

ASA East Region



Technical Swimming Committee

**Minutes of a meeting held on 1st April 2007 at Chippenham Village Hall
starting at 10 a.m.**

Present: Mike Rayner (Chair), Sharon Spibey, Roger Howkins, David Robinson, Bob Outtram. Liz Christian and Don Neate

Apologies: Tina Lander and John Rushmer

07/01 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

07/01.1 Matters arising. The request for a time trial had been discussed but it was felt by Bob and Don that the Regional Championships would be sufficient for 2007 and that the additional cost could not be justified.

07/02 CAMPS

07/02.1 DN explained the three camps proposed were not possible due to lack of pool time at a reasonable cost and he had managed to obtain the activity pool at Bury St. Edmunds for £135.75 for two days with the use of one lane in the main pool for warm-up and swim down. The activity pool is the deep end of the old 331/3M pool now enclosed by a boom. This has a moveable floor that can go down to 2.12M which is ideal for filming.

Swimmers will each get a 20-minute filming slot with 20 minutes warm-up and swim-down followed by the opportunity to view their DVD before taking it away for use with their own coach.

DN said that the invitations had been done on the website with each club with swimmers involved being advised directly by e-mail, this had generally worked well but some clubs did not appear to have passed on the invitation and it was agreed that in future those swimmers not replying by the cut off date should be dropped and replaced with the next swimmers from the selection process. Those swimmers who had advised that they were unavailable were replaced by this method.

DN said that he is providing the Admin and the filming and warm-ups are being organised by Mick Hepwood.

07/02.2 The dates for the English Talent Camps are now known but at present we do not know who will be invited or what facilities are required.

07/03 Championships

07/03.1 Accommodation

MR said that accommodation had been booked at the UEA Guest Suite for the weekends of the Youth and Bagcats including Friday evenings for Bob Outtram. He said that the UEA was fully booked for the November weekend but DN had arranged a deal with the Holiday Inn, Ipswich Road, Norwich, which was only slightly more expensive than the UEA. Rooms have been booked for Saturday night and some additional rooms for Friday night for Bob Outtram and those people from Bedfordshire who did not wish to travel on Saturday morning. The hotel has agreed to bill the ASA-ER for these rooms and the people using the rooms will be invoiced for the cost after the event.

07/03.2 Officials

07/03.2.1 MR said that despite having sent out 140 invites plus an open invitation on the website and in Swimming Times the response had been poor and he only has just enough Officials to run the events.

07/03.2.1 DR said that he was organizing Officials for the Regional Masters in Bury St. Edmunds on October 14th and asked that in future years this date could be included in the annual invitation to Officials. MR agreed to include this in future.

DR said that he would be recruiting Officials at the Regional Championships in May and June.

07/03.3 Entries

07/03.3.1 BO said That the Entry details for the Youths and Bagcats were on the website but there was an error on the Youth entry form which still showed last years entry fee. He had agreed with DN that having published this we would have to live with it but with the addition of the extra 50M events this should cover any shortfall on the budgeted entries. Also the Bagcat Schedule did not include the 800M F/S Team event, which is now needed as a qualifier for the Nationals. This was pointed out to BO who managed to correct the schedule within a few hours of it being placed on the website.

07/03.3.2 BO said that he had received a few entries for the Youths but as the closing date is not until April 10th there is still time. Also electronic entries will be accepted to the end of the closing date providing entry cheques are posted immediately.

07/03.4 Staffing

DN said that staffing was progressing well although John Rushmer will not be available for the Bagcats but he is going to ask Howard Ingleson to take over in his absence. Bill and Sue Blackaby have confirmed that they will be available for all events to organise medals and trophies.

07/03.5 Programme

07/03.5.1 The inclusion of a Swim 21 advert in the programme was discussed and DN agreed to chase Roy Emmerson the artwork. He also agreed to provide MR with a suitable photograph for inclusion with his forward for the programme.

07/03.5.2 The inclusion of applicable Regional Records was discussed and it was agreed that DR should send these to BO to be set in the correct format.

07/03.6 Trophies and Medals

07/03.6.1 It was agreed that the less expensive medals be used for the Youth and Bagcat events with the 9 Age Group winners, first three places, in the Bagcats receiving the more expensive medals. BO said that he had been approached about awards for more places in the Bagcat events but after some discussion it was agreed that it should remain at Gold, Silver and Bronze only.

