

Scottish Amateur Swimming Association

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Sunday 18th June 1995
Venue: Dewars Ice Rinks, Perth
Time: 10.00 am - 2.30 pm

Sederunt:	Mr Bill Black	President
	Mr Norman Grierson	Vice President
	Mr Peter Syer	East District
	Dr Derrick Hoare	Midland District
	Mr Stewart Davidson	Midland District
	Mr Andy Drummond	North District
	Mr John Phillips	North District
	Mr Robin Dale	West District
	Mr Max Holland	West District

Apologies	Mrs Anne Thow	East District
	Mr Jim Westcott	Midland District
	Mr Bob Craig	West District
	Mr Ian Mason	Chairman B.O.M.
	Mr Stewart Martin	V.C. Admin./Finance
	Mrs Elaine Mackenzie Manager	Administration

1. President's Address

Mr Black welcomed everyone to the meeting, in particular Mr John Phillips North District President to his first Council meeting. Mr Black presented Mr. Phillips with his Council badge.

The President also welcomed the substitutes Mr Holland and Mr Davidson.

Mr Black then explained that in view of the points of concern raised by Mr Syer in his letter regarding the Water Polo Convener he had asked Mrs Mackenzie to invite Mr Elder and a representative of the SWPC to attend the Council meeting to discuss the matter. Council agreed to this item being dealt with first. He said that he had attended the Water Polo Cup Finals the previous day and that the event had a great atmosphere thanks to the enthusiastic supporters from the participating clubs. The presentation of the Ladies Cup did not take place as Dunfermline Water Polo Club did not return the trophy. The Water Polo Convener confirmed that all the Clubs holding trophies had been requested in writing to return them by the competition date.

2. Water Polo

Mr Elder Water Polo Convener and Mr Cullen joined the meeting. The President welcomed them and explained the reasons for inviting them to meet with Council, he proposed to deal with the points raised by Mr Syer one by one.

2.1 National Leagues

Mr Elder explained that he and his committee had understood that the proposal agreed at the 1995 AGM allowed them to make changes in order to carry through the Development Plan agreed last year and which had been approved by the Scottish Sports Council. He understood now that Council should have approved the fees in the first instance and that in this case he had not followed the procedure. He said that the entry for the Leagues overall was better than previous years with 8 clubs participating. He said that the policy of developing the Leagues as a priority had been supported at the meetings, held in September and December, with club representatives. It was also agreed that the

best venues with deep water should be used to stage the Leagues. The entry subscription was arrived at by costing the venues X the number of weekends X an average number of entries. It was intended to refund any surplus to the participating clubs, £1500 from the £2000 included in the Water Polo Budget was also being used to support the Leagues.

Mr Elder said that he had written to Dunfermline Water Polo Club regarding the detail of the National Leagues' subscription.

The surplus would not be put into the general funds.

2.2 Records of Meetings

Council was concerned that no written records were available from the meetings of September and December but accepted Mr Elder and Mr Cullen's verbal assurance of the decisions.

2.3 Premier League

Mr Elder also explained that the rules for the Premier League were left in the Handbook as a precaution in case the National Leagues should not be supported. He said that it would be possible to stage the Premier League at an estimated cost of £600 but no finance had been set aside in the budget for that purpose. He could economise by shortening the programme and other means if this was acceptable to the participating clubs.

It was confirmed that the entry fee for the Premier League was £55.

2.4 Referees' Association

Mr Syer raised the matter of the Referees' Association constitution approved by Council on the 30th April he said that Dunfermline Water Polo Club had not been consulted on these rules, therefore, the procedures had not been followed as agreed at the SASA AGM. He had no objection to the Referees' Association in principle.

Mr Cullen explained that the initiative had come from the National Planning Seminar that such an Association should be formed as a means of improving the standards of refereeing in Scotland. It was also one of the Key Features in the Water Polo Development Plan and the SWPC was carrying out the objectives set out in the Plan

2.5 Council Instructions

In response to the allegation that he had not carried out Council's instructions Mr Elder said that he had not received a letter from Council, but a copy of the letter sent to Dunfermline Water Polo Club with a compliments slip attached asking him to action the matters in that letter.

