



NORFOLK COUNTY A.S.A.

Minutes of Competitions Sub-Committee – Tuesday 4th February - 2020 – Hewett Academy

PRESENT: G. Applin (President), K. Rumsey (Chairman), K. Belton (Treasurer), Mrs K. Woodhouse (Secretary), Mrs D. Barrett (Trophies), R. Barrett (Records/County Colours), Mrs E. Bowen (Inter-Club Galas), Mrs A Chapman (Norwich Swan), R. Every (County Coach), C. Galer (Officials Training), S. James (Thetford), P. Kendall (Open Water), S. Murray (Past President), J. Naylor (CO Norwich), A. Smith (Technical Director), Mrs T. Spinner (CO Norwich).

- 1. APOLOGIES:** Mrs C. Fasey (Thetford), L. Harvey (Championships), Mrs C. Rose (Team Manager), S. Rose (Press & PR), S. Park (Norwich Swan), D. Peck (Development).
- 2. MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 15th October 2019**

The minutes of the previous meeting were agreed as a true record. It was noted that the date for the Inter-Club Galas had been confirmed as Saturday 9th May 2020 and the fixture list was amended to reflect this.

3. MATTERS ARISING

None.

4. ARRANGEMENTS FOR WARWICK THOMPSON GALA - 22nd/23rd February 2020

Liam Harvey had confirmed that all arrangements were in hand. The received entries have been publicised and final arrangements for the weekend, including warm up times etc, will be circulated to coaches and clubs this weekend. The number of people requiring lunch could be a concern as space is more limited at Thetford than at the Sportspark so numbers need to be confirmed as soon as possible.

5. ARRANGEMENTS FOR JUNIOR SENIOR INTER-CLUB GALA - 9th May 2020

The Inter-Club Gala Secretary thanked K Belton for his help in preparing the meet conditions. This would include as follows:

- Junior Gala age groups 10,11, 12,13 (L1 LC so no separate 9year old group).
- Senior Gala age groups 14, 15, 16, 17+
- Age at 31st December (this will cater for 9 year olds in the youngest age group).
- Swimming up is allowed).
- 3 individual swims per swimmer per session (swimmers may compete in both sessions).
- Scoring from 8-1 points with points being split if a dead heat occurs.
- Lane seeding will be drawn from a hat (at the next Executive meeting 4th March).
- Session 1: warm up 1pm, start 1:30pm. Session 2: Warm up 4:30pm, start 5pm. (TBC) Finish approx. 7:30pm. Change to original session timings to allow LC format to be retained overnight for the Norfolk Masters the following day and to allow recovery time for those swimmers competing at Luton in the SEER Championships on 8th May.
- Clubs will no longer be required to bring their own officials. Officials will be invited to attend as for other County run licenced events.
- K Belton to draft licence application.
- Invitations will be sent out to clubs by the end of the month.

6. ARRANGEMENTS FOR NORFOLK MASTERS – 10th May 2020

Arrangements are all in hand. The event is unlicensed. Officials are always in short supply for this event so any offers off help gratefully received. Officials are coordinated by S Lelean.

7. OPEN WATER 2020 - PROPOSALS FOR REGIONAL AND NATIONAL COMPETITIONS.

The distances for Open Water Nationals have been changed to assist with selection for the World Junior Open Water Championships later this year. The 14/15 years distance will increase from 3k to 5k and the 16+ years from 5k to 7.5k. The Open Water Secretary had canvassed club coaches and received a variety of opinions. It was decided that the County would support keeping the current distances at the SEER OW Championships at Whitlingham rather than change to the longer distances this year. The County also wanted the date of next year's SEER Open Water Championships to be brought forward to allow more time between the event and national competitions.

8. FIXTURE LIST

22nd/23rd February 2020	Warwick Thompson – Thetford
9 th May 2020	NCASA Junior Inter-Club Gala and Senior Inter-Club Gala - Sportspark, UEA
10 th May 2020	Norfolk Masters – Sportspark, UEA
27 th June 2020	Special Olympics – Sportspark, UEA
20 th /21 st June 2020	County Challenge – Dereham
4 th July 2020	Swimability - Riverside
19 th July 2020	NCASA and East Region Open Water Championships – Whitlingham
September 2020 (TBC)	Junior Inter-County Gala – Luton
4 th October 2020	National County Team Championships – Ponds Forge, Sheffield
January 2021 (TBC)	Norfolk County Championships, Distance Events – Sportspark, UEA
January/February 2021 (TBC)	Norfolk County Championships, Main Events – Sportspark, UEA
January/February 2021 (TBC)	Norfolk County Championships, Main Events – Sportspark, UEA
February 2021 (TBC)	Warwick Thompson - Thetford

9. County Championships

The Technical Director gave feedback via a written report and highlighted the following:

- There were relatively few delays. However there was a chlorination issue which delayed the start of Session 5 by 30 minutes. The coaches agreed to a land based warm-up to minimize the delay. There was a 20 minute delay before the Relay Gala could get underway due to a communication problem between the recording and AOE systems.
- The officials' parade ensured that all the officials were poolside and ready to start ahead of the start time. This proved so efficient that time allowed to get everyone in place could be further reduced if the safety announcement started as soon as warm-up ends.
- Start sheets were available for officials at both ends of the pool.
- All sessions had over and above the minimum requirement for qualified and licenced officials at L1 meets. The same lead referee covered all sessions.
- There were no assessments at this year's championships but all mentoring requests were catered for.
- Radios were used again, the efficiency of which is improving as more officials experience their use. Two channels to be used going forward to separate officials and volunteers discussions.
- There were three specific complaints that the music (to announce finalists) was too loud. It was subsequently reduced.
- The Field of Play Officer is useful but it is not a full time role and could be combined with another.
- Session times were known in advance. There was a 15 minute break between heats and finals.
- There were fewer late withdrawals this year, some of which will incur fines.
- Lunches were available on time. Officials and volunteers should continue to inform of any specific dietary requirements.
- A technical officials' handbook was available to all via a link but many did not appear to have read it. Consideration to be given to sending this out as an attachment.
- It had been previously agreed to allow officials to wear shorts this year. The East Region President commented on this as officials are expected to wear trousers at Regional events and above and it is clear that Norfolk is trying to mirror Regional galas. The new officials' shirt policy should see more officials in County uniform. It would also be desirable to see volunteers in t-shirts too.

Coaches and secretaries are invited to send feedback to the Championship Secretary for discussion at the next County Championships Working Party meeting which will take place after the Warwick Thompson Gala. Some possible discussion points are listed below:

- I. Should any changes be made to the 800/1500 qualifying times e.g. participation or targeting specialist distance swimmers?
- II. 16 age group times will be added.
- III. Schedule. Keep the same or move some of the 50m events as previously requested?
- IV. To consider the withdrawal period from heat to final. Would 15 minutes be preferable?
- V. Do we want a two course meal? Is it possible to know the menu in advance?
- VI. Can we make the presentations slicker and keep the momentum gained from the skins events?
Mr Wells had written asking if trophies could be awarded for the skins winners. C Galer proposed that a junior skins event be included in next year's programme. Both of which were agreed.

It was agreed that the County Championships was a very good event but the intension is to make it a great event. The County are working with increasing professionalism and are improving the volunteer experience.

A vote of thanks was recorded to all those involved at all levels in making the Championships a success. It was gratifying to hear club representatives bring plenty positive feedback from parents and coaches.

10. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

The qualifying times and cut off times for the County Challenge Gala, have been decided and the licence applied for.

11. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday 12th May 2020