07/03.6.2 SS said that the Jeanne Barker Trophy provided by Cambridgeshire did not have a base and Cambridgeshire wished to purchase a base, DN agreed to provide details to MR when he receives the trophy from the holder so that MR can purchase a suitable base.

DN has two trophies from the old Southern Counties District which are marked “Best Boy/Girl in the youngest age group” he pointed out that technically this is covered by the 10 Year Bagcat cups so suggestions are needed as to how these trophies should be used.

07/03.6.3 It was pointed out that when funds were received from the old Districts there was a provision of £150 for trophies that were passed to other Regions and it had been agreed at the time that this money should be ring fenced for the purchase of trophies while the current accounts have charged the cost of trophies purchased to the Swimming Committee budget and DN agreed to make this clear to the Board.

07/03.7 Meals MR said that he was still not happy with the quality of the meals provided by the UEA catering department as the cost is higher than when the meals are purchased direct from the cafeteria particularly when you take into account the cost of room hire. A proposal was made that the Officials and Helpers be given an allowance to purchase their food from the cafeteria and DN agreed to discuss our options with John Rushmer and to visit the catering manager if necessary.

07/03.8 Coaches Passes

BO said that Tina Lander has supplied him with the Coaches Pass request form and he has included them with the entry packs and MR asked that he be provided with the passes and names so that he could distribute them on the day.

07/04 Hosting of Regional Inter Counties

RH had asked for some details of what is required from the host County and this was discussed based on what Bedfordshire had done in 2006. It was agreed that the host County take any income from the event and also provide the venue. Visiting Counties be asked to bring two Timekeepers and a Judge and the Host County provides the rest of the Officials.

BO said that in 2006 Bedfordshire had brought in an independent Referee from South East Region to act as the Lead Referee and it was agreed that this practice should be continued if practical. BO also offered any assistance necessary with the IT, particularly with adding results to the Regions website.

07/05 Licensing

07/05.1 RH said that Cambs had applied for a license for an Inter County event in September, which is therefore outside the County Period. It was agreed that Cambridgeshire would have to pay if they wanted the license. SS and MR agreed to discuss this with their County before further action.

07/05.2 RH asked if the Regional Inter Counties should be licensed. This was discussed and it was agreed that we should go ahead with a license.

07/06 Officials Sub Group

07/06.1 MR said that there had been an upsurge in people taking their practical exams brought about by the change in the change to the examination rules. He reported that there are some candidates for the new style Referees qualification procedure and courses are starting shortly.

07/06.2 MR said that he had not yet received any written details of the new procedures for Club Timekeeper, Judges and Starters.

07/07 Records

07/07.1 DR said that record claims had slowed down although he is still getting a few mainly from Roberto Pavoni. He also said that a number of swimmers are not bothering to claim records and in the past when the system was getting started he chased the swimmer or coach but he proposed that he should not continue this practice. This was discussed and agreed that swimmers not claiming records should not be reminded unless the record was made in a Regional event.

07/07.2 DR said that he is working with LC to set up Disability Records although this has been slow as he had difficulties getting details of some swimmers, particularly those from Colchester Phoenix. However this is now largely overcome and he will be able to publish these on the website when they are complete.

07/08 Disability

07/08.1 LC said that following discussions with Kevin and Ian the Disability Group will be set up and will include representatives from outside bodies such as English Federation of Disability Swimming (EFDS) and Disability Sports Events (DSE).

LC said that the Group intends to hold a Disability Camp and also to get involved in Disability specific education.

07/08.2 DR said that we had a number of Disability trained Officials in the Region and where they are used at Regional events they should be used correctly so that they can act as advisors to the Referee.

07/08.3 DR asked a question on the inclusion of swimmers in County Championships and BO reiterated his advice that swimmers must have either a Functional Ability Card (FAC) or Certificate of

Swimming Disability before they are allowed to compete but they do not need to meet the Qualifying Times.

07/09 AOB

DR said that the Regional Inter Counties event was not listed under forthcoming events on the website and DN agreed to talk to Kirsty.

07/10 Date of next meeting

It was agreed not to agree a date but to hold meetings as and when required.