

ASFGB

Open Water Technical Committee

**Minutes of Meeting held 14 October 2005
At the White House, Kegworth**

Present: Mr M Hemmings
Mr S Greetham
Mrs F Dalrymple-Smith
Mrs Andrea Gellan
Mr L Debenham

05/26 Apologies for Absence

05/26.1 Miss J Nickerson, Mr A Bircher, Mr R James, Mrs J Shaw

05/27 Minutes of the Meeting – 13 July 2005

The minutes were signed as a true record.

05/28 Matters Arising

05/28.1 05/17.1 – LEN/FINA Events on 11/12 June 2005

The position on taxing overseas competitors prize winning has been clarified. There is no tax to pay on prize money up to £1,000. Over £1,000 tax is paid on the total prize money.

05/28.2 The surname of Amanda to be added. Surname is Smerczak

05/29 Budgets

05/29.1 Expenditure to Date

The first provisional set of accounts has been received. The detail in the account has made it difficult to reconcile. A visit by the Secretary to Loughborough is required to verify the accounts. At this stage the account would appear to be in-line with expectations

05/29.2 FINA Event – June 2005

Based on good financial control it is expected that approximately £11,500 can be returned to British Swimming who underwrote the event. The position will be clarified after the review of the accounts

05/30 Update on Performance Director for Open Water Swimming

Sam Greetham updated the Committee on the discussions regarding a Performance Director. Whilst it is recognised by British Swimming that Open Water Swimming needs coaching assistance/input a number of alternative proposals have been discussed. A final decision is unlikely to be reached until the IOC has agreed to the inclusion of Open Water Swimming in to the Olympic Games in Beijing 2006. Comments from Committee Members to be forwarded to Frances Dalrymple-Smith within 14 days.

05/31 Competition Programme

05/31.1 Festival of Open Water Swimming

A 'Festival of Open Water Swimming' will take place over the weekend of 24/25 June 2006. The events to include:

Len Cup
3K Junior
3K Masters
FINA Marathon Swimming Cup

The preferred venue is Dorney Lake, but it is currently booked for a triathlon competition. A meeting to be held with the triathlon organisers to see if the event can be integrated with their event. The back-up venue of Albert Dock has been provisional booked.

- 05/31.2 Media
The Secretary to speak to Katie Brazier to discuss media opportunities for the 'Festival of Open Water Swimming'
- 05/31.3 Competition Programme
The competition programme for the European and World Championships have been confirmed. They are:
European Championships 26 – 30 July 2006 Lake Balaton, Hungary
World Championships 29 Aug – 3 Sep 2006 Naples, Italy
- 05/31.4 LEN Cup – GB Round
LEN have decided that all competitions shall become 10K. The GB round therefore will increase to 10K.
- 05/31.5 5K British Indoor Championships
Contact has been made with Chris Bostock to hold the above Championships during the European Trials from the 4 to 9 April 2006. One heat to be held between the morning and afternoon session on day 1 and two other heats after the final session. Seeding will be based on time with men and women swimming together.
- 05/31.6 Competition Strategy
A competition strategy was discussed based on the potential of holding an Open Water event in the 2012 Olympic Games. The initial proposal is to bid for the following:
2008 European Junior Championships
2010 LEN Super-Final
- 05/31.7 2005 'Festival of Open Water Swimming'
Comment was passed by the winners of the overall series, that the London round of the FINA Marathon Swimming Cup was the best organised event they had attended.
- 05/32** Selection Policies
- 05/32.1 European Championship Selection Policy - 2006
The European Championship selection policy was agreed with minor changes. The policy to be posted on the web-site
- 05/32.2 World Championship Selection Policy - 2006
The World Championship selection policy was agreed with minor changes. The policy to be posted on the web-site
- 05/32.3 European Junior Championship Selection Policy - 2006
The draft European Junior selection policy was agreed with minor changes. The policy to be posted on the web-site
- 05/331** Appointment of Officials
- 05/33.1 European and World Championships - 2006
In line with Officials matrix it was agreed to nominate Pat O'Callaghan for both events. It was decided not to nominate an Official for the World Masters Championships in San Francisco.
- 05/33.2 Pre-FINA
An advertisement to be placed inviting suitable Officials to apply for inclusion to the Pre-FINA list.
- 05/33.4 Common Open Water Rules and Officials Examinations
Contact has been made by England to Scotland and Wales regarding having and common set of rules together with a common examination. Contact to be made with the Scotland Officials Co-ordinator to progress the matter.
- 05/33.5 Officials Seminar
It was agreed to hold an Officials seminar to cover new FINA rules and the

interpretation to ensure there is a common understanding within GB. The seminar to be arranged by Les Debenham, Frances Dalrymple-Smith and a representative from Scotland. The date to be arranged.

05/34.0 LEN Report

To date the LEN Cup will consist of four rounds plus the Super-Final. This includes the GB round. There is a possibility that the number may increase with rounds in Holland and Macedonia. The European Open Water Championships are to be held at Lake Balaton, which is 1.5 hours outside Budapest.

05/35 FINA Report

05/35.1 Entries for Olympic Games in Beijing

A meeting was held in Hong Kong to formulate the entry conditions for Beijing if the IOC approves Open Water. Entry will be limited to 25 men and 25 women. The selection criteria to be published when they have been approved.

05/36.0 AOB

05/36.1 Swimmers Representative

Alan Bircher is to remain the swimmers representative and he will communicate with the swimmers by email to get their comments.

05/36.2 Correspondence from David Sparkes

David Sparkes forwarded an email from Wendy Coles regarding his request for Wendy to comment on an incident in Montreal. The Committee discussed the matter but noted the comments made were regarding selection policies and not the subject matter.

05/36.3 LEN Training Camp in Barcelona

It was noted that the swimmers who attended the above camp conducted themselves flawlessly and were a credit to GB. The camp was led by Sam Greetham and Mark Perry.

05/36.4 Warm Weather Training Camp

It was agreed to investigate holding a warm weather training camp in South Africa in February 2006. If this took place the swimmers who went to Barcelona would go to South Africa and any female swimmers considered to be of the correct standard would buy in to the ASA training camp already booked for Cyprus in February 2005.

05/37.0 Date for Next Meeting

The date for the next meeting to be confirmed.