

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

Note of Meeting of 24th March 1991 between Mrs. H. Murray (Convener, Synchronised Swimming) and members of the Swimming Committee : 3.00pm, Cottrell Building, University of Stirling.

Attending : Mr. D. Brown (Swimming Convener)
Mrs. H. Murray (Synchronised Swimming Convener)
Mr. N. Dashwood-Brady (East)
Mr. S. Davidson (Midland) Mr. G. Philp (Ex-officio)
Mr. J. Phillips (North) Mrs. J. Cochran (Ex-officio)
Mrs. E. Adams (SSCA) Mr. H.H. Smith (Director of
Mrs. F. Smith (Co-opted) Swimming)

Apologies : It was noted that Mr. Brown had attempted to contact Mr. Law by telephone and had subsequently sent an invitation (with papers) to Mr. Law - it was presumed that Mr. Law had been unable to find a substitute.

1. Introduction

Mr. Brown welcomed Mrs. Murray to the meeting and explained the outcome of previous discussion within the Swimming Committee.

The decision had been taken to formally propose to Council the establishment of of a Commonwealth Games (1994) Working Group to advise Council on all aspects of planning, finance and external liaison leading to the 1994 Commonwealth Games. The paper circulated (3rd March) had been supported by Swimming Committee and would be appended to that proposal.

2. Preliminary Discussion Paper (3rd March 1991)

Mrs. Murray indicated her general support for the contents of the discussion paper and, in particular, identified the following points :-

- (1) That Synchronised Swimming hoped to be able to establish by September/October 1991 the first of a progressive series of target achievement levels for consideration for a Commonwealth Games Squad. Those times could not be immediately identified because of changes to FINA Rules and time would be needed to gain ASA National or International marking in order to set appropriate levels for the figures and routines.
- (2) It was hoped that some four or five synchronised swimmers would achieve the late 1991 targets and that three would achieve consideration targets for selection in 1994.
- (3) Coach development would be part of the Synchronised Swimming build-up through the period in line with the general proposals contained within the discussion paper.
- (4) That Synchronised Swimming would give consideration to a parallel programme to that of Swimming during the period ; the appropriateness of training camps (including the final camp) would be considered at a later stage.

3. Alternative Funding

The meeting considered a suggestion to allocate a substantial part of discipline funding into the Games programme should significant sponsorship funding not be available.

Broadly, the meeting rejected that suggestion on the grounds of deprivation of developing talent which might yet come into contention for a place in the Games Team and because such a policy would be unlikely to gain the support of the Districts.

4. Other

Mrs. Murray asked if there was any organised lobby to free sport from VAT liability. Mr. Brown undertook to investigate the current situation but was not aware of any significant development in that respect.

Scottish Amateur Swimming Association



Airthrey Castle University of Stirling STIRLING FK9 4LA

Tel 0786 70544

Telex 777557 STUNIV G

Fax 0786 65115

International +44 786 65115

29 Hartington Place,

Edinburgh EH10 4LF

Tel 031 229 6924

24th March 1991

Mr. Ian McIlwrick,
Account Planner,
Tait & McLay,
9, Royal Crescent,
Glasgow
G3 7SP

Dear Mr. McIlwrick,

Potential Sponsor : Scottish Swimmer

Thank you for your letter of 8th March which was forwarded to me. The Swimming Committee of the Association is greatly encouraged to receive that letter and to know that one of your clients is willing to consider sponsorship of a Scottish Swimmer with potential at Olympic level.

We believe that there are several Scottish Swimmers who have the ability to achieve selection for the Great Britain Team for those Olympic Games and to perform with credit at those Games. Their potential would undoubtedly be enhanced by financial assistance to offset training and competition costs during the period to the Games.

We would therefore welcome opportunity to discuss this matter with you and, if appropriate, with your client and to consider with you the terms of sponsorship being offered and potential recipients. The Director of Swimming (Mr. H.H. Smith) will contact you during my absence over the next two weeks to arrange a suitable date to meet with you.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas C.J. Brown
SASA Swimming Convener

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

To : Mr. Peter C.T. Barnett
(Office Manager, SASA)
From : D.C.J. Brown (Swimming Convener)
Date : 24th March 1991

U R G E N T

Could you please assist by sending the following letter to the Club Secretaries of the Clubs identified : further, could you telephone (eg Danny McGowan for Cumbernauld, Andy Figgins for East Kilbride etc) to let them know that this business is underway :-

Club Secretaries :-
Cumbernauld ASC
East Kilbride ASC
City of Dundee
Edinburgh Composite Team

29 Hartington Place,
Edinburgh EH10 4LF
Tel 031 229 6924
March 25th 1991

Dear Secretary,

Major Events 1992 : LEN Calendar Conference

In the period 3rd/4th May there will be opportunity for an SASA representative to lodge in the LEN Calendar for 1992 the dates of your competition in that year and to circulate advance information contained on one side of A4 paper.

