

North Lancs Swimming and Water Polo Association

Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting 9th February 2015 – 7.30pm County Hall

IN ATTENDANCE:

Please note ONLY One person per club is the Delegate and has voting rights (any other is a visitor).

Bob Thompson (President),
Garry Whittle (Vice President),
Kevin Whiteside (Hon. Treasurer),
Sue Tinkler (Hon. Secretary),
Janice Whittle (Age Group Secretary),
Zak Sly (Hon. Water Polo Secretary),
Mary Parkinson (Chorley Marlins),
Gillian Rankin & Andy Gaskell (Leyland Barracudas),
Hannah Leeson (Garstang ASC),

Ron Flude (Lancaster S&WPA),
Rose Proctor (Clitheroe),
Steve Heaps (Preston SC),
Jen Barcock & Alison Lawson (Fleetwood ASC),
Dominic Brophy (Kirkham and Wesham),
Alan Howarth (Burnley Aquatics),
Andy Timpany (Carnforth Otters),
Maureen Crawford (Blackpool Aquatics),
Pauline and Jeff Broadbent (Radcliffe)

APOLOGIES:

Ashley Cocks (Life Member),
Judith Dutton (Leyland Barracudas),
Malcolm Wilson (Life Member),

Cherry Wilkinson (Colne ASC),
Samir Ahmed (Preston SC),
Jane Whittle (Blackpool Aquatics)

Action By:-

1. WELCOME

The President welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked them for taking time out of their busy schedules to attend. He also noted that as there were no new members present it wasn't necessary for everyone to introduce themselves.

2. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Minutes of the previous meeting held on 3rd November 2014 were reviewed.
A proposal to accept the minutes was received from Rose Procter and seconded by Allan Howarth and approved by all present. The minutes were signed by the President as a true record.

The minutes of the 2014 AGM were approved for publication on the website subject to formal adoption at the 2015 AGM.

3. MATTERS ARISING

Note for Officials. Contemporary Issues can now be completed on line

4. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

There were no Conflicts of interest registered

5. ITEMS FOR ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No items of AOB required to be given priority for discussion over other items on the agenda.

6. CORRESPONDENCE

Guidance for Clubs. (Information attached). BT concerned that clubs have not received the revised guidance direct from the ASA unlike the original incorrect guidance.

Kirkham and Wesham have requested a link to their web site.

Great Harwood is the only club without a link and they are to be contacted.

7. HON. TRESURER'S REPORT

This quarter is probably the busiest for our Association, as it includes both the Inter Association meet and the January Level 3 meet.

All the affiliation fees and league fees have now been received with the total (£390) being slightly higher than last year (£345) with three clubs this year paying the full, post 1st January, rate compared to only one last year.

I would encourage all our clubs to take advantage of the pre January discounted rates and ask delegates to remind their club secretary/ treasurer that the affiliation forms can also be found on the Association website as well as being e-mailed to member clubs prior to the AGM.

The bill for pool hire for the October development meet was £881 lower than estimated in the October accounts and well down on the 2013 meet. As a result the overall surplus for the meet was £2,348 which is now therefore similar to the 2013 figure £2,294.

The recent January meet looks like it will produce a much bigger surplus than was anticipated and in comparison to what we achieved in 2013. With all costs paid other than the pool hire (estimated at £5,800) it looks like we will have a surplus of £8,794. This is due to:

1. A higher number of overall entries and corresponding increase in spectators.
2. The increase in event entry fees from £3.00 to £3.50
3. Reduced overall costs - particularly official's expenses - down £561 and medals instead of badges, a saving of £1,213.

Overall this is a very pleasing and satisfactory outcome, the meet ran smoothly, was well staffed by officials and we got several officials qualified and kept them all well fed and watered.

We always seem to have to wait a long time for Blackpool Council's pool hire bill and I think it would be a good idea to obtain a quote when booking the pool, so that we can be more accurate with our figures in the interim.

The Inter Association competition cost the Association £1,789 in total which was up on the £1,371 cost in 2013, this was as a result of the £200 increase in entry fee and the decision to quite rightly pay the team managers/ chaperones' travel expenses to the venue.

