

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

Draft Minute of the Meeting of the Swimming Committee held on Friday 31st August 1990 at Moray House, Cramond Campus.

Attending : Mr. D. Brown (Convener) Mr. J. McWhir (Ex-officio)
 Mr. N. Dashwood-Brady (East) Mr. W. Black (Ex-officio)
 Mr. S. Davidson (Midlands) Mr. H.H. Smith (Director of Swimming)
 Mr. J. Phillips (North)
 Mr. M. Holland (West)
 Mr. K. White (SSCA)
 Mr. J. Park (Co-opted)

Apologies : Mrs. F. Smith ; Mr. M. Sheppard (Ex-officio)

1. Minutes of the Meeting of 4th July 1990

The following amendments were proposed :-

Appendix 7 : Under the heading of Physiotherapy, add the name :-
 Mrs. Wendy Wrisberg

: Under a separate heading, to note the following :-
 Unattached

It was agreed that Mr. K. White be included in the list of staff with placement to be determined at a later date.

Subject to the above amendments, the Minutes were approved on a motion proposed by Mr. Davidson and seconded by Mr. Phillips.

2. Correspondence

An up-dated list of Correspondence was tabled by the Convener. The following points were noted :-

90.230 : For reasons which were not entirely clear, problems had been encountered with ESSO on the release date of the National Squads ; because of these problems, separate release of the other Squads had to be made.

90.235 : Mr. Black confirmed that the Council had determined that the Inter-District Contest would be held at Drumchapel Baths (Saturday 22nd September).

90.237 : The Convener confirmed that SASA Ranking lists had subsequently been received from Mr. Barnett ; however, the suitability of the format was questionable and would have to be considered further between the Convener and the Director of Swimming (who had not seen the lists).

90.240 : The Convener reported that since submitting his written report he had managed to speak to Mrs. Brockie who had confirmed her withdrawal from Management Services. The Convener had still not received any address/ telephone contact for Mr. Ian Mason and had not therefore been able to speak to him.

The Convener also advised the Committee that under the additional item (90.284) he had instructed the SASA Office to invite Mrs. Holland and Mrs. Harvey to be invited to the Seminar (1st September) to participate in the Management Services briefing. This action had been taken following receipt by the Convener of an assurance that the West District had made a formal nomination of both to the previous Convener.

The Meeting homologated this action by the Convener and approved the addition of Mrs. Holland and Mrs. Harvey to the list of staff under Management Services.

90.247 : It was agreed that Mr. Black (General Secretary) would write to the Norwegian Federation to advise them of the result of the SASA findings on the matters raised in their letter to him. (8 Nations Contest)

90.249 : Mr. Black advised that Council had taken the view that, in the meantime, matters relating to Long Distance Swimming should be referred to the ASFGB Technical Swimming Committee. Ideally, in the longer-term, a separate ASFGB Technical Long Distance Swimming Committee would be formed and separately financed.

90.266 : The Convener questioned the sequence and dates of submission for the next round of nominations for FINA Technical Officials listings. Mr. Black undertook to investigate and to advise the Committee.

90.277 ,

2. Correspondence (continued)

90.277 : The Committee considered the points raised by Mr. Harvey (Hon Secretary, Paisley ASC) in his letter to the Convener (20th August 1990) :-

- (i) The Committee recognised the problem of technical feedback to Clubs on the performance of Club swimmers when representing National Teams/Selects ; the following points were noted :-
 - a) That reports were received by the Swimming Committee but that there could be a significant time gap between the event and receipt of such reports by the District Conveners.
 - b) That a 'Swimmer Evaluation Feedback' pro-forma was currently being drafted by the Director of Swimming but that the problem associated with the introduction of any such system is the additional demand (administrative) on the 'staff', who are operating on a voluntary basis.
 - c) Nevertheless, the Committee welcomed the comments from Mr. Harvey and agreed that this matter be further investigated in the context of the new 'Head Coach' system within the National Programme.
- (ii) The Committee was advised that the matters raised by Mr. Harvey in respect of Club prior approval for their members/staff to participate in the National Programme and for potential re-imbursement had previously been considered and policy established. The Swimming Committee is empowered to invite individuals to participate in the National Programme ; it is the responsibility of those individuals to seek any approvals which may be necessary (eg Club or full-time employer in or outwith the Sport). Such invitations to participate were made currently without obligation or means to consider re-imbursements. The Committee saw no reason to change existing policy within the terms of the existing structure and funding arrangements of the Association.
- (iii) The Committee referred to the Minute of their Meeting of 17th June and noted the following points :-
 - a) That the Swimming Committee had voluntarily cut their approved budget for the ASA Championships by 50% from £7,000 to £3,500 ;
 - b) That in order to best serve the interests of the Wave swimmers it had been determined to offer a subsidy of £100 towards the costs of the coaches of the individual swimmers - the Association did not 'pay' the full cost of those coaches to attend as implied by Mr. Harvey.
 - c) Mr. Park confirmed that he had been invited to attend (on the same subsidised basis) but had been unable to do so.
- (iv) The Convener undertook to write to the SASA Office to obtain copies of Results from the two ASA Championships for Paisley ASC.