The above information is required by Friday 19th April at the latest and should be sent to Mr. Peter C.T. Barnett, Office Manager SASA., Airthrey Castle, University of Stirling, FK9 4LA .

Yours sincerely,

Douglas C.J. Brown
SASA Swimming Convener

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

REPORT on behalf of the SWIMMING COMMITTEE to the SASA COUNCIL MEETING of 28th April 1991

1. Business from 3rd February 1991

The business of the Committee was disrupted because of cancellation of the scheduled meeting of 10th February due to bad weather conditions. Two meetings have since been held :-

- Swimming Committee : Meeting of 24th February 1991 at Bellshill : Minute approved on 24th March 1991.
- Swimming Committee : Meeting of 24th March 1991 at Stirling : Draft Minute circulated on 25th March 1991 and subject to amendment.

2. Items for the attention of Council

(a) Meeting of 24th February 1991

Page 2 : Item 2 (vi) : Co-options to Swimming Committee

Arising from that item, a formal proposal to co-opt Mrs. Frances Smith and Mr. M. Sheppard was lodged in writing with the Secretary. The approval of Council is therefore sought for those co-options for the year 1991/92.

(b) Meeting of 24th March 1991

Page 2 : Business Arising (Page 2) : City of Edinburgh District Council

The attention of Council is drawn to the difficult situation faced by the Swimming Committee in respect of the venue for the 1991 National (Long Course) Championships. In particular, Council is asked to note that it may be necessary to transfer the intended location to East Kilbride and significant revisions to the programme may also be necessary.

Page 3 : Correspondence : Commonwealth Games (1994) Working Group

Arising from correspondence received from Mr. Black, the Swimming Committee reconsidered the previous proposal in light of comments from Council and now formally proposes the following :-

Commonwealth Games (1994) Working Group

- (1) That the Swimming Committee recommends to Council the immediate establishment of a Commonwealth Games (1994) Working Group to advise Council on all matters of planning, finance and liaison with external parties in respect of the 1994 Commonwealth Games in Victoria, Canada.
- (2) That the Commonwealth Games (1994) Working Group be directly responsible to the SASA Council or to their nominated officers.
- (3) That the composition of the Commonwealth Games (1994) Working Group be as follows :-
 - (a) Chairman to be appointed by Council ;
 - (b) The Director of Swimming to service and represent the Association on all Technical matters ;
 - (c) Mr. D. McGowan, as head of Management Services through to the final selection of Games Team personnel ;
 - (d) Mr. D. Brown, as Administrator/Secretary and as an elected representative on the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland ;
 - (e) Co-option of a swimmer with previous Commonwealth Games experience and still involved with 1994 preparations ;
 - (f) Co-option of an additional member, hopefully with swimming connections, for his/her business expertise and with a view to the attraction of specific support (sponsorship) from the business community ;
 - (g) Co-option of a further member if necessary.
- (4) That the appointed Chairman be responsible for convening meetings of the Working Group ; initially, the annual frequency is anticipated to be five or six meetings with an initial budget of £600. Thereafter, the frequency of meetings and the associated costs to be subject to the approval of Council.

(b) Meeting of 24th March 1991 (Continued)Page 3 : Item 4(e)

The contents of an informal Discussion Paper on outline planning and costing for the 1994 Commonwealth Games Team preparation was supported by the Swimming Committee and is appended for reference.

Page 4 : Item 6 : International Programme

The Swimming Committee received Reports from the Viareggio, Harrogate, Milan/Bonn and Ulster Games Meets and recorded their congratulations to the Swimmers and Staff of the Teams for their excellent overall performances.

The Swimming Committee also approved proposals for the Wave Programme for 1991 : those proposals will now be incorporated in the submission to the Sports Council.

