

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

REPORT FROM SWIMMING CONVENER : MEETING OF THE COMMONWEALTH GAMES COUNCIL  
FOR SCOTLAND : 2nd OCTOBER 1990.

1. Representation

The SASA was represented at this Meeting of the Commonwealth Games Council by Mr. Black (General Secretary), Mr. Sheppard (Treasurer) and myself.

2. Preliminary

A Meeting of the Swimming Committee with the Conveners of Diving and Synchronised Swimming had been held on Sunday 30th September to prepare the responses to the issues raised in the Agenda papers. A record (draft Minute) of that Meeting was available to the SASA Representatives on 2nd October.

3. Main Business

As a Minute of the Meeting of 2nd October will be received by the SASA, this note concentrates on the outcome of business which we wished to raise :-

- (1) It was pointed out to the Meeting that there was inconsistency between the proposed numbers for the sports in 1994 as contained in the Executive Minute of 2nd July (16 competitors) and the Chairman's paper on Selection Procedures which stated....."It is considered realistic to allocate the same numbers as for 1990...".

The 'Swimming' numbers for 1990 were 16 swimmers + 2 divers making a total of 18 competitors.

While there was some suggestion from Athletics that there had been some minor adjustments to numbers, the meeting agreed that the matter should be remitted to the Executive Committee for checking of the actual number participating in 1990.

- (2) Strenuous efforts were made by all the SASA Representatives to achieve separate recognition of the three disciplines and it was proposed to the Meeting that the numbers for 1994 be recognised as :-

16 Swimmers + 2 Divers as in 1990

plus

2 Synchro Swimmers on the grounds that although none had been selected for 1990, consideration should be given to potential places for 1994.

Despite our best efforts, there was no support from any quarter of the Meeting : in fact, there was strong opposition on two grounds. First, that this was an attempt by Swimming to get 'extra places' at the expense of others. Second, that many of the sports represented could also claim sub-divisions and additional 'entitlements'.

- (3) The matter of 'Team Staff' was deferred to the next Meeting.

4. Conclusions

From subsequent informal discussion with other representatives (ie other sports) on the Council, I have reason to believe that the reduction of Swimming competitors from 18 to 16 was not an accidental omission. However, we must await the next Meeting of the Council to see if we have been successful in gaining those two places for 1994.

Short of the establishment of separate Governing Bodies for Diving and Synchronised Swimming, I doubt if there is any real possibility of success of separate recognition and even then, it would appear to be unlikely.

We are therefore left with the difficult task of attempting to balance internally the criteria for the three disciplines.

Douglas C.J. Brown  
Swimming Convener.  
8th October 1990