

# ASA East Region



## Technical Swimming Committee

**Minutes of a meeting held at the Chippenham Village Hall on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> December 2007 starting at 10.30 p.m.**

**Present:** Bob Outtram, Dave Robinson, John Rushmer and Don Neate.

**Apologies:** Roger Howkins, Vix Metcalf and Mike Rayner.

### **07/30 Minutes of last meeting**

These were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

### **07/31 Matters arising**

**07/31/1** Mike Rayner had reported that both he and Bob Outtram were very busy and as they had no complaints from the current course organisers they had not yet set up a seminar for course leaders.

**07/31/2** Mike Rayner had sent a request that we continue to use the Holiday Inn for Officials accommodation at Norwich as for very little extra cost the accommodation was better and there was much less disturbance during the night. This was discussed and agreed.

**07/31/3** Mike Rayner had also suggested printing less programmes as there were a lot left over at the November Championships. This was discussed and it was agreed to make a decision after the entries were in but the aim was to have some left over rather than run short for spectators.

### **07/32 Regional Coaches Forum minutes**

**07/32/1** The Regional Coaches Forum had asked for more recognition for single stroke swimmers but it was agreed that the Region do give medals for all events against ASA advice which is probably as far as we can go in this direction.

**07/32/2** The Coaches forum had asked for more recognition for swimmers on the camps such as Regional Shirts and it was agreed that £350 could be included in the budget for these swimmers.

**07/32/3** There had been a suggestion that rather than having more camps for swimmers not selected by the England Talent Team further education for Coaches

could be provided which would benefit more swimmers in the long run. This was discussed and it was agreed that if a CPD for Coaches were to be held the most cost effective way would be to run it in parallel with one of the camps. Then advantage could be taken of having swimmers, coaches and tutors present who could also provide training for the coaches for the CPD event.

It was agreed that a sum of £650 could be added to the budget for this event.

07/32/4 The suggestion that qualifying times could be changed slightly was discussed but any changes could only be very small and as the QT's are set as a percentage of National times it was agreed to make no changes to the QT's already published on the website.

### **07/33 Review of 2007 Championships**

07/33/1 Mike Rayner had reported that in his opinion the Championships had run well with some minor hiccups such as the Long Course presentations on the Saturday, these had however improved on Sunday once someone had been designated to ensure the swimmers were in the right place. It was agreed that this should be discussed later in the agenda under plans for 2008.

07/33/2 Some people had felt that the insistence by one coach on swimmers wearing drag shorts for the competition downgraded the competition as the swimmers clearly did not perform to the best of their ability. Also an Official had said if this happened again he would not be prepared to give up his time for what was essentially a training session.

It was agreed that DN should write to the club Secretary expressing the concern of the TSC but beyond that there was nothing further that can be done.

### **07/34 2008 Championships**

07/34/1 The sample check list provided by DN was discussed and a number of amendments and additions were made and these will be added and the list re-circulated for approval. Also BO said he would try to obtain sample checklists from other championships so that we can ensure we do not miss anything.

07/34/2 DN raised the question of photography and it was decided that if Big Smile are still willing to provide the service we stay with them as their set up where swimmers can view their own pictures on the PC's provided was popular with swimmers and parents.

07/34/3 The method of presentations at the November championships, where we have over 40 trophies and swimmers need longer between finals where they are swimming in multiple finals, was discussed. It was agreed to follow the procedure used elsewhere be adopted where there is a presentation after four races of the first two events then presentations are made after every two races. In this way presentations

are made while there is a good audience and not when only the trophy winners supporters are left.

07/34/4 The format of the Winter championships and the wish of the Coaches Forum that it be a short course event was discussed. The committee felt that it was unfortunate that with the increasing need for long course qualifying times that this event should be changed to short course. However in the face of the Coaches wishes and the possible move by the ASA to make this period a short course season it was decided that the 2008 Winter Championships should be short course with the unused part of the pool being used for swim down and warm up.

It had been proposed by the Coaches Forum that Nick Juba work with BO to produce an acceptable schedule for these championships and BO agreed to start this procedure.

07/34/5 BO said that during the National short course championships, held at UEA, there had been problems with the timing pads at the turn end of the pool being triggered by movement from the warm up pool. It was agreed that we would only have pads at the start end of the pool.

07/34/6BO said that we should adopt the same call room procedure as at national championships where the eight finalists and the two reserves are required to report at the correct time for the final. Swimmers and reserves who have not withdrawn and who do not report will be liable to a fine. This not only trains the swimmers what is expected of them at national events but also means that the Clerks of the Course do not have to chase reserves should a finalist drop out.

### **07/35 Licensing**

Roger Howkins had advised DN of his concern that Cambridgeshire had not applied for a license for their championships, this will deny their swimmers the opportunity to gain entry times for regional and national events. Any application will now be after the three months deadline and RH says that the National Licensing Panel are enforcing this requirement. DN agreed to alert people in Cambridgeshire of this problem.

### **07/36 Records**

07/36/1 DR said that the number of swimming record claims had leveled off and he has received about 15 claims from the Long Course Championships and the Inter Counties. However he has received 230 claims for Disability records and 70 from Masters events but he has nearly caught up with the work. Disability Long Course records may also cause a similar problem.

07/36/2DR said that with the change of the Winter Championships to short course the competition best times would have to start again.

### **07/37 Any other business**

07/37/1 DR raised the problem of failures of ASA Rankings being able to match results from meets with their database of swimmers, these have only been advised annually but do need resolving if swimmers are to get their times onto the national rankings. DN said that the intention is for the ASA to increase the frequency of their reports. BO said that he does get advised of anomalies quickly but he was not sure if that is because of his work with the ASA.

07/37/2 The introduction to the speed swimming section of the website was discussed and while the contents were generally acceptable there should be some mention of age groups. Also number of links in the introduction did not make for easy navigation of the section. BO suggested that the index to the section, with links should be retained in addition to the introduction. DN agreed to discuss this with Kirsty Huxter.

07/37/3 The TSC budget was discussed and DN said he was still working on this and hoped to have it finished shortly and would include the additions to the Development section made by the meeting. DR asked if the income from licensing should be shared with other disciplines but the meeting agreed that this money came from competitive swimmers attending Open Meets and should be ring fenced for their benefit.

### **07/38 Date of next meeting**

It was agreed that further meetings would be agreed as required.