The insurance renewal has been paid, with only a £22 increase in the premium. We are going to take the opportunity to have the trophies valued, whilst they are back in Association's possession, prior to the October Championships, and will then check to ensure that the insurance cover is sufficient.

There was one coaching grant paid in the period to Garstang at the old, pre-November rate of £600.

Sundries expenditure at £377 is made up of replacement trophies, trophy engraving and Water Polo League medals.

The surplus for the year to date is £5,727 and with the Swim Camp to come and further club grants, it looks like we'll finish the year closer to a break even position compared to the budgeted £7,000 deficit, this is largely thanks to the better than expected results from the January meet.

The new RBS bank account is now fully operative and having a branch locally has made my work considerably easier. Please note that all cheques drawn on the old Yorkshire account have now been presented and that account will shortly be closed. No BACS payments should therefore be paid to the old account.

If you are making a BACS payment into the new account, for subs entries fees etc. could you please ensure that you also e-mail me a remittance advice to advise me of the amount being paid, so that I have a record of the amount coming in, rather than waiting for the bank statement to arrive?

Thank you.

PLEASE SEE ATTACHED ACCOUNTS

The Treasurers report was proposed by RF and seconded by SH & all present approved.

8. ELECTION OF OFFICERS AND SUB COMMITTEES

The following posts were deferred to this meeting from the AGM:

Swim League Secretary – Jane Whittle

Facilities Officer – Vacant

Trophy Controller – Gillian Rankin

Independent Examiner – John Armour

Lancashire Delegate – Gillian Rankin

Inter Association – Janice Whittle

Sub Committees all include the officers – President/Vice President/Secretary and Treasurer. In addition the following members were elected:

Swimming Committee (also includes Age Group and Swim League Secretary)

Steve Heaps, Andy Timpany, Jen Barcock, Gillian Rankin.

Development Committee

Hannah Leeson, Andy Gaskell, Mary Parkinson.

Emergency Committee

Age Group Secretary, Swim League Secretary, Water Polo Secretary.

Water Polo Committee (also to include the Water Polo Secretary)

Ron Flude, Pauline Broadbent. Others members to be added as and when required.

9. SUB COMMITTEE REPORTS

- **Age Group Report**

- **Level 3 Meet January**

All galas ran smoothly. There were no hitches at all. The only thing we all had to contend with was the "cool" conditions during the first weekend. This was caused by the extreme weather conditions including gales. It was nothing to do with the staff at the centre. What was concerning was the number of swimmers who still did not wear appropriate attire on poolside and kept wet costumes/trunks on throughout.

There was some excellent swimming with 16 clubs competing and many swimmers achieved the times they required for counties and regionals. Although it was a level 3 meet, upper times, as agreed at our meetings, were pitched higher than usual to compensate for the meet changing from level 2 to level 3. Swimmers, coaches and parents do need to enter other meets and not solely rely on North Lanes to get their times. We also have to abide by the conditions of the level of meet so that the correct swimmers are taking part.

The Squadrons also went well. Eight clubs entered and the shields were spread around. It was good to have Pioneer 79 competing this year.

Thanks to all the officials who gave their time over the two weekends. We did cover all the sessions and were able to mentor some of the trainees. Six qualified as Judge 1 and we have 2 trainee J2's and 3 trainee J2S. Thanks to Helen, Malcolm and Bob for their help with the officials.

Thanks also to those who helped in other ways, to Garry for operating the timing system, to the timing suite volunteers, announcers, the clerks of the course, those who posted results, those who manned the door and those in the cafe. A great team effort all round. We did have a different marshalling system which worked well and will be used for our future events.

Looking ahead the pool has been provisionally booked for 26/27 September and 3/4 October for the Level 2 Meet at Palatine.

- **2015 Inter Association - Proposals**

1. B&M will Host and Run the 2015 competition at Wigan
2. The date is Sunday 22 November.
3. It was agreed to reduce the entry cost from £800 - To be decided at a later date
4. It was agreed that the competition will be run as a level 3 meet.
5. It was agreed that a new programme will be introduced
6. Age will be as of 31 December 2015
7. Any swimmer may compete in a maximum of 5 events
8. The meet will be 1 day /2 x 3 hour sessions
9. Points will be from 12,11,10,9,8,7,6,5,4,3,2,1 on 2 heat races
10. Points will be from 12,11,10,9,8,7 on 1 heat races
11. The 2015 Inter association meet will run with the following age groups 11/under, 12, 13, and 14.

