

# North Lancs Swimming & Water Polo Association

## Executive Committee Meeting

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> April 2017 - County Hall Preston - 7.30pm

<b>Present:</b> Garry Whittle (President) Bob Thompson (Secretary) Andrew Gaskell (VP) Janice Whittle (Champ Sec.) Steve Heaps (PSC/LM) Sue Tinkler (Life Member)	Judith Dutton (Leyland) Catherine Holmes (Garstang) John Higginbottom (Colne) Allan Howarth (Burney) Helen Jenkins (Southport)	Paul Kenny (Clitheroe) Mary Parkinson (Chorley) Catherine Rainford-Read (B/pl) John Robinson (Pioneer 79) Dave Woods (Fleetwood)
1. The President welcomed everybody to the meeting, and thanked them for their attendance.  He welcomed Dave Woods (Fleetwood) to his first meeting and asked everybody to introduce themselves for Dave's benefit.		
2. <b>Apologies</b> had been received from:  Gillian Rankin (Treasurer); Pauline Broadbent; Linda Ormerod (Lytham); Helen Waite (Fleetwood WP); Jane Whittle (S/L Sec); Jackie Wilkinson (Ormskirk).		
3. The <b>minutes</b> of the previous meeting on 06.02.2017 were approved as a true record, proposed by Janice Whittle, seconded by Sue Tinkler and signed by the President as a true record.		
4. There were no <b>matters arising</b> from the minutes.		
5. No <b>conflicts of interest</b> were declared.		
6. There were no items of <b>AOB</b> which needed to be prioritised in the agenda.		
<b>7. Correspondence</b>  The Hon. Sec reported the following correspondence: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>ASA Membership forms/online renewal</li><li>Insurance renewal</li><li>Receipt from Bolton Hospice in respect of £4,000 raised at the Malcolm Wilson Memorial Gala</li><li>Application for membership from Burnley Bobcats ADM (see 8 below)</li></ul>		
<b>8. Application for affiliation from Burney Bobcats ADM</b>  Alan Howarth updated the meeting on the background to the merger of Burnley Bobcats and Burney Aquatics, to form the new Burnley Bobcats ADM.  GW advised that an application for membership had been received from the new club and discussed by the swimming committee and unanimously approved.  GW proposed the membership, seconded by BT, the required notice had been given to the Executive and the application was unanimously approved by the meeting.  AH advised that he had been asked to remain as the Executive member for the club.		

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<p><b>9. Hon. Treasurer's Report</b></p> <p>There was no report owing to the Treasurer being ill. Delegates expressed their best wishes for a swift recovery and it was agreed to send GR some flowers or a basket of fruit. ST to source.</p> <p>GW queried the financial results of the first round of the new format Swim League. BT to request GR to circulate to the members in due course.</p>	<p>ST GR</p>
<p><b>10. AGE Group Report</b></p> <p><b>Level 3 Meet</b></p> <p>License approved</p> <p>Entry pack and information will be distributed this week. It will also be available to download from the website. Closing date for entries 26 June.</p> <p>Having included the 100m events for the 10 year age group the programme of events is being amended so that it is more swimmer friendly.</p> <p>BT will be sorting the officials.</p> <p>I will be using the meet organisation to follow as usual.</p> <p><b>Level 2</b></p> <p>Pool confirmed at Palatine 30 September/1 October and 21/22 October.</p> <p>Events the same as 2016 – some events may be moved around to even out length of sessions.</p> <p>Application for License is ready.</p> <p>Information will be circulated once the license has been accepted and the programme of events etc has been ratified. Closing date for entries has been agreed at 10 September.</p> <p>Squadrons will be session 8 – please note this is a separate competition than the Level 2 meet. All affiliated clubs are eligible to enter.</p> <p><b>Inter Association</b></p> <p>Date 25 June – Palatine confirmed (hosted by North Mids Assoc) NLSWPA will host in 2018 if the competition proceeds.</p> <p>Team Selection – as in the past and agreed (from rankings SC &amp; LC times taken into account – conversions if necessary)</p> <p>Notification to those selected notified from mid - April</p> <p>Replies/availability up to mid – May</p> <p>Team entries to be submitted by 1 June</p> <p>Get Together – Liaising with Mary and Jane as to the format of this.</p> <p>Shirts/Caps – In hand</p> <p>Following the competition this year there will be a meeting of the Inter Association committee to discuss the way forward for the competition. With Central Lancs having withdrawn this year it means less swimmers are being given the opportunity to represent their association.</p> <p>Various suggestions have been made and these will be on the agenda at the Inter Association meeting. These include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Is the competition needed?</li> </ul>	<p>JW BT</p> <p>JW</p> <p>JW</p> <p>JW</p>

