

# North Lancs Swimming & Water Polo Association

## Executive Committee Meeting

Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017 - County Hall Preston - 7.30pm

<p><b>Present:</b> Garry Whittle (President) Bob Thompson (Secretary) Gillian Rankin (Treasurer) Janice Whittle (Champ Sec.) Sue Tinkler (Life Member)</p>	<p>Craig Baines (Pioneer 79) Catherine Holmes (Garstang) Ron Flude (Lancaster) John Higginbottom (Colne) Allan Howarth (Burney)</p>	<p>Helen Jenkins (Southport) Paul Kenny (Clitheroe) Alison Lawson (Fleetwood) Andrew Richardson (C/forth) Jackie Wilkinson (Ormskirk)</p>
<p>The President welcomed everybody to the meeting, and thanked them for their attendance. He asked everybody to introduce themselves for Andrew Richardson's benefit.</p>		
<p>2. <b>Apologies</b> had been received from: Judith Dutton (Leyland); Andrew Gaskell (VP); Steve Heaps (Preston); Julie Johnson (Kendal); Linda Ormerod (Lytham); Mary Parkinson (Chorley); John Robinson (P79); Jane Whittle (S/L Sec)</p>		
<p>3. The <b>minutes</b> of the previous meeting on 24/10/16 were approved as a true record, (subject to the removal of reference to Clitheroe on page 3), proposed by Janice Whittle, seconded by Helen Jenkins and signed by the President as a true record.</p>		
<p>4. There were no <b>matters arising</b> from the minutes.</p>		
<p>5. No <b>conflicts of interest</b> were declared.</p>		
<p>6. There were no items of <b>AOB</b> which needed to be prioritised in the agenda.</p>		
<p>7. <b>Correspondence</b> The Hon. Sec reported the following correspondence:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ASA annual membership papers</li> <li>• An e-mail from Zak Sly WP Lancaster, querying the availability of funding for a WP tour. BT had advised Zak that the Assoc did not fund individuals but focused its limited resources on coach training and development across the aquatic disciplines, to benefit the widest number of swimmers within the Association. He also advised Zak that the Association was still in the dark regarding the results from any fixtures and league positions at the end of the 2016 season and was getting very little communication from the WP section.</li> <li>• Several e-mails from clubs querying the Swim League Fixtures and rules for 2017. The fixtures were subsequently posted on the website. <i>JW advised that Jane had e-mailed the clubs earlier in the day with duties, rules and team sheets.</i></li> <li>• Carnforth Otters had advised that Andy Timpany was stepping down as team manager and Andrew Richardson would be the new delegate.</li> <li>• E-mail exchange with John Armour (Fin Officer for Swim NW) concerning the outcome of the Assoc.'s request for them to waive the usual levy in respect of the M Wilson Memorial Gala in favour of the Charities. JA had advised that he was unaware of the request and it had not been raised at the last two regional</li> </ul>		



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<p>We are awaiting confirmation of participation from Central Lancashire. This association is finding it increasingly hard to select a team. This will mean only 5 associations participating and will have an impact on cost. If Central Lancashire does withdraw an Inter Association meeting will be called to decide if there will be any further changes for 2017.</p> <p><b>Janice Whittle</b> <b>06.02.2017</b></p> <p><i>There was discussion concerning the proposed dates for the second half of the L2 fixture. It was pointed out that Sat 14<sup>th</sup> October was an Arena league date and clubs are unlikely to want to attend an open meet the day after. Concern was also expressed about the impact of splitting the second w/end across separate dates.</i></p> <p><i>It was suggested that if Palatine wasn't available the second w/end be held at Darwen on the original proposed dates (21 &amp; 22/10).</i></p> <p><i>The matter was deferred to the Swimming Committee for further review, prior to any booking.</i></p> <p><i>RWT advised that SH had suggested that the Assoc provide lunch to the Assoc coaches at our meets, to facilitate better communication between the coaches, in line with the objectives of the coach dev programme and in line with what is becoming common practice at other Open Meets.</i></p>	Swim Cttee
<p><b>10. Swim League Report</b> In the absence of the S/L Sec. the President read the following report:</p> <p>Firstly, may I offer my apologies as I am unable to be there tonight but due to a severe viral infection I am currently house-bound. All being well I hope to be back on my feet for the first Swim League Gala of the season on Saturday but a lot of that will be dependent on how this week unfolds.</p> <p>In preparation for the season ahead I have received a list of Starred swimmers from Preston A, Blackpool A and Leyland A. These all came to me without any prompts, which always makes things easier.</p> <p>Everything is progressing well for the first round of the Swim League. The following will list a breakdown of what has been done in preparation for Saturday.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• I have been in contact with Simon Deeley (via Janice) who will be operating and running the AOE for the galas. Communication is now in place to determine what time we will be able to do gala set up.</li> <li>• The Swim League will appoint a referee and starter for each of the galas. I am trying to ensure that I spread the workload over the various rounds. I am currently awaiting a response from 1 official and then these appointments will be in place.</li> </ul>	

