

**SUFFOLK COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION
(AFFILIATED TO ASA EAST REGION)**

**Minutes of the Executive meeting held on Saturday 26th January 2008 at the Pavilion,
Martlesham Heath, starting at 1 PM.**

SUBJECT TO RATIFICATION AT EXECUTIVE MEETING ON MARCH 29TH 2008

Present:

Dr. J. Walker	President Elect	Mr. D. Whelan	Treasurer
Mr. D. Neate	Secretary	Mr. R. Deal	League Secretary
Mr. B. Buck	Championship Secretary	Mr. D. Robinson	Regional Delegate
Mr. A. Walker	Records Officer	Mrs. P. Neate	Past President
Mrs. B. Wilson	Past President		

Delegates:

Mrs. K. Bedford	Sudbury	Mrs. P. Larke	Deben
Mr. M. Binnington	teamipswich		

Apologies:

Mrs. V. Buck	President	Mr. A. Buck	Masters Secretary
Mr. T. Connick	Volunteer Co-ordinator	Mrs. A. Vinter	Team Manager
Mr. C. Vinter	Assistant Team Manager	Mr. I. Cotton	Chairman
Mr. P. Murray	Web Master	Mrs. C. Ehret	Leiston
Mr. J. Duszynski	Stowmarket	Mr. G. Jones	Mildenhall
Mr. P. Johnson	Welfare Officer		

In the absence of the Chairman and President Dr. Walker, the President Elect, took the Chair.

Minutes of the last meeting:

DR pointed out that BH should read BB. With this correction the minutes were adopted as a true record of the meeting.

Matters arising from Executive and Board Meeting minutes:

DN said that he had circulated the document "Further Help for Clubs" as requested at the Board Meeting.

DW said that the two laptops from John North were built and were only waiting for the necessary paper work to allow them to be loaned to the County.

DW said that as agreed at the Management Board he had purchased a laptop for BB for use on Championships work.

PL asked if the dates for meetings can be included on the County website, DN agreed to raise this with Paul Murray.

The performance of the Regional Education Network (REN) was raised and the lack of timely information on courses was raised together with the difficulty of contacting the Regional Education Officer (REO). JW said that courses now have to be booked with Jo Staats at the IoS although the Education information said that the REO was the point of contact, when application forms are received they have to be returned to Jo Staats.

The problems with the REN were discussed at length and it was agreed that the Secretary should write to the Regional Director and the IoS with our complaints. People with complaints agreed to provide DN with details to be included in the letter.

DR pointed out that only Henry Hawes needed to take a practical referees assessment as he took his exam under the new system whereas the other successful candidates had taken their exams under the old system.

Treasurers Report:

DW circulated a report giving details of major payments and receipts and showing that there was £19,267 in the deposit account and £923 in the current account giving current reserves of £20, 199. He said that these figures would fluctuate during the Championships as income is received and invoices paid.

BB said that the entries to the Championships amounted to nearly £12,000, which was more than the previous year but still down on 2006.

Championship Report:

BB had previously circulated a report saying that preparations for the Championships at Norwich and Ipswich are progressing well.

Jo Cotton has agreed to take over the running of the Development Championships. BB and VB are planning that the 2009 Championships will be there last as Championship Secretaries and they asked that anyone who is willing to or knows someone else who is willing to take over this task come forward.

BB said that the medals for the Development Championships and the Open Water Championships were on order.

DW said that he was experiencing some difficulties recruiting officials for the distance events in Norwich as people were reluctant to travel but he hoped to have sufficient.

The report concluded with an appeal for help with door and steward duties for the Championships.

Records report:

AW said that there were no records outstanding at present although he had received a letter from St. Felix that may include some claims and he will bring these to the next meeting.

Team Managers report:

In the absence of Mrs. Vinter there was no report but DR reported that Suffolk had won the Three Counties in December by a very comfortable margin.

