

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING

Date: Sunday 2 February 1997
Venue: Perth Ice Rink, Perth
Time: 10.00 am

Sederunt:	Mr N Grierson	President
	Mr B Black	Past President
	Mrs A Thow	East District
	Mr R Reekie	East District
	Mr S Davidson	Midland District
	Mr J Phillips	North District
	Mr R Craig	West District
	Mr M Holland	West District
	Mr I Mason	Chairman, B.O.M.
	Mr S Martin	VC Finance & Admin, B.O.M.

In Attendance: Mrs E Mackenzie Administration Manager

ACTION

1. **President's Address**

President's address attached to the minutes.

2. **Apologies:** Dr D Hoare, Vice President
Mr M Woodroffe, Director of Swimming
Mr I Cole, North District
Mr J Stewart, Midland District

3. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**

Minutes - 13/10/96

Page 6 - Paragraph 3, delete "abstained from voting" and "registered dissent".

With the above correction the minutes were approved as a true record.

Proposed by: John Phillips
Seconded by: Stewart Davidson

Minutes - 24/11/96

Minutes approved as a true record.

Proposed by: Bob Craig
Seconded by: Bob Reekie

4. Matters Arising from Previous Minutes

Minutes - 13/10/96

Page 2 - 4.1 (3) - Mr Black informed the meeting that Synchro wish their regulations to re-quote extracts from the FINA Handbook. Mr Holland felt that this would not be acceptable to the Editorial Board. Council agreed that the Synchro Committee should arrange to meet with the Editorial Board to discuss their regulations.

BB

Page 3 - Mr Martin informed Council that only people who are Per Capita paid members of the Association are covered by the Association's Insurance Policy. Mr Martin intends to put a paper out to clubs after the AGM.

SM

Page 4 - Honoraria - West District delegates had asked their representatives on Council to seek clarification on the basis of the £500 increase to the Chairman and VC Finance & Administration.

Mr Martin informed the meeting that having discussed the increase with the Auditor they had agreed that the Association could support a £500 increase. This was looked at in light of amounting to 1/10th of a professional fulltime salary.

Page 6 - Mrs Mackenzie informed Council that the office had still not received a clearance certificate for Ashley Williamson. Mr Davidson agreed to chase this up.

SD

Page 6 - FINA Synchro Event - Mr Black informed Council that seven officials from the East District had attended the Synchro World Cup. In the first instance there was no approved budget for the event, the committee therefore looked for volunteers who were prepared to pay their own expenses. Each District Convenor was asked to take an invitation back to their District.

It was agreed that the point in the minute of 13th October would stand, with the above observation to be minuted from Mr Black.

Page 8 - Length of appointment of GB Chairman - Mr Mason informed the meeting that the SASA would be happy to continue with yearly appointments and this point has been established at GB. The full GB constitution proposals will be circulated to Council in due course.

Page 8 - Commonwealth Games Council appointment - a decision will be made at their AGM in May.

Mr Holland expressed concern that having made a request to both the Director of Swimming and National Swimming Convenor to arrange a meeting to discuss Calendar Planning he was still waiting to hear from them.

Mr Mason agreed to ensure that the Director of Swimming and/or the National Swimming Committee make contact with the West District Executive.

IM

It was noted that Council minutes would be made available on request from the SASA Office.

Minutes - 24/11/96

Page 3 - 3rd Per Capita Returns - Mrs Mackenzie to check that all clubs have made a return. Mr Martin commented that there had been a vast improvement from clubs making their return by the due date.

SASA National Championship Booklet - Mr Holland expressed concern that the following points detailed in the booklet were not in fact constitutional or clear:

Age Groups

1. Not clear from the information that the event is Open.
2. Information does not state anything about pennants which is still the existing rule.

General Information

1. Need to clarify the existing rule that a swimmer changing clubs is eligible to compete for his or her new club after 31st July. Information states that the swimmer shall swim unattached for the remainder of the set period (this is unclear).

Mrs Mackenzie agreed to draw the above points to the attention of the Director of Swimming.

EM

ACTION

It was agreed by Council that the basic principle behind the booklet was an excellent idea.

Page 5 - National Development Officer Funding - Mr Mason asked each District to report on the current situation within their District.

West - Have agreed to pay £3,000. West District also accept reluctantly and disappointingly that the Midland District contribution will only amount to £1,5000.

Midland - Have agreed to pay no more than £1,500 based on the number of clubs within each District.

East - Have agreed to pay £3,000 and have returned their pro-forma.

