

ASA East Region



Technical Swimming Committee

**Minutes of a meeting held at the Chippenham Village Hall on
Saturday 12th July 2008 starting at 12.30 p.m.**

DRAFT – SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT NEXT TSC MEETING

Present: Mike Rayner, Ian Mackenzie, David Robinson, Bob Outtram, John Rushmer, Gary Couch, David Metcalf, and Don Neate.

Apologies: Vix Metcalf, Roger Howkins and Alex Morgan (GC substituting).

DN requested IM to take the chair for the meeting and he agreed.

08/10 Minutes of last meeting: These were agreed as a true record of the meeting.

08/11 Matters arising:

08/11/01 The Bagcats competition was reviewed for John Rushmer who had done the local planning but was unable to be present at the event. It was agreed that the event ran well with some minor problems such as the food varied from that ordered and people taking booked dietary meals, which meant that further meals had to be prepared. It was agreed that the catering staff should be requested to stop this practice and JR agreed to take both these points up with UEA catering department.

08/11/02 The Officials traveling expenses had been high and it was agreed that expenses would only be paid for Officials completing a full day and Officials should be requested to advise the Lead Referee in advance if they did not require the accommodation booked for them. MR agreed to add these points to the invitation letter.

08/11/03 The balcony had been very crowded and it was suggested that we should take steps to control people entering more for this competition. After discussion it was agreed that the entry fee should be changed to £3 per session instead of £2 per day or part thereof.

08/11/04 DR said that while Warwick Thompson's commentating was excellent he did not announce Regional Records and Competition best times as Bernie Buck does. JR agreed to ask him to do this in future.

08/11/05 IM said that Tina Lander was no longer active in swimming, which meant we need replacement Coaches Pass co-coordinator. IM agreed to take on this role. The cost of Coaches passes was discussed and it was proposed that we introduce an annual pass, this was agreed and the cost was set at £20. For clubs buying per event the cost would be £6 per event for the Youths and Winter Championships and £6 per weekend for the Bagcat Championships.

BO agreed that he would change the request form for Coaches passes in 2009 accordingly and would keep the requirement for clubs to list anyone who may be using the pass.

08/11/06 BO said that he had been asked by the ASA Technical Swimming Committee why we allow swimmers in the Bagcat Championships to score Bagcat points either in the heat or the final and not as happens at the National Championships in the Heat only. BO explained that the idea at the Nationals is to ensure there are fast heats but it was agreed that nothing had been seen to substantiate this belief.

After some discussion it was agreed that as times from heats and finals are considered for Rankings and Records we should continue to allow Bagcat Points to be scored from either the heat or the final. BO agreed to answer the query from the ASA TSC.

DR said that we still need the Norfolk date for the 2009 Regional Inter County event and DN agreed to chase Norfolk for this date.

08/12 Camps

DN said that the Region have no control over the Regional Talent Camps, the swimmers are selected after the National Age Group Championships by the English Talent Team with input from Coaches from the Region who are present at the Championships. Now that our Regional Talent Coach has left **the asa** under the recent review of staff there is no one on the ground to organize the camps and DN had asked what needed to be done and was advised by Nick Selwood that the venues and staff would be booked by the English Talent Team.

It was questioned if the Region would have a Regional Talent Development Coach but IM said that this was in the hands of the English Talent Development team and not even **the asa** Board were aware of what was happening.

GC asked what was the status of the Regional Beacon Programme, which had been announced at the Youth Championships. IM said that this was about to commence and a payment for pool time was to be made shortly once a problem with the invoice had been sorted out.

08/13 Championships

08/13/01 The format of the Winter Championships was discussed and input from Coaches across the Region was considered. The case for having it Long Course was that we only have one long course pool in the Region and it is very difficult and expensive to attend LC Open Meets in Sheffield or Crawley or even further a field and swimmers need long course experience and times for National events.