Trophies report:

BW said that she had received some trophies in advance of the meeting and her car was currently very full of trophies so she was hopeful that all had been returned.

Coach of the Year:

BB reported that the sub committee was still deliberating and would report as soon as possible and certainly before the end of the Championships.

League report:

RD had circulated a report prior to the meeting saying that the Winter League was progressing well with the second round being swum this evening. There had been a complaint from Halstead that a swimmer had confronted an Official and RD had replied that this had been noted on file and Halstead appeared happy with this action. The date for the final round of the Winter League is February 28th 2008.

The Summer League had lost some teams but with the help of Ian Cotton in finding extra teams there will be three divisions of five teams. Clubs have been approached to determine pool availability and the schedule will be circulated once all details are available. The dates for the Summer League are:

Saturday 26th April 2008,

Saturday 17th May 2008,

Saturday 28th June 2008

JW said that there had been an occasion in the first round of the Winter League where a swimmer had been disqualified for performing an upward dolphin kick in breaststroke although the latest clarification from the ASA had said that this was legal providing it was at the correct time. DR said that there will always be problems where Officials are not fully up to date.

JW said that also at the first round some overage swimmers had been declared and although they had been awarded no points she asked if this was legal. DN said that had been the case in the past in relays so that where a team was short of a swimmer the three others who had travelled still got a swim. This was discussed and it was agreed that this situation is not covered in the rules and if a change is needed it should be discussed at the League AGM.

Disability report:

JW said that she was still waiting for entries for the County Disability Gala, a few had arrived and she was hopeful there would be more before the closing date. She said that she may struggle for Officials with a County Distance event on the same day.

JW asked if it would be in order to provide refreshments for Officials between sessions and this was agreed by the meeting.

Masters report:

A report had previously been circulated by Ashley Buck saying he wished to further develop Masters swimming in the County and aims to get Essex off the top of the results table. He was looking at a Development day for the County although the Region is also considering this and he is in discussion with the Regional Masters Manager.

AB also proposed running the Sudbury and District Masters Competition as a joint County Championships which would give County Masters a chance to compete and would also afford him the opportunity to scout talent for the County Team. He added that Sudbury were happy with this proposal.

AB also said that he intended to set up a calendar of Masters events that he believed should be entered by Suffolk Masters.

It was pointed out by the meeting that the date must be carefully considered so that Officials will be available.

The meeting sent their congratulations to AB on the work and achievements he has done to date.

Swim 21 Issues:

BB said he is arranging a talk on Swim 21 and it's advantages to take place at the County Championships. This would be by Kim Stevens who is now joint manager of the National Swim 21 team and gave a very informative talk to the Regional Board training day recently.

There followed an in depth discussion on the merits of Swim 21 to clubs.

Any other business:

DR pointed out that the Regional Report had been missed off the agenda and DN apologised for this oversight. DR said that Pat Neate had now been elected to the Regional Board strengthening Suffolk's representation on the Board. He added that there had been a Board Training Day, which had been very useful to those present.

BW said that it had been intended that the Aquaforce Awards presentations to National Winners was to have been made at a dinner at the ASA Club and County Conference, however the conference is now only a one day event and the dinner has been cancelled. She said that she had been advised of the National Winners and there was no one from the East Region although the winners were well distributed around the eight Regions.

PL said that the Regional Open Water event would take place on July 20th 2008 at Whitlingham Lakes and there would be an addition 5K event. As last year the event will include Suffolk Championships. It was suggested that PL should add the list of help needed for this event to the County and Regional web sites.

Dates of future meetings:

It was pointed out that the meeting planned for July 5th clashed with the Regional Inter Counties event being held at Hatfield and DW agreed to try and change the booking for the Pavilion to Saturday 28th June starting at 12.30 if possible. Therefore the dates of future meetings are:

- Saturday 29th March at 1 PM
- Saturday 28th June at 12.30 PM
- Saturday 20th September at 1 PM