North - Have agreed unanimously to pay £3,000. North District are anxious to see what Briony's work programme will be from her new contract onwards.

Mr Mason informed Council that he and Mr Martin had met with Briony in December and had at that meeting agreed to renew her contract.

Council agreed that the post was essential and Mr Mason agreed to make it a priority to find the difference to meet Briony's salary. All Districts (with the exception of the East) were asked to return their pro-forma to the SASA Office.

IM

ALL

5. **Vice Chairman, Finance & Admin Report**

Cambuslang Lease - Mr Martin reported no further progress from meeting of 13th October 1996. As sitting tenants the Association have rights which they will evoke if necessary.

Rates - Mr Martin has refused to pay any money at the moment and is still waiting to hear from both South Lanarkshire Councils Legal and Finance departments.

Accounts - as at 31st December 1996 were tabled.

Mr Martin read a letter from the Association's Auditor to the meeting. The turnover of the Association for 1996 was approaching £700,000 and even with an interim audit the end of our financial year is proving an inappropriate time to get paperwork completed in time for printing for the Annual Report.

ACTION

Mr Martin suggested to Council that we must consider a change to our financial year end and must also look at bringing in further financial controls to deal with the increased workload.

Mr Martin wishes to discuss the above with both the Auditor and Legal Advisor before bringing a paper to the Board of Management and Council.

SM

Mr Martin informed Council that two months prior to the Associations year end we must submit to the SSC a full budget submission for the forthcoming financial year.

The majority of our Performance Indicators in the Development Plan have been overtaken in the first two years, we must now sustain the programmes.

Outline budgets will go out to all Convenors on Friday 7th February.

SM

The Association made a small profit of £1208 with the majority of the Associations revenue being spent on new projects such as Pathway to Performance and McVities Scotsplash.

Mr Martin to look at several different aspects of professionalisation and what it means to the sport.

SM

Communications - Mr Martin has put in a bid to the SSC minor grants section to request funding to allow the Association to increase and improve their communications.

Sykes Meet Management System - Mr Holland expressed concern about the Sykes system and its ability to interface with other systems.

Mr Martin informed Council that the Sports System package works with Omega, however, does not work with ARIS 21 which has been installed at Tollcross Pool which obviously raises great concern for the European Junior Championships.

West District and Glasgow City Council have experienced great problems in trying to organise training sessions on the Sykes Meet Management System.

Mr Holland proposed that the Board of Management be asked to investigate alternative systems to Sykes and their feasibility and report back to Council. **Council agreed, action SM.**

SM

5.1 Transfers

Name	From	To
Ian Logan	Cupar & District	Warrender
Gareth Ewing	City of Dundee	Warrender
Barry Warner	City of Dundee	FINS
Myles Mackintosh	Inverness	Stirling Students
Julie Warner	FINS	Milngavie & Bearsden

The above transfers were approved.

Mr Grierson thanked Mr Martin for his report.

6. Administration Manager's Report

Mrs Mackenzie's report had been circulated with the Council business.

The following points were raised in the report:

1. FINA Swimming World Cup - Mr Grierson wished to express his thanks to all SASA staff for their hard work and tremendous efforts during the World Cup.
2. SASA Press Procedure
3. 1997 AGM / Annual Report - venue Glasgow City Chambers.
4. 1997 Raffle - tickets will go out to clubs in February.
5. SSC Training Courses

Mr Grierson thanked Mrs Mackenzie for her report.

7. Board of Management Chairman's Report

7.1 SSC Grant Aid Meeting

Mr Mason reported that members of the Board had met with the SSC on the 19th December and had a very positive and thorough meeting.

Mr Mason read a letter from the SSC to the meeting detailing the main discussion points and timescales agreed at the meeting.

7.2 Two Year Progress Report

The Associations 2 year review booklet will be ready for distribution by 31st January 1997. This document will go out to the membership to complement the AGM documentation.

EM

ACTION

The Association have overtaken all of the Performance Indicators in the four year Development Plan and have therefore reduced our dependency on the SSC re: Grant Aid support.

Our performance in the pool still has to be dramatically improved, however, Mr Mason did point out the frequency of Scottish Records is picking up.

Mr Mason and Mr Martin will redo the Performance Indicators for 1997 and 1998 for submission to the SSC before the Grant Aid is released.

IM/S

Mr Mason commented that the Association is not sufficiently successful in the swimming discipline to think about refocusing our priorities. We must however refocus our priorities within the minor disciplines ie. Diving should be aiming at increasing work and awareness at grassroots level and development.

