

NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.
Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 15 July 2014 – Hewett School

PRESENT K Belton (Treasurer), A Smith (Assistant Secretary), P Kendall (President Elect/Open Water), G Smith (Competitions Secretary/Team Manager), J Digby (County Coach), Mrs D Barrett (Trophies), Mrs E Bowen (Norfolk Junior League), M Bateman (UEA City of Norwich), A Lelean (Diss Otters), S Murray (West Norfolk), Ms S Vanderloo (West Norfolk), Mrs J Weston (Dereham Otters)

APOLOGIES Mrs M Tallwin (President), Mrs D McRoberts (Secretary), L Harvey (Championships Secretary), R Barrett (Records/County Colours), J Macdonald (UEA City of Norwich), Mrs K Smith (North Norfolk Vikings), Mrs K Woodhouse (Norwich Swan)

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15 APRIL 2014

Agreed as a true record.

MATTERS ARISING

It had been suggested that the meeting had been held earlier than in past years and this was the reason why details of the regional inter-counties gala had not been received. However, mid April meetings had successfully taken place in previous years to select the team for this gala. Nevertheless a slightly later might be considered in future years.

NORFOLK COUNTY JUNIOR LEAGUE AGM

As suggested at the Executive Meeting held on 3 June it had been agreed to incorporate the AGM as an agenda item at this meeting in view of the disappointingly low attendance at previous AGMs. The minutes of the 2013 meeting were accepted without discussion. In 2014 there had only been 10 teams entered in the league, with two galas of five teams in each round. UEA City of Norwich 'A' had won the Copeman Cup at Wymondham, whilst Diss Otters had won the Christine Clark Cup at Thetford.

Suggested rule changes would allow for swimming up and there would no longer be a restriction on swimmers competing only in the 'A' or the 'B' team in the rounds. Draft rule changes will be circulated to clubs for endorsement. It was also suggested and agreed that mixed relays should be added to the programme, one in each age group. This would provide four extra events.

The fixtures for 2015 were agreed as follows:

The Round 1 galas will take place at Wymondham and Dereham on Saturday 21 March.

The Final Round galas will take place at Wymondham and Thetford on Saturday 25 April.

The provisional draw for the first round was then carried out (subject to twelve teams participating):

Wymondham: Norwich Swan, UEA City of Norwich, Great Yarmouth, AN Other 1, AN Other 2, AN Other 3

Dereham: Dereham Otters, West Norfolk, Little Fish, Diss Otters, Thetford Dolphins, North Norfolk Vikings.

REPORT ON THE COUNTY CHALLENGE GALAS – SUNDAYS 22 & 29 JUNE - DEREHAM

There had been a number of problems. Both galas overran with seemingly over-long lunch breaks together with delays in getting correct start sheets out the first week and problems with the starting equipment the second week. Also one event, the 200 IM, had belatedly been switched from the morning to the afternoon session the first week to even up the length of the sessions and, although clubs had been consulted, some parents were unaware of the change which caused them some problems for which the county apologised. There had been other problems too and a suggestion had been made that the gala should be moved to later in the year, possibly September, though it would then clash with open galas held by several Norfolk clubs around that time. It was understood that the Championship Secretary and two other officers would be reviewing various aspects of the gala. Some changes are expected to be announced by the ASA shortly which will affect not only this gala but all the county galas in terms of ages of swimmers admissible to the galas, the dates of county competitions during the year.

REPORT ON EAST REGION INTER-COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIP – BASILDON – SUNDAY 6 JULY 2014

Unfortunately, once again there had been some last minute withdrawals from the team and replacement swimmers had to be found at short notice. To avoid widespread changes this did mean that some swimmers were not used in what they might regard as their strongest events. Nevertheless the team performed well: Norfolk had finished in fifth place in the gala (which had been won by Suffolk) and several first places had been achieved. There was great team spirit both during the journey and on the poolside. Thanks were expressed to the Team Manager and the County Coach. There needed to be a review of the transport arrangements especially for those swimmers in more remote parts of the county from the route taken by the coach to these galas.