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- Does the competition need to be licensed?
- Inclusion of more relays and no 200m events

Janice Whittle

03.04.2017

JW also elaborated on Central Lancs decision to withdraw from the Inter-Association and asked for delegates thoughts about the future direction. SH advised that it would be better to raise the standard back to a Level 2 Meet and coaches/parents should be educated about the competition. BT said with so many open meets now in the calendar, the current format doesn't stand out from the pack and consideration should be given to including more team events.

JH advised that like NLSWPA, L&D & Cumbria are keen to continue and it was agreed that if the Inter-Association were to fold, an approach should be made to the two Associations to continue with some form of competition.

GW the pool at Darwen Leisure Centre does not have a formal ASA certificate of measurement and therefore Level 2 meets could not currently be held at the pool. It was agreed that BT would write to Mark Thomas, Head of Leisure at Darwen Council and put him in touch with the ASA, should the pool wish to procure a formal certificate.

BT

## 11. Swim League Report

GW read JaW's report in her absence.

The first gala had been very successful and well received by the teams and spectators.

There had been one "hiccup" with the electronic results for one event in the second gala which was quickly corrected.

The changeover between galas was a little hectic and teams attending the second galas are advised not to arrive too early.

All is in hand for the second round on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> April at Palatine.

## 12. Water Polo Report

BT advised that no report had been received and, disappointingly, we are still in the dark regarding the outcome of the 2016 League and 2017 fixtures.

Several members expressed frustration at the complete lack of organisation and communication by the WP section.

GW advised that there are similar issues at Regional level.

BT queried what the position would be from an insurance point of view, if a serious injury occurred at a NLSWPA WP league fixture. Would a claim be made against the host club's insurance or the NLSWPA policy? More importantly, if reasonable risk assessment/H&S procedures had not been followed or an unregistered player was the cause of serious injury and cover was refused, who would bear the financial liability?

The meeting agreed that this was a fundamental issue, given the somewhat chaotic nature of the WP section and nature of the sport.

It was agreed that BT would query the issue with the ASA/ their brokers to report

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<p>back to the June meeting. If it transpired that the Association were at financial risk, then the Executive will consider suspending the WP section to mitigate that risk.</p> <p>SH advised that the Preston WP section have now moved to City of Preston Synchro club and no longer train at Westview. City of Preston are not affiliated to the Association.</p>	BT
<p><b>13. Development Committee Report</b></p> <p>SH updated the meeting on progress regarding the Coach Development Programme. Jonathan Preston (Blackpool) has kindly produced a model programme which will be extended to 3-5 years to facilitate improvements to teacher/coach development across the district.</p> <p>Responses are still outstanding from some of the smaller clubs.</p> <p>SH was keen to stress that the purpose of the programme was not to poach swimmers from smaller clubs, but facilitate their development within their own clubs. Visiting coaches would not be working directly with the swimmers but with their coaches.</p> <p>There has been a very positive response from those clubs that have contacted SH and he plans to meet with Head coaches with an update over lunch at the July Level 3 Meet at Palatine.</p>	SH
<p><b>14. Handbook</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>	GW  AG BT
<p><b>15. A.O.B.</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>BT proposed that the Association waive the fees in respect of coaches passes at our meets, given that all the participants are members of the Association.</li> </ul> <p>Agreed following discussion, clubs to be entitled to one pass for every fifteen swimmers, with a minimum of two (one male/one female). Eligible coaches/chaperones to be provided with lunch.</p>	JW
<p><b>17. Meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The next Exec meeting is on Monday 5<sup>th</sup> June 2017 at County Hall</li> </ul>	BT
There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.58pm	