Page 4 : Item 7/8 : Domestic Programme

The Swimming Committee revised previous policy in respect of bids from Local Authorities for National Championship events. The geographical spread of locations is contained within the Draft Minute and the development of 'packages' has been remitted to a working group.

Page 4 : Item 9 : LEN Calendar Conference

In addition to the inclusion of the major meets at Cumbernauld, Dundee, East Kilbride and Edinburgh in the 1992 LEN Calendar, the Swimming Committee recommends to Council that the SASA offers to host one of the three Multi-Nations Youth Meets at East Kilbride (or Edinburgh if available) in 1992 (probably in April). The estimated costs of such an event would be £5,000 to £7,000 which would have to be met by sponsorship.

Douglas C.J. Brown
Swimming Convener
24th March 1991

REPORT to SWIMMING COMMITTEE

Preliminary discussions : Commonwealth Games 1994

1. Status

A meeting was held at Whitburn on Sunday 3rd March 1991 between the Convener, Mr. McGowan (Management Services) and Mr. H.H. Smith (Director of Swimming) in the hope of progressing thinking on the major strategies and actions necessary to support the preparation and performance of the Scottish Team in Aquatics Events in 1994.

In the absence of a formal response from the SASA Council to the original proposals made by Swimming Committee, it is recognised that the following points are :-

- (i) informal and subject to the approval of Council in respect of their status ;
- (ii) subject to consideration by Swimming Committee and to input/amendment in discussion with the Conveners of Synchronised Swimming and Diving.

2. Initial Considerations

The following points emerged from general discussion :-

- (1) That one of the major problems is to ensure that the potential Team members are able to stay in the sport for the preparation and competition phases.

While many of those potential Team members will be assisted through the Wave Programme in terms of their major competitive costs, there is currently no means of providing them with financial assistance to live over the three year planning period. We therefore consider that Scotland will not be able to draw from the 'best possible' of the potential Team members because many will be unable/ unwilling to give the necessary 3-year commitment unless financial support is found.

- (2) That there must be in place a system of phased incentive which is linked directly to performance.

In order to link incentive (financial) to performance, it will be necessary to set target times for selection in 1994 (based on a combination of 8th place qualifying time for finals in 1990 and current Commonwealth Rankings) and then to set intermediate targets which 'stage' the gap between current and target times - these to be phased over a 3-year period, thus providing realistic objectives for achievement in stages.

In this context it was noted that the Canadian and Australian Associations already had in place Athlete Assistance Programmes which graded the athletes by performance and by the size of award granted.

- (3) That there must be a planned policy for staffing.

If the objective of working over a 3-year period to improve the Team performance in 1994 is to be successful then it is essential that the 'staff' who will be involved in 1994 are identified as early as possible.

However, where the base of competitor participation will start wider that it will be in 1994 that should be reversed with 'staff' ; initially, the Team Manager designate and one or two coaches designate would be sufficient to start the preparatory programme with others added on merit at later stages.

- (4) That a major effort must be made to earn/attract separate funding for the whole Commonwealth Games effort.

It is appreciated that a significant sum of 'new' and Games 'specific' money will have to be earned. The existing 'Core' and 'Wave' funding allocations will be needed to maintain the existing programmes throughout - these should be providing the starting place for the 1998 Games preparatory programme in 1994/5.

It was also noted that with our major competitors (Athletics) for sponsorship funding being in difficulties in respect of planning, the earlier Aquatics is in the market for sponsorship funding, the more successful we may be.

- (5) That there is no time to waste !

3. Outline Plan of Action

For any plan to have maximum effect then it should be in operation by September 1991 thereby allowing 2 years and 10 months of actual input prior to the Commonwealth Games 1994.

2. (5) : That there is no time to waste !

Clearly, the first step is to formulate the broad plan of action to take account of the previously identified factors. Of those, two emerge as the main elements :-

- (i) : Funding support for the potential Team Members, starting on a broad basis and narrowing down to concentrate support on 'probable' Team Members by late 1993
- (ii) : Team Preparation ; initially considered as 'Squad' identity through to August 1993 and then, in September, becoming Team and potential Team through to final selection in June 1994. That final selection being on the basis of 1st place in the SASA National Championships with a qualifying time and with those in 2nd/3rd places being eligible for consideration thereafter.