The President said that it was difficult for Council to insist on members following the correct procedures when they in turn had apparently not done so. He recommended that the SWPC seek advice from the new Editorial Board with regard to setting out their new Regulations prior to meeting the Water Polo Clubs.

Council confirmed its resolution of 30th April 1995 "that the National Leagues should be held this year on an Ad Hoc basis without setting a precedent with regard to the entry fees."

Council resolved "that the Scottish Water Polo Committee should present the new Regulations for Scottish Water Polo to the meeting of Clubs to be held at the National Planning Seminar in September"

Council directed the Scottish Water Polo Convener to maintain accurate

records/minutes of all meetings and decisions and that copies should be lodged with the Administration Manager.

Council also directed that the Premier League should be held this year as per the Rules and that this League remains the qualifying route to the Deep Water League and European Club Competitions.

ACTION :- The above resolutions and decisions of Council to be confirmed in writing to the Water Polo Committee by the Administration Manager.

The President thanked Mr Elder and Mr Cullen for attending the meeting. The Water Polo representatives then left the meeting.

3. Minutes of meeting on 30th April 1995

The minutes were approved with the following corrections

Page 1	Time : 10.00 am - 3.00 pm
Page 2	Clause 3 Para 2 line 2 delete "and" insert "Mr Mason pointed out" in line 4 add before "three" "at least".
Page 8	Records were made on 18/12/94
Page 9	Clause 9 "Derek" should read "Derrick".

Moved by Norman Grierson Seconded by Robin Dale.

4. Matters Arising

- 4.1 Mr Martin still to report on his meeting with Omega
- 4.2 Clubs selected at random in each District have received request for audited accounts covering the last three years.
- 4.3 National Raffle there was no up date but it is believed that sales of tickets could be better.
- 4.4 Council resolved "that the award of medals should not be delayed if a competitor is required to submit to a doping test - should the test prove positive after appeal if necessary the medal can be taken back."
- 4.5 Council considered feedback from the Districts and after discussion recommended the following amendments :-
The document be renamed "**Policy on Personal Conduct**".
The appeal fee be set at **£100**.
3.1 Change heading to "**Code of Personal Conduct Group - Composition**".
Appointments shall be made by Council
5.7 first para. delete "Board of Management" insert "Council"
third para after "restrict" insert "or increase"
- 4.6 It was noted that Ian Mason had discussed their role with the Vice Chairman. After discussion Council agreed "**to recommend that the Swimming Technical Officials Committee be aligned to the Swimming Committee and that the liaison should be with the Vice Chairman Disciplines. It was also agreed that the STO Convener should be invited to all Swimming Committee meetings**".
- 4.7 Debrief 3rd May : It was agreed that Council should receive a copy of any report from this meeting for information.

4.8 New Unitary Authorities

Mr Peter Syer tabled a paper on the new unitary authorities (copy attached). Mr Syer spoke to his paper and expanded on the problems and opportunities that the new local authorities presented for Clubs. He gave several examples of problems and the need for the SASA to adopt a flexible approach which would allow new groupings of clubs to take advantage of the new authorities. Mr Syer had researched for information on the new boundaries to determine which town was in which new authority area and had found it difficult to get the required information in some areas. He asked for assistance in this matter from Council members and recorded his thanks to Roy Wilson who had already provided some information for the North. Mr Syer explained that he had arranged a meeting with a member of the new authority in Fife and he thought that it would be better if he could speak for all the clubs in the Fife area which would include the two clubs from the Midland District.

Council agreed with this proposal and agreed also that Mr Syer should go to the meeting as a Council Member and not in his role as East District President.

Mr Syer said that he would approach the two clubs to get their approval.

After further discussion on the need for advice and guidelines for clubs on how to get the best from the new situation Council resolved :

"To request the Board of Management to consider the matter and to ask the Director of Swimming and the National Development Officers to identify problem areas, to look at ways of assisting clubs with the problems and to indicate the opportunities".

4.9 **Accreditation of Meets** this item has still to be discussed by the Swimming Committee.

5. Great Britain Review

It was agreed that discussion on this matter should be left until the Open Meeting arranged for the 25th June. The President outlined the format of the Open Meeting which would be addressed by Sir Peter Heatly who would give the background to the present GB Review and Mr Ian Mason would present the options as laid out in the report circulated to all clubs last month. It was noted with concern that the ASA Districts had not so far arranged any meetings to consider the options. It was also of concern that there was no financial information included in the report.