CONFIRMATION OF THE 2015 FIXTURE LIST

The fixture list (below) was confirmed but must remain subject to any over-riding changes caused by expected forthcoming announcements from the ASA. However, in some respects, 2015 may have to be regarded as a transition year if it becomes too late to alter dates and bookings. **Club secretaries are again asked to note the dates and copy them to their coaches to avoid clashes with club and other galas in 2015.** The Treasurer will book the pools (except those for the County Junior League which will be booked by the league secretary). The date for the long distance gala has been confirmed with Suffolk. The possibility of a further County level 3 event was left for future discussion.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Location</u>
Sat 14 Feb	County Championship/Age Group 800/1500m events	UEA Sportspark
Sat 21 Feb	County Championship/Age Group 400m freestyle events	Wymondham
Sat 28 Feb/Sun 1, Sat 7 & Sun 8 Mar	County Championship/ Age Group other individual events	Thetford
Sat 21 Mar	County Junior League Round 1 (2 galas)	Wymondham/Dereham
Sat 28 Mar	County Relay Gala	UEA Sportspark
Sat 25 Apr	County Junior League Final Round (2 galas)	Wymondham/Thetford
Sat 16 May	County & Open Masters Championships	UEA Sportspark
Sun 21 Jun/Sun 28 Jun	County Challenge Galas	Dereham
Sat 19 Jul	County & East Region Open Water Championships	Whitlingham

TEAM SELECTION & ARRANGEMENTS FOR NATIONAL INTER COUNTIES CHAMPIONSHIPS - SHEFFIELD – SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER

Final details were still awaited from the ASA so arrangements and provisional team selection were based on the programme for previous years. Swimmers are permitted two individual events and relays in their own age groups (12/13, 14/15 16/17). Age is as at the date of the gala. A team was selected using current ranking lists. As soon as final details have been confirmed (and any consequent changes made), the Team Manager will distribute invitations along with Code of Conduct and medical forms for each swimmer. Replies would need to be back to the Team Manager by the end of August.

The Team Manager will arrange transport. The coach will start from Great Yarmouth on Saturday 18 October then pick up at Norwich (Hewett School) probably at 2.00 pm with further pick-ups at Dereham (Tesco) and Kings Lynn (Tesco). The coach would be scheduled to return to Norwich around 7.30 pm on Sunday 19 October. The Lion Hotel, Worksop, has been booked for Saturday night including an evening meal with choices and breakfast on Sunday morning with choices. As last year, suitable menus will be agreed in advance with the hotel which will also provide packed lunches for Sunday which the county will fund. A stop will be made during the return journey and swimmers will need to fund any food they may wish to purchase. Swimmers attending the Lincoln Vulcans Open Meet at Sheffield on Saturday will need to be transferred to Worksop to join the team Saturday evening: some may require coach transport home on Sunday.

Several adults will travel with the party and need accommodation. The Team Manager and the County Coach will attend. The County President needs to be invited and, if necessary, accommodated. A female chaperone and two qualified and licensed (JL2 minimum) officials will be needed: the Team Manager will select these once the team list is finalised. The coach driver will also require accommodation. The team manager will confirm all the requirements with the hotel. (A provisional booking for the hotel should also be made by the Team Manager for 2015).

The Team Manager will circulate a full itinerary and list of contact telephone numbers to parents of swimmers and will provide information to the adults travelling with the party before departure. The Team Manager will also take the team banner and will let the Trophies Secretary know in good time any requirements for hats, 'hoodies', etc.

DATE & VENUE FOR THE THREE COUNTIES GALA 2014

Cambridgeshire are due to host the gala. Their president had lobbied Suffolk about moving the gala from December to September but Suffolk had rejected this proposal. So, at present, the date, venue and other details are still awaited.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS

If the ASA announces major changes in the near future which will seriously alter the 2015 fixture arrangements, as well as those for the County Junior League, a special meeting may need to be called to discuss the implications.

Help is needed with the East Region Open Water Championships at Whitlingham on Sunday 20 July. Also, if there is sufficient demand, an open water coaching course could be arranged. Contact Paul Kendall for details.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 21 October 2014 at Hewett School in Room A17 at 7.30 pm. The main purpose of this meeting will be to select teams for the Three Counties Gala.