norfolk County Championships' on programmes and in any publicity or press reports. This was agreed and Keith Belton will accept the offer.

All arrangements for hosting these events at both Norwich and Thetford seem to be in hand. Malcolm Watkins will check that Robin Barrett will be able to organise the printing of programmes (but, if not, he will let David Adams know and he will make arrangements).

Keith Belton reminded those present of the County Rule that clubs, which have not paid their county affiliation fees by 31 January, should not take part in the county championship galas. He would issue a reminder to those clubs, which had yet to pay: this included UEA City of Norwich, Norwich Swan, Thetford and West Norfolk.

Assessments of a referee and several Judge Level 1 and 2 candidates will take place during the Thetford galas. Also Keith Belton hopes to run a Young Timekeeper (age 14 – 19) course one lunchtime with poolside assessments in the afternoon. He will ask clubs to let him know which competitors might be interested.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY RELAY GALA – UEA SPORTSPARK – SATURDAY 27 MARCH 2010

UEA City of Norwich SC was invited to host the gala. Warm up is at 5.00pm. It was suggested that entry forms should be distributed by 13 February for return by 7 March. Malcolm Watkins will discuss the arrangements for this with Robin Barrett on his return. The main arrangements and charges will be the same as in 2009. Some of the smaller clubs did not enter the gala last year: it was hoped that all clubs would be able to field teams in at least one or two events. It was hoped that Warwick Thompson would arrange for press reports and photos. Trophies should be returned to Dianne Barrett before the day of the gala please (on the night and broken, as some were returned last year, is simply not good enough).

Malcolm Watkins will invite the East Region President and Past Presidents of Norfolk ASA to attend at 4.00pm for the 'BAGCATS' awards and a reception afterwards (hosted by the County President) and then to watch the gala.

ARRANGEMENTS FOR COUNTY CHALLENGE GALAS – DEREHAM – SUNDAYS 20 & 27 JUNE 2010

Dereham Otters were invited to host these galas, with two sessions on each date. Entry criteria will be decided, as usual, after the completion of the county age group galas and will be confirmed at the April sub committee meeting. Some anomalies were discussed and will be taken into account before finalising cut off times.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

A course on officiating at disability events and at events that include disabled swimmers is being held at Chippenham, Cambs, on Sunday 15 May (10.00am – 4.00pm). Anyone interested in attending the course should contact Dave Metcalf.

The East Region Inter Counties Championships will take place on Sunday 4 July at Crown Pools, Ipswich (1.30pm w/u). The Three Counties Gala will take place on Sunday 12 December at Crown Pools, Ipswich (1.30pm w/u). The East Region Open Water Championships will take place at Whitlingham Broad on Sunday 18 July.

Aylsham Vikings SC has changed its name to North Norfolk Vikings SC.

Details of the County Junior League were distributed to clubs on 12 January setting out the draw for the first round galas. Some clubs will be invited to enter a 'B' team but at least one new club is expected to participate.

An Easter Holiday Swim Camp is taking place at Hewett School, Norwich, on 12 – 16 April. The camp will be run by professional coaches with demonstrations by senior swimmers. Swimmers in the 7 to 12 age groups are invited and will be split into ability groups. The cost is £30 for the 5 day camp. Details from Dave Proud (07513 029233).

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 20 April 2010 at Hewett School in Room A17 at 7.30pm. The main purposes will be to select a team for the East Region Inter Counties Championships, to agree the 2011 fixture list and to finalise arrangements for the County Challenge Galas.