6. Constitution

The President explained to Council members that it was their responsibility to update the Constitution and Bye-Laws to conform to the new structure and to clear up the many anomalies. The new Editorial Board would assist in the process by ensuring that the format and terminology of the new constitution was consistent and that they would also check for anomalies etc. Council must decide on any necessary changes or additions. The President gave examples of areas that Council should consider such as the definition of a member/categories of member. The following allocation of the present constitution for members to work on was agreed :-

East District	Pages 4 - 5
North District	Rules A1 - A7
Midland District	Rules A8 - A10
West District	Rules A11 - A21
Vice President	Rules A22 - A29
President	Rules A30 - A33
East District	Rules A34 - A43

The above to be considered by Council at the meeting of 27th August.

Council resolved that **All Committees to be advised that the Regulations for**

their section should be submitted as soon as possible to the Editorial Board but with a final deadline of the 15th September 1995.

ACTION ; The Administration Manager

7 Chairman of the Board of Management Report

Council congratulated Mr Mason on his appointment to the Scottish Sports Council which was just recognition for his work on behalf of the Association and as Physical Education Adviser in Tayside.

Council was pleased to note the number of possible European events that may be held in Scotland over the next few years. The proposal to discontinue the Eight Nations Contest appears to be well resolved with the promotion of the Edinburgh International Meet and new Multi Nation Youth Meets.

Council agreed in principle with the proposal to bid for the 1997 LEN Conference to be staged in Edinburgh.

8 Correspondence

8.1 Letter of resignation from Mr Ken McKay. Council accepted Mr McKay's decision with regret but recorded their thanks to him for his many years of outstanding service to the Masters movement in Scotland and abroad.

ACTION : President to write to Mr McKay to convey Council's sentiments.

8.2 Memorandum from Mrs Mackenzie

8.2.1 Mr Alex Burgoyne and Mr Hugh Cullen nominated as co-opted members of the SWPC agreed by Council.

ACTION : Administration Manager to advise Water Polo Convener

8.2.2 STO Officials - Pool Safety and Briefing. Mr Grierson had requested that this item be placed on the agenda. He explained his concern about the safety aspects of swimming competitions in Scotland. At ASA events Technical Officials are briefed prior to the start of the meet on the Normal Operating Procedures and the Emergency Operating Procedures by the Pool Management. He was also concerned about the SASA policy with regard to shallow water entries.

After considerable discussion Council resolved :

“that the Organisation Committee for any meet is responsible for ensuring that all officials, including stewards and other workers are briefed by the pool management on the N.O.P. and E.O.P. for that particular pool.”

ACTION : Administration Manager to advise all National Organising Committees.

“that the Swimming Technical Officials Committee and the Vice Chairman Disciplines produce guidelines for Safety Procedures for all meets.”

ACTION : Administration Manager to advise Swimming Technical Committee

Council also recommended that Safety announcements should be made over the PA system at the start of every session.

Council considered the dangers of shallow water entries in particular during 4 X 25m relay races with younger swimmers.

Council recommended that in such cases changeovers at the shallow water end of the pool should take place in the water.

8.2.3 Council ratified a new Short Course record by Kirsty Hope 100m Backstroke : 01.03.32 : 21 May 95 at Midland District Age Group Championships

8.3 Memorandum from Mrs Mackenzie :

8.3.1 Letter from Dunfermline Water Polo Club , points already dealt with under Water Polo discussions.

ACTION : Mrs Mackenzie to send reply.

8.3.2 Request from Mr Mike Sheppard that no pennants be awarded to finalists at the Scottish National Age Group Championships. Council discussed the proposal and being mindful of the decision of the 1994 AGM to retain this Rule made the following resolution :-

Council resolved "that pennants shall be awarded at the 1995 Scottish National Age Group Championships according to Rule A43.

ACTION : President to notify Mrs Mackenzie to arrange to have pennants for the Championships.

That being all the business the meeting closed at 2.30 pm , the minutes were recorded by the President Mr Bill Black in the absence of SASA Office Staff and no volunteers from within Council.