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Please can I just remind all clubs that they need to provide a Judge and a Time Keeper for the gala. Please contact myself if teams are struggling with this.</li> <li>• All team delegates have been sent today a reminder of the lane draw and duty allocation for the first round. I have also emailed the team sheet and updated rules as well. Andy has been copied into this as well.</li> <li>• I have contacted Gill to arrange for a float to be on hand for the galas. The clubs who will be staffing the door, Garstang and Carnforth have been asked to report 15minutes before admission takes place (1.45pm and 4.15pm).</li> </ul> <p>At any time if anyone has any questions please contact me directly. Here's to a good Swim Season.</p> <p><i>JW queried the agreed price for spectator entry, which was £3, with no raffle in operation.</i></p> <p><i>The President presented the Division 3 Shield to Jackie Wilkinson obo Ormskirk the 2016 winners, the trophy having been brought to the meeting by 2015 winners Lancaster. He pointed out that with the reorganisation of the League into two Divisions the trophy is now redundant and Ormskirk were advised that they could retain it, until such time as it may be required in future.</i></p>	
<p><b>11. Water Polo Report</b></p> <p>BT advised that following the Executives rejection (at the October meeting) of the request to extend the League end date, he had requested the results and standing up to the 31<sup>st</sup> October but despite several reminders, nothing has been forthcoming and the 2016 results are still a mystery!</p>	
<p><b>12. Development Committee Report</b></p> <p>Steve Heaps has been progressing the coach development programme following the success of the coach meeting at the Level 2 meet. In his absence the following update was circulated to delegates:</p> <p><b>Report for North Lancs meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February 2017.</b></p> <p>Again apologies for my absence tonight I have a long standing commitment to a night of head banging in Manchester.</p> <p>I have had the opportunity to travel around the district to talk to head coaches at the following clubs. Blackpool, Pioneer, Leyland, Chorley, Burnley, &amp; Preston I have also had a brief chat with the head coach of Carnforth and I am in the process of meeting the Head Coach at Southport as I sadly missed an appointment last week with Mark.</p> <p>At the time of writing I am still to have replies back from the remainder of the district clubs.</p> <p>The coaches I have visited are all in favour of having a coaches forum to allow other teachers coaches from other clubs to visit their programmes in order to try and</p>	

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improve the standard of teaching and coaching throughout our district.

They have come up with many good ideas about how they feel they would like to start this and indeed how to further develop the scheme as we move forward.

I have made it abundantly clear that this is something we all must try to make work in order for it to be successful, this is not about poaching swimmers, or any other sinister ideas people may have, indeed it is quite the opposite. We all agreed we would like swimmers to be in their home programmes for as long as possible, without the need for families to do extra travelling and endure extra cost. Swimmers need to be in programmes where they are getting everything they need and deserve, and all we are trying to do is ensure that they have different knowledge bases to tap into, in order to try and improve the standards across the district. if we can be honest with each other, work hard to break down the boundaries but ensure we keep the competition to a high standard then we stand a chance of succeeding. If not then we will be making our jobs much harder.