90.255/
90.263

The Committee authorised the Convener to write to Mr. Harvey accordingly. The response, prepared (in draft) and previously circulated by the Convener, to the correspondence between Mr. Garrie Roberts (Carnegie SC) and Mr. Black, was approved by the Committee and the Convener authorised to write to Mr. Roberts accordingly.

Two additional items of Correspondence were tabled by Mr. Black :-

90.285 : Copy of letter received from the Stakis Aviemore Centre Leisure Manager enclosing certification (Finlayson Hughes : Surveyors) of the length of the Pool as 25.17m in length.

90.286 : Copy of letter received from the Welsh Amateur Swimming Association advising that a provisional booking has been made for Scotland for 30 persons at the Park Hotel (Cardiff) at £32/head for Bed/Breakfast/Dinner per day for the period Friday 19th April to Monday (morning) 22nd April. Convener to advise SASA Office and Mr. McGowan.

3. Matters Arising

The remaining matters arising (which had not been covered under Correspondence) were considered and noted as follows :-

3. Matters Arising (Continued)

a) Page 1 : Internal Commonwealth Games Report

The Director of Swimming tabled a Paper /Draft Report which was agreed by the Committee for submission to the Council subject to the following amendments :-

Item 5 : Major Recommendations

Revise the second introductory paragraph to read :-

'FUNDING - Separately from all existing budgets, but in association with relevant technical committees in relation to ongoing programmes ; consideration to be given to a separately contracted fund raising arrangement for the 1994 Games and for that contract to be performance based.'

Revise the 5th specified item (lines 8 and 9) to read :-

'The person appointed to deal with all matters pertaining to promotion and fund raising.'

It was suggested that the Director of Swimming might wish to consider minor expansion of the responses to the questionnaire.

b) Page 2 : Drafting of Submission to the Sports Council

The Director of Swimming reported that subsequent to his meeting with Mr. Sheppard there was reason to believe that major adjustments to the draft submission would be necessary. The Committee noted that current indications were that the Association would receive 'the same as last year' which would, in effect, be the equivalent of an approximate 9% reduction (inflation).

c) Page 3 : Item 4 (letters of encouragement to swimmers)

The Director of Swimming advised the Committee that these letters had not yet been issued. The drafts had been prepared and contained reference to potential inclusion in District or Regional Programmes as a step towards regaining their places in the National Programme.

Members expressed reservations on this proposal because of the uneven availability of such opportunity.

d) Page 4 : Item 6 d) (Proof of attainment of Entered Times)

It was agreed that this matter should be placed on the Agenda of a future meeting.

e) Pages 4/5 : Inter-District Contest

In discussion on the award of medals at the Contest, a motion proposed by Mr. Dashwood-Brady and seconded by Mr. Phillips to award medals to the members of the winning 'A' and 'B' Teams was agreed for the 1990 Contest but to be reviewed for future Contests.

It was noted that the SASA had trophies available for award to the 'B' category winners.

4. Reports from the Convener

The following reports from the Convener were considered and noted accordingly :-

a) TSB ASA National Swimming Championships (ASFGB)

Particular attention was drawn to the proposals for Olympic Preparation and the Committee accepted the proposals. The Director of Swimming advised that since preparation of the Paper, the GB Olympic Committee had arranged an Olympic Preparation Camp to be held at Crystal Palace on 12th-16th September 1990 - that camp would be attended by the GB Team which had performed well at the recent European Swimming Cup event. (Note : the camp is multi-sport)

The Report was accepted by the Committee.

b) Swimming Committee : Report to Council (19th August)

The Report was accepted by the Committee.

c) The Scottish Sports Association

The Report was accepted by the Committee.

5. International Reports

The Director of Swimming tabled the Report from the ASA National Age Group Championships as prepared by the Team Manager ; the Report from the Coach is awaited.

