

North Lancs Swimming & Water Polo Association

Executive Committee Meeting

Monday 11th September 2017 - County Hall Preston - 7.30pm

Present: Garry Whittle (President) Bob Thompson (Secretary) Janice Whittle (Champ Sec.) Gillian Rankin (Treasurer) Judith Dutton (Leyland) Louise Taylor (Burnley)	Ron Flude (Lancaster) Debbie Fox (Clitheroe) John Higginbottom (Colne) Kerry Mullins (Kirkham & Wesham) Linda Ormerod (Lytham)	Vicki Ormerod (Lytham) Mary Parkinson (Chorley) Catherine Rainford-Read (B/pl) John Robinson (Pioneer 79) Sue Tinkler (Life Member) Jackie Wilkinson (Ormskirk).
The President welcomed everybody to the meeting, and thanked them for their attendance.		FAB
1. Apologies had been received from: Steve Heaps (PSC/LM); Catherine Holmes (Garstang); Helen Jenkins (Southport); Julie Johnson (Kendal); Paul Kenny (Clitheroe); Alison Lawson (Fleetwood); Jane Whittle (S/L Sec); Dave Wood (Fleetwood).		
2. The minutes of the previous meeting on 05.06.2017 were approved as a true record, as proposed by Janice Whittle and seconded by Catherine Rainford-Read. They were then signed by the President.		
3. There were no matters arising from the minutes.		
4. No conflicts of interest were declared.		
5. There were no items of AOB which needed to be prioritised in the agenda. BT advised that the Annual Council meeting papers had been received from Swim England NW Region.		
6. Correspondence The Hon. Sec reported the following correspondence: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Trish Tuer (Lancaster) had advised of her appointment as Secretary.Letters had been distributed to all WP playing clubs after the June Exec explaining the decision to suspend WP, these had all been acknowledged. Paul Wilkinson (B/pool) had sent a lengthy e-mail criticising the decision.The NW Region Annual Council papers had been received in mid-August, however it was too late to submit any questions for the AGM as they had to be with the Regional office by the end of August.Andy Gaskell had e-mailed to explain that he was stepping down from the NLSWPA executive with immediate effect.In sending her apologies Alison Lawton had advised that she had been diagnosed with cancer. The meeting expressed their concern for Alison and wished her well with her treatment and ST agreed to arrange to send her some flowers obo the Exec.		

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<p>7. Hon. Treasurer's Report</p> <p>GR advised that the bank balances as at 25th July 2017, the last statement, were as follows: -</p> <p>Current Account £15,067.46</p> <p>Deposit Account £25,019.90</p> <p>Entries for the level three might had been slightly up, everything was similar to 2016, except for the door money which was down.</p> <p>NW bank are still sending correspondence addressed to Bob Thompson as "Chairman" GR trying to get it re-addressed.</p> <p>Not many bursaries have been claimed in the current year and GR reminded delegates of the cut off at the end of September.</p> <p>The accounts will be finalised after the September year end in time for the AGM. GR asked all clubs to support the Level 2 & 3 meets in order to be able to perpetuate the payment of coaching grants.</p>	
<p>8. Age Group Report</p> <p>Inter Association</p> <p>As you are all aware the Inter Association competition went ahead at Palatine. North Lancs finished in 3rd place behind Bolton & Manchester Associations (joint) in 2nd place and Liverpool & District in 1st place. The team performed well and both Mary and Jane were very pleased with the attitude of the swimmers this year. The Captains Imogen Moss and Luke Black did a great job encouraging the team particularly the younger ones.</p> <p>Thanks to Mary and Jane for their enthusiasm and support for the team.</p> <p>It was hoped to have had an Inter Association Committee Meeting to review the competition. However due to personnel not being available this meeting will take place in the next few weeks.</p> <p>However it needs to be noted that Central Lancashire did not compete this year (as you know from our previous meeting) but some of their swimmers did compete for B&M. Many of the Bolton and Manchester area clubs are affiliated to at least two associations and in some cases all three.</p> <p>One suggestion coming from Central Lancashire is that they merge with B&M to form one team.</p> <p>What was a competition for seven associations will then be cut to five associations. Does this defeat the object of an "Inter Association Competition?"</p> <p>The IA Committee has over the years changed the format to cater for the changes in swimming generally after listening to clubs and coaches.</p> <p>It is now down to one day (100 & 200m events) – from what used to be four days with a full programme of events including 800/1500m. However it is not looked on as a key event for a good number of coaches.</p> <p>How do we as an association feel overall and what is the way forward?</p> <p>Provisional date for 2018 would be Sunday 24 June at Palatine.</p> <p>North Lancs Level 3</p> <p>The meet went very well indeed. We had more entries than last year. Sessions were a comfortable length and ran smoothly.</p>	

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Thanks to all the officials, club volunteers etc for a great job. Some officials were able to be mentored and gain more experience.
We had a lot of spectators and coaches asking for drinks and refreshments and we had to say there was no café. This information had been sent to clubs. This was obviously not passed on to some clubs.
Some coaches did not have lunch even though they were catered for.