7.3 Strategy Group - Development Plan 1999 - 2002

Mr Mason informed Council that a group had been invited to form part of the working group to write the above Development Plan. This group will bring their thoughts back to the Board and Council before consultation via the Districts and Clubs.

The Association must have their next Development Plan completed by September 1998 in order to secure and sustain our funding levels.

7.4 Youth Development Model /

7.5 Revenue Lottery Bid

A copy of the lottery bid will be circulated to Council in due course.

EM

Mr Mason outlined the content of the bid:

1. Appointment of a Director of Junior & Youth Swimming.
2. Admin support to run the programme.
3. Introduction of an new Junior Scottish Squad.
4. Public and support materials for the national development model.
5. Enhanced District programmes.
6. Enhanced Youth Squad programme.
7. Enhanced Pathway to Performance squads.

The Youth Development Model will accompany the lottery application bid. In due course this model will be printed for club distribution.

Neither of the above documents are final at this stage. The application will be submitted officially in March.

7.6 Phase 2 - National Swim Centre

Mr Mason had mentioned in the past embryo ideas about relocating the Associations Head Quarters. Mr Mason informed Council that he had attended an excellent meeting during the week with Glasgow City Council to look at a proposed phase II of Tollcross Leisure Centre. It is the intention of the Association to submit a Lottery bid to the UK Sports Council.

Discussion took place regarding the brief for Phase II of Tollcross Leisure Centre.

7.7 Great Britain Performance and Excellence Strategy

A draft paper was tabled for Council members to read at their leisure, this paper forms the basis of the bid for funding to the UK Sports Council for the next eight years.

7.8 AOCB

Mr Mason informed Council that the Board of Management had to discuss the "Professionalisation of Scottish Swimming". Three excellent and complementary presentations were given by Win Hayes looking at clubs and individuals, Martyn Woodroffe looking at the swimmer and coach and Stuart Martin looking at professionalising the management of the sport.

It is quite clear that we must look at developing and sustaining the activity of the Association.

Mr Mason informed the meeting that of the 11 Service Level 1 sports in Scotland 6 of the Governing Bodies had professional management appointments.

The ideas discussed at the above workshop need to be further developed. Swimming needs to start pursuing a model of professional management.

The SSC are now looking to fund between 75 and 100% for management and additional posts. Mr Mason requested Council's authority to investigate possibilities for funding of future management posts. **This was granted.**

IM

We as an Association must keep pursuing our policy to get between 6 and 10 quality centres in place which is also reflected in the ASFGB plan. Mr Mason hopes that 2/3 of the Scottish Centres will form part of the GB plan.

Swimming is being held up as a professional sport in terms of thinking, professionalism and vision, we must sustain our progress.

Mr Holland commented that the West District does not and never has descended on professionalisation.

Mr Grierson thanked Mr Mason for his report.

8. Director of Swimming's Report

Mr Woodroffe's report had been circulated with the Council business.

The following points were raised in Mr Woodroffe's absence:

Q Mr Davidson asked who would be responsible for proposals for Tayside full-time professional coach.

A Mr Mason will be responsible in his "day time" job with Tayside Council. The proposal includes four other sports.

Q Mr Holland referred to the National Championship Entry Booklet - re: Scottish Open Age Group Championship Awards. Conditions only mentioned medals for 1st, 2nd and 3rd in each event ie. no national award.

After discussion Council agreed that there must be an award to leading national swimmers in each event. (Similar to open Long Course Conditions). MW to action.

MW

Q Mr Craig asked about the position with the East Dunbartonshire appointment.

A Mr Mason advised that the SSC grant is ring fenced for this specific appointment. Mr Woodroffe to discuss with clubs alternative ways that the job can be advanced.

Q Mr Phillips asked who in the District is consulted on Calendar Planning.

A Mr Mason considered that the Swimming Committee representative is the responsible person.

Q Mr Davidson asked how performance related funding was allocated at the Winter Championships.

A Mr Davidson was referred to the published conditions in the programme.

Mr Grierson thanked Mr Woodroffe for his report.

8.1 **Records** (See attached Sheet).

9. Correspondence

9.1 Letter to Mr Cameron, Larkhall Avondale re: appeal to SASA.

Mrs Mackenzie informed Council that the above appeal had arrived at the SASA Office outwith office hours on the last acceptable date with no appeal fee enclosed.

The Office had sent Mr Cameron a letter which was returned a month later, having been opened.

Council agreed that the above appeal had been actioned professionally and constitutionally and the matter was now considered closed.

Mrs Mackenzie to alert Bob Dyett to the above.