It was very difficult finding a date to suit all the associations. With the change in the competition structure and how coaches and swimmers plan their calendar the Inter Association is sadly not one of the priority events in a lot of cases.

The programme will include 100 and 200 metre events plus 200 IM. Two swimmers will be selected to swim per association for the 100m events and 1 swimmer for the 200m events.

This year will be a "tester" but it is highly likely that the event will move to a different time of year, possibly June or July after all the "qualification windows" have closed. This will be discussed further at the next Inter Association Meeting so that we have a forward plan.

Janice Whittle

09.02.2015

The President thanked Mr and Mrs Whittle for all their hard work.

- **Swim League Report**

"There was no formal report however the President pointed out that unfortunately Carnforth had advised that they were no longer able to field a B team and had regrettably withdrawn from division 2. The league galas had been adjusted with the agreement of the four remaining teams and the league will run as a four team league, they will each compete against each other four times, as in Division 3. The President asked that the Swimming Committee look at the structure of the league for 2016, with a view to possibly contracting to two divisions."

One Gala had been swum to date in division 1 on 31st January at West View - 1st Preston 2nd Southport, 3rd Leyland, 4th Carnforth.

The President wished all the team`s good luck in the 2015 season.

- **Water Polo Report**

BT pointed out that the new rules proposed by ZS had been circulated to all WP clubs and that we had not received any adverse comments. A short discussion ensued and the President asked that the rule changes be formally adopted for the 2015 season. This was unanimously approved.

A COPY OF THE RULES IS ATTACHED

Radcliffe won the 2014 league and the Trophy and medals were presented to Pauline Broadbent by Zak Sly.

Zak asked us to make note of the achievements of the following Water Polo Players:

Owain Llewellyn (Lancaster) and Ben Riding (Preston) and in the final 16 squad members for under 19`s European Qualifiers in Malta in 4 weeks` time (11th – 14th March).

England Talent Squad there are currently 10 players from North Lancs 8 from Lancaster 1 from Preston and 1 from Kendal.

Seven players have been selected for North West Regional Team;

A Team

- **Development Committee**

No Meetings have been held. The President asked that a meeting be convened in the next few weeks to arrange the Swim Camp.

Swim
Committee

ST to organise

- **Swimming Committee**

No Meetings have been held. The President asked that a meeting be convened in the next few weeks to review the arrangements for the L2 Meet and the Inter Association Team/ Competition

10. CONSTITUTION

The constitution had been sent to Alan Boyle but on looking at the Rules etc. prior to the AGM some discrepancies were apparent. As such BT requested that the constitution be returned by AB for further review.

"BT briefly reviewed the proposed changes and reasons behind them. JW expressed some concern regarding the question of notice of resignation and suggested that the issue of resignations could be included as an agenda item at the September Exec meeting rather than a formal rule. BT pointed out that the thinking behind it was that incumbent office holders are not normally challenged for their posts and he would personally discourage someone from standing against an office holder, if they were willing to stand for re-election. However when a post becomes vacant, sometimes after many years, it is only appropriate that the Association has due notice and time to consider the retiring officer's replacement. It was agreed to review the rule changes more fully at the Development Committee prior to the June Exec meeting when they could be agreed by the Exec, prior to submission to the NW Rules Committee in time for formal ratification at the NLSWPA 2015 AGM. GW pointed out that the draft rules should be sent to the NW office not Alan Boyle personally, as there is now a larger rules committee."

A COPY OF THE DRAFT CONSTITUTION IS ATTACHED INCLUDING PROPOSED CHANGES

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

- i. BT in conjunction with the Development Committee to look at producing an operations manual to define the roles of the Executive Committee and draw on the experience of the current officers and to formalise the protocols for Association Events. This it is hoped will make it easier for anyone taking over in future.
- ii. Trophies are being collected and assessed for Insurance purposes.
- iii. Trophy winners to be reinstated in the handbook

There being no further business the meeting closed at 9.05pm

Next Meeting Monday 13th April 2015