Looking ahead to next year – possible dates Sat/Sun 14/15 July.

North Lancs Level 2

Entries are coming in daily for this meet. The times were reviewed and it was agreed to ease some of them. This was due to the fact that Lancashire released their times for 2018 after our first distribution and it was generally felt that to be fair to the swimmers we should ease times. A new entry file was distributed along with the revised times. The closing date for entries was moved from 10 September to 17 September. This information has not been passed on to some clubs as I have had panic emails saying some parents have missed their clubs' closing date.

I have also received several requests for swimmers to compete in 800/1500m freestyle events without a time on rankings. Such requests have had to be declined because of the license criteria. For level 2 meets times have to be on rankings. What I would advise clubs to do is hold a licensed time trial event at their club and/or include the distance events in your licensed club championships. This will give swimmers a rankings time which will give them eligibility to enter meets up to and including county championships.

It is important for catering purposes that clubs do let me know numbers for lunch and tell their coaches they can have lunch.

I feel we do need to run some sort of café just to offer drinks and light refreshments. I have people who are prepared to do this. We can manage with coaches and officials being "fed."

Squadrons

The information and entry forms for the Squadrons are ready to be distributed. Entries will need to be submitted by Sunday 1 October. Team sheets to be submitted by Saturday 21 October.

Can clubs who won trophies ensure they are engraved and returned in time for the Squadron event.

Janice Whittle

11.09.2017

GR suggested that more competitors stewards are appointed to marshall swimmers and train up others and requested four coach/chaperone passes as three was insufficient.

GR also suggested appointing Hands Beattie Photography as official photographers for the meets.

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9. Swim League Report

The 2017 Season has now reached its conclusion with the Final Round taking place on 10 June at Palatine.

The gala points for each team from all 3 rounds were added together to establish the final League positions. These have all been distributed to the League contacts and sent to Andy for the Website. I do have some printed copies of the final League standings.

Congratulations to Preston A who were the Winners of Division 1 and Pioneer 79 who were the winners of Division 2. As we are operating a 2 up 2 down system, both Pioneer 79 and Ormskirk will be promoted to Division 1. Commiserations to Fleetwood and Lancaster who have been relegated and will swim in Division 2 next year.

This was the pilot year for Swim League as we introduced the new format. It has been a great success and I would propose that we carry on next year under this format. The only thing that I would look at tweaking for next year is the role allocation for clubs. Some were surplus to requirements. There will probably be other roles which can be identified i.e. monitor changing room access in gala hand over period.

All clubs from the 2017 season have confirmed their intent to swim for 2018. We do currently have a waiting list of which there are 2 clubs on this; Pioneer 79 who have expressed interest in putting a 'B' team into the League and LSA (Lytham).

Looking ahead to 2018 I would propose that we run the Rounds the same way as this year in relation to the order of the galas during each round. Regarding pools I personally feel that we only have 2 suitable for use for Swim League which are Palatine and Darwen. It is important that we have Electronic timing available for the 3 Rounds. In terms of bookings I will need confirmation of which pools are to be used when. For any fixtures at Darwen we do need to bring in personnel outside of North Lancs to run the timing system.

Regarding dates I think would be available are:

Saturday 13 January

Saturday 10 February

Saturday 10 March or Saturday 17 March

Saturday 14 April???

Saturday 21 April???

Saturday 2 June or Saturday 9 June

I have tried to include a date for each month depending when we start. I am liaising with Michelle Jones regarding dates to avoid any clashes. I will await suggestions on these dates from tonight.

Thank you

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<p>Jane</p> <p>BT advised that Graham Airey is able to operate the AOE at Darwen</p>	
<p>11. Development Committee</p> <p>BT advised that Steve Heaps plans to meet with Association coaches over lunch during the second week-end of the Level 2 meet.</p> <p>John Robinson (P79) had also offered pool time at Accrington Academy if the Association wish to hold a stroke clinic there.</p>	SH
<p>11. Election of Officers</p> <p>BT advised that nomination forms need to be returned by the end of October for the December AGM and that all the offices are up for election.</p> <p>JW, JaW, GR & BT had all indicated their willingness to stand again. New nominations will be required for the President & VP following Andy Gaskell's resignation.</p>	
<p>12. Handbook/website</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new webmaster is required following AG's resignation. 	
<p>13. A.O.B.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • None. 	
<p>14. Meetings</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The next Exec meeting is on Monday 23rd October 7.30pm at County Hall • The AGM will be on Monday 4th December 7.30pm at County Hall 	BT
<p>There being no further business the meeting closed at 8.37pm</p>	