6. National Programme 1990/91

a) Arising from Correspondence, the following changes to participation were noted :-

Coaching Staff : withdrawal of Mr. Garrie Roberts and Mr. Gordon Pyper ; nominations (approved by the Committee) of Mr. Douglas McIntyre (A/G Dev. Squad) with Mr. K. White to cover on that Squad as necessary.

6. National Programme 1990/91 (continued)

- a) Swimmers : Withdrawal from the Senior Squad of Susan Vick and Stewart Bisley.
: Convener to respond to letter from Bruce Drummond and to advise him that his performances during the remainder of the year will be taken into account for selection purposes.
: The Director of Swimming advised that Paul McQuaid had informed him that he is currently out of training due to Gladular Fever but hopes to be able to be able to train/compete later in the year.

- b) Technical : The Director of Swimming informed the Committee that he had met with Mr. McGowan and Ian Mason regarding Management Services and that their roles would be as follows :-

Mr. McGowan : to lead and co-ordinate Management Services generally but to have specific responsibility for the Waves Programme, for the 8 Nations Contest and for the Games (1994) preparation. The Committee was assured that Mr. McGowan was aware that this role did not imply automatic appointment for those Games.

Mr. Mason : to deal with all other matters associated with the Squads. The Committee noted that Job Descriptions would be supplied for both of these appointments.

The Director of Swimming also reported that he had met with the Chief Coaches who would lead their sections of the Coaching Workshop at the Seminar and report back.

Arising from discussion, the Committee authorised the Convener to write to ASFGB to nominate Mr. Ian Mason as the GB Junior Team Manager - this nomination to arrive prior to the ASFGB Meeting of Wednesday 5th September in Leeds.

- c) Meet Proposals / Costings / Total Expenditure

The Director of Swimming tabled a provisional outline of the programme which will be considered in detail at the next meeting.

In brief discussion it was noted that there were potential 'clashes' between the proposed programme and domestic events ; there was broad agreement within the Committee that such 'clashes' were inevitable.

7. National Championships / Domestic Programme

Under the heading of evaluation of the 1990 programme the major area of discussion centred on the relationship between the Association and Edinburgh District Council - members recognising, on one hand, that the interests of Scottish swimming and swimmers were best served through use of the Royal Commonwealth Pool and, on the other hand, the extreme difficulties faced by the Association in gaining such access by the obstacles placed by EDC (eg costs, lack of responses, lack of co-operation and technical difficulties).

A particular difficulty was noted in respect of the non-response to the proposal to hold the National Short Course Championships at Ainsley Park in December 1990. Arising from discussion on this matter, it was agreed that Mr. Black should write formally on behalf of the Association to Mr. Jones (Director of Recreation EDC) to obtain firm guarantee of use of that facility and costings by mid-September at the latest. In the event of there being no acceptable response by that date, the Association would transfer the event to another location. On a proposals from Mr. Davidson and seconded by Mr. Phillips to use Carnegie Pool (3 votes) assuming availability and the agreement of Dunfermline District Council compared to the proposal from Mr. Dashwood-Brady seconded by Mr. Holland to use a pool in the West District (including Larkhall or Ayr) (2 votes), the Committee agreed that Carnegie Pool be the alternative venue.

The Committee also noted the plea from Mr. Holland to use a West District Pool for the 1991 event.

The Committee agreed to consider means of achieving the previously agreed policy of returning all age group events to the Age Group Championships (National).

It was noted that the SASA AGM business under this heading was still not resolved

8. Seminar Update

The Director of Swimming reported that there were outstanding matters relating to the Seminar. It was agreed that the District representatives would split to attend the various sessions in the afternoon (Workshop)

9. A.O.C.B.

Five additional items of business were raised as follows :-

- (i) Mr. Smith (Director of Swimming) pointed out that the selection of Wave 2 swimmers should be included in the business of the next Meeting ;
- (ii) Mr. Phillips questioned why some Clubs in the North District had not received a copy of the National Programme - the Committee could not give any explanation as other Clubs had received it as all should.
- (iii) Mr. Phillips noted that a Squad Weekend (A/G Dev) clashed with the North District Open ; the Committee took the view that it was not necessary for 12/13's to swim in a District Open event.
- (iv) Mr. Dashwood-Brady noted that there appeared to be continuing problems at the SASA Office ; Mr. Black acknowledged that to be the case but stated that the staff were working hard to resolve those problems.
- (v) Mr. Davidson raised the matter on the invitation to Alison McKellican to go to New Zealand : this matter had been raised by her with the Director of Swimming and the necessary assurances obtained.

Douglas C.J. Brown
Swimming Convener
September 2nd 1990