The case for a Short Course Championships was that the time of the event is in what is considered to be a Short Course season and DN had been advised that either **the asa** or British Swimming would be introducing a National Short Course event during December in the future. Also by having the event Short Course there would be a warm-up/swim-down pool available all through the meet, which should raise the standard of the swimming and the experience for the swimmers.

It was proposed that the 2008 Winter Championships should be held Short Course and a vote was taken with 5 for, 1 against and one abstention.

DN agreed to explain the TSC decision in a letter, which will be circulated to all Club Secretaries and to all Coaches who have submitted their names for the Coaches Database. The letter will also be prominently displayed on the Regional website.

BO agreed that he would work on the schedule for the event with Nick Juba of Hatfield and said he would look at having 3 sessions on Saturday and 2 on Sunday with finals in the same session as the heats.

DR asked if new relay records would be required for the events being held short course, this was agreed but it was also agreed that these should start at the Winter Championships and not include previous events.

08/13/02 JR asked what food would be required and it was agreed this should be held until we know whether there will be two or three sessions on Saturday.

08/13/03 MR said that he had 53 volunteers for the weekend and he would be acting as Lead Referee and would be organizing the Officials duties.

JR said that he will be the local organizer for helpers and that he was trying to get new people involved to ensure the progression of the event for future years.

08/14 Swimming Officials Group

08/14/01 MR said that he intended to resign shortly but had been asked to organize a replacement for himself on **the asa** Swimming Officials Committee so in discussion with DN had asked David Metcalf to take on the position. DM had attended the first meeting of **the asa** SOG and will also take on the new role of Regional Technical Swimming Officials Coordinator with help from MR. This post takes over from the Swimming Officials Examinations Coordinator currently held by MR who will relinquish the post when the last of the old style Officials exams are completed and will keep the database up to date until that time.

08/14/02 MR said that the "Contemporary Issues Seminar" (Race and Gender awareness) needs to be presented to all Officials by September 2009.

Keith Belton of Norwich Swan has produced a booklet covering these issues, which is now being used by the Region for new Officials and Keith was thanked for his help.

08/14/03 MR said that the KPI for new Officials for the year was 80 and to date the number for the year is 198 so we have nearly doubled our KPI.

08/14/04 Craig Hunter had expressed an interest in being invited to Officiate at the Regional Championship MR had issued an invite but Craig was unable to make any of the dates.

08/14/05 MR said that at the last meeting of **the asa** Swimming Officials Committee he had been advised that all expenses for administering Officials exams would no longer be paid by **the asa** but would have to be borne by the Regions. MR requested that the TSC budget be adjusted by approximately £200 to £300 to cover postage etc.

08/14/06 MR reported that **the asa** had changed the name of the Club Timekeeper back to just Timekeeper.

08/15 Records

DR said that there was not a lot to report, a Regional Record had been broken in the first event of the Regional Inter Counties on the 5th of July and he had hoped that more would be broken but that was the only one.

08/16 AOB

08/16/01 JR apologized for forgetting two items for the Winter Championships earlier, he asked who would be providing the photography and DN said that this would be DE Photos as for the Youth Championships. DN also expressed his thanks to Big Smile Photos who at the last minute had provided photographic cover for the last day of the Bagcats and had provided the Region with copies of the presentation pictures.

JR asked what water should be provided for Officials and after a discussion it was agreed that we should provide the 0.5L bottles.

08/16/02 DN said that due to an error on his part an out of date Programme had been provided to Hertfordshire for the Regional Inter Counties and the relays had been swum as 4 x 100M not 4 x 50M. It was agreed that these had been good events but they made the overall programme too long. DN asked the Committee's permission to change the programme to 4 x 50M and this was agreed.

The oldest age group for this event is 17 years and over with only the Individual Medley being an Open event it was asked if this should be changed to all this age group being Open. After a lengthy discussion it was agreed that this age group should not be changed.

08/17 Date of next meeting

It was agreed that a meeting should be called as and when necessary.