EM

9.2 Letter from East District requesting that the nomination for the Nancy Riach Memorial Medal be referred back to Council.

Mr Grierson reported that Council had fully considered awards at the meeting on the 24th November and should not alter their decision. He outlined alternative ways of recognising Graeme Smiths achievements at Olympic Games.

Mr Holland proposed that we award Graeme Smith Life Membership of the Association in recognition of his achievements at the Olympic Games. **Council fully supported this.**

Mr Davidson wished to add to the above proposal by nominating Alison Sheppard for Life Membership of the Association in recognition of her tremendous achievement in competing at three Olympic Games. **Council fully supported this.**

Mrs Mackenzie to action the above awards and inform Clubs.

EM

The following points were raised by Mr Reekie:

1. Archives - Mr Reekie had made contact with Messrs Black, Brown and Heatly. He would advise Council of progress of project at future meetings.

BR

2. Mr Reekie raised matter (10 in number) about the constitution. Council advised that these matters were Congress Business, but to send a copy of his notes to the SASA office for consideration of Council, so that if a special Congress is required, arrangements would be made to hold such a meeting.

BR

The meeting closed at 2.30 pm.

DATE OF NEXT COUNCIL MEETING TO DISCUSS NORMAL BUSINESS AND REGULATIONS OF THOSE DISCIPLINES WHICH ARE STILL OUTSTANDING.

Date: Sunday 9th March 1997
Venue: Perth Ice Rink
Time: 10.00 am - 2.00 pm

cc: B.O.M.
Council
National Convenors
Colin Pearson, SSC
Heather Lowden, SSC
Ian McGregor, TSS Swimming Co-ordinator
Briony Shimmons, National Development Officer
Jim Park, National Coach
Danny McGowan, National Aquatics Team Manager
Youth Squad Team Staff (YS 1)

Presidents Address - Sunday 2nd February 1997

The world of Swimming came to Scotland over the past three months, and due to the preparation of the organising committees and a lot of hard work and enthusiasm at the events by everyone involved. I feel that the Association achieved notable success in the presentation of the Synchronised World Cup Event at Greenock and the Swimming World Cup fixture in Glasgow.

It is said that we might never again use the Hector McNeil Baths, our visitors were full of praise for the venue. Tollcross Park Pool produced very enthusiastic comments from officials, coaches and swimmers from around the world, when Phase 2 is completed the complex will be world class for all disciplines. The performances by the swimmers at both events were marvellous to behold. The World and Olympic Champion choosing to give her farewell performance at Greenock. A world record by Xue Han in women's 50m breaststroke and a European Record by James Hickman certainly got our new Glasgow pool off to a brilliant start. These were the highlights of two of the most outstanding events I have ever attended.

The North District and their organising committee from COAST are to be congratulated on an outstanding Winter Championships held in Bon Accord Baths, Aberdeen.

I am pleased that Bob Dyett has been appointed to the post of Vice Chairman, Marketing. Bob will bring his professional skills in the field to the benefit of the Association. He has many new ideas on how to improve our exposure to the media and possible sponsors. I wish him well in his endeavours. The Board are looking forward to the next four year plan, with the appointment of a strategy group, involving new people in furthering the objects of the Association.

Concern has been expressed over the possibility of local authorities closing pools especially in the Borders due to their financial situation. I have been asked to write in support of Duns Club in respect of their pool.

In concluding these remarks I have to say that we are at the end of an era today as two of our members who will retire from Council at the AGM in three weeks time have given outstanding service over 30 years by Bill Black and over 20 years by Bob Craig. I am pleased to Acknowledge their devotion to our sport and congratulate them on their contribution to the development of the Association over those years. We must also thank Andy Drummond for his service to Swimming as North District Secretary for the past three years. I hope that we will be able to welcome all of them to Association events and functions for many years to come.

Norman Grierson - SASA President

Scottish Amateur Swimming Association

Records

Name	Time	Event	Championship/Venue	Date
Ciaran O'Brien	00:26:67	Jnr S/C 50m Butterfly	SASA Winter Short Course, Aberdeen	13/12/96
Bryan Morgan	00:26:59	Jnr S/C 50m Butterfly	ASFGB Winter Short Course, Sheffield	19/12/96
Bryan Morgan	00:27:02	Jnr S/C 50m Backstroke	ASFGB Winter Short Course, Sheffield	20/12/96
Graeme Smith	03:48:85	Snr S/C 400m Freestyle	ASFGB Winter Short Course, Sheffield	21/12/96

Ratified by Council - 2 February 1997