It is important to note that this must be driven by the head coaches and regular contact with one another is seen to be important in trying to break the historical barriers.

I have studied what others have requested, I have had some fantastic feedback from coaches and everyone has contributed toward the first steps and thanks to these discussions have a basis from which to progress now and further ahead.

I will try to outline what we would like to start immediately and possible (& I must stress, possible) future schemes. The more we can get on board the better it will be for all our swimmers in the district.

I hope to be in a better position to report to the swimming and development committee's at the next meeting.

Short term activities which can be stated immediately.

1. Open the doors to training sessions of the clubs who have already agreed with immediate effect. Head coaches to arrange for visits from teachers/coaches of other clubs to watch, learn ask questions and hopefully pick up extra training techniques they can take into their own programmes.
2. Head coaches to visit other clubs to help the teachers/coaches deliver sessions, it must be stressed they are there to help the staff not the swimmers, that is the responsibility of the club.
3. Ask one of our head coaches who is tutor trained to put on a series of CPD courses at different venues across the district.
4. Head coaches to help others in session planning via email or visits which would be appropriate for the level of swimmer being coached.

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<p>5. Mentoring sessions. Teachers/coaches to be signed up and assigned a mentor or team of mentors to help in their development.</p> <p>There are more, longer- term plans that coaches have put across, for the time being I don't think we should discuss these until the swimming and development committees have met. The ideas put forward are very promising indeed but, only (in my opinion) once trust and honesty between coaches and clubs have been established.</p> <p>If you let me know the date of when the next swimming and development meeting will be I will try to ensure I have an in depth report for the committees.</p> <p><b>Steve Heaps</b></p> <p><i>BT advised that a meeting of the Swimming/Development Committee would be convened shortly to further progress the programme.</i></p>	
<p><b>13 Individual Appointments</b></p> <p>Welfare Officer – Sue Tinkler          Delegate to Lancs County – Gillian Rankin          Representative to Inter-Assoc – Janice Whittle          Trophy Controller – Sue Tinkler</p> <p>Proposed en-bloc by Ron Flude, seconded by Jackie Wilkinson and approved.</p>	
<p><b>14. Sub Committee Appointments</b></p> <p>The President advised that the combined Dev &amp; Swim Committee had worked well over the last 12m and reduced the number of meetings required. He recommended that we continue with the practice.          The officers are ex-officio members of each committee.</p> <p><b>Swimming/Development Committee</b>  <b>Additional elected members (Max 4):</b>          Steve Heaps          Mary Parkinson          Sue Tinkler          Catherine Holmes          Proposed en-bloc by Helen Jenkins, seconded by Paul Kenny and approved.</p> <p><b>Water-Polo Sub Committee</b>          Deferred to a future meeting, as no WP representatives present.</p> <p><b>Emergency Committee</b>          ST pointed out the need to have members, independent of the Exec Officers, in the event of a conflict of interest. Agreed.          Elected members (Max 3)          Paul Kenny</p>	

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<p>Sue Tinkler Jackie Wilkinson Proposed en-bloc by Helen Jenkins, seconded by Gillian Rankin and approved.</p> <p><b>15. Handbook/constitution etc</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The handbook requires editing on the website. GW reported that this was largely ready.</li> <li>• AG is looking at a new website.</li> <li>• The records are to be updated after the L2 meet and posted on the website.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">GW/JW  AG BT</p>
<p><b>16. A.O.B.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• John Higginbottom explained that he had had been able to hear far better, given the size and layout of the County Mess room and the closer proximity of delegates; he queried whether it could be booked for future meetings. BT explained that we usually book Cabinet Room B with the circular table to accommodate the usual number of delegates. It was pointed out that that there were loop systems in the rooms and BT said he would enquire about the availability of the PA system for future meetings.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">BT</p>
<p><b>17. Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The next Exec meeting is on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 at County Hall</li> <li>• A Swimming/Development Committee meeting is to be arranged in the next few weeks to progress the coach development programme.</li> </ul>	<p style="text-align: center;">BT</p>
<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.27pm</p>	