

The difference between British Swimming and the Amateur Swimming Association

British Swimming is the new name for the Amateur Swimming Federation of Great Britain Ltd. This organisation is a federation made up of three members:

Amateur Swimming Association (ASA)
Scottish Amateur Swimming Association (SASA)
Welsh Amateur Swimming Association (WASA)

British Swimming is the organisation affiliated to FINA, the World Governing Body of Swimming and LEN, the European Governing Body of Swimming. The primary role of British Swimming is to manage the elite side of our sport in all disciplines. It is also the member of the BOA and BPA and nominates the team to the Olympics and Paralympics. UK Sport also works with British Swimming on three aspects:

1. Elite performance
2. Doping Control (British Swimming alone deals with all doping issues.)
3. International relationships and events other than the Commonwealth Games which is a matter principally for the Home Countries and individual areas such as the Isle of Man and Channel Islands.

It is worth noting in swimming terms Great Britain is made up of England, Scotland and Wales only. However, England also includes the Isle of Man and Channel Islands (excluding Commonwealth Games representation.)

The Amateur Swimming Association is the National Governing Body for Swimming in England alongside the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association which is the National Governing Body for Swimming in Scotland and the Welsh Amateur Swimming Association which is the National Governing Body for Swimming in Wales. These three are collectively known as the Home Country National Governing Bodies.

The three Home Country National Governing Bodies manage the sport in their country at all levels from learn to swim up to performance.

The ASA is based in Loughborough, SASA in Stirling and WASA in Swansea. British Swimming does not have a core central services team and purchases many of these services from the ASA (Finance, HR, IT, Systems management etc.) The administrative staff working on the performance programmes are mainly based in Loughborough with other performance staff based at several of the major pools, Stirling, Swansea, Loughborough etc.