Having agreed a broad plan of action and with equally broad estimates of costs, a major effort must be made to attract the funding necessary to carry out that plan.

Hopefully, we might manage to attract one major sponsor; 'Scottish Power supports Scottish Swimming !' - to the tune of £200,000 over 3 years. To achieve anything like this sum without detriment to the Association's normal sponsorship arrangements will be a massive task. In that context it would seem appropriate to co-opt the assistance of swimming parents who hold senior business management positions. It is also likely that we would have to 'invest' in the preparation of a sponsorship proposal.

4. Appendix

The attached 'Commonwealth Games 1994 : Outline Plan of Action' represents an attempt to draw the main elements together in skeletal form within a realistic time-scale and with preliminary costings.

Douglas C.J. Brown
March 4th 1991

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

COMMONWEALTH GAMES 1994 : OUTLINE PLAN OF ACTION

TIME-SCALE	COMMITTEE/SASA	ACTIONS	TEAM PREPARATION	COSTS (£)
1991 MARCH	Agreement on objectives and plan of action incl Target Times : Fund-raising plan to be completed ↓			£27,000
1991 APRIL				
1991 MAY			Target times announced : Targets range from consideration for A/G Development Squad, through to the Wave Programme and the Games Squad qualification by progress'n	
1991 JUNE				
1991 JULY				
1991 AUGUST	Fund-raising target of £27,000 →			
1991 SEPTEMBER	Selection of Commonwealth Games Squad On-going fund-raising to secure remaining 3-year support for the Athlete Assistance Programme and for the build-up of preparation for the Squad ↓	For Year 1991/92 the sum of £27,000 req'd : 10 x £2,000 =£20,000 10 x £ 500 =£ 5,000 10 x £ 200 =£ 2,000 £27,000 ↓	Announcement of Commonwealth Games Squad : anticipated to be some 30 in number + 2 staff	
1991 OCTOBER				
1991 NOVEMBER				
1991 DECEMBER				
1992 JANUARY			Any additional income to be used to provide some 'Squad' kit to promote membership and as an incentive ↓	Supervised programme of training and of competition supported by the Wave Programme for Scottish based swimmers ↓
1992 FEBRUARY	Fund-raising target of £10,000 + £30,300 = £40,300 →			
1992 MARCH				
1992 APRIL				
1992 MAY				
1992 JUNE				
1992 JULY	Consideration of potential adjustments to Target Times ↓		Training Camp : Scotland (50m) all Squad (inc Anglos/USA) ASA Nationals competition ↓	£10,000
1992 AUGUST				
1992 SEPTEMBER				
1992 OCTOBER				
1992 NOVEMBER				
1992 DECEMBER		For Year 1992/93 the sum of £30,300 req'd : 12 x £2,000 =£24,000 7 x £ 600 =£ 4,200 7 x £ 300 =£ 2,100 £30,300 ↓	Announcement of Commonwealth Games Squad : anticipated to be some 24/26 in number + 4 staff ↓	£30,300
1993 JANUARY	Fund-raising target of £12,000 + £33,600 = £45,600 →			
1993 FEBRUARY				
1993 MARCH				
1993 APRIL				
1993 MAY			Any additional income to be used to provide further items of Games Squad identity as an incentive and for public recognition ↓	Supervised programme of training and of competition supported by the progressive Wave Programme for the Scottish based swimmers ↓
1993 JUNE	Consideration of potential adjustments to Target Times ↓			
1993 JULY				
1993 AUGUST				
1993 SEPTEMBER				
1993 OCTOBER				
1993 NOVEMBER	Fund-raising target of £25,200 for training camp calculated as £50 x 24 Team x 21 days = £25,200 (excluding travel) →	For Year 1993/94 the sum of £33,600 ↓	Pre-Selection : equivalent of 3rd time in 1990 Games : max 1/event ↓	£12,000
1993 DECEMBER				
1994 JANUARY				
1994 FEBRUARY				
1994 MARCH				
1994 APRIL				
1994 MAY				
1994 JUNE				
1994 JULY				
1994 JULY				
				£137,800
Add 10% to cover the expenses of amateur 'staff'.....				13,780
Add approximate value of goods/services for Team.....				10,000
Total Estimated Cost.....				£161,580

Note : should additional funding become available, the Association would undoubtedly wish to give careful consideration to the possibility of altitude training camps in 1992, 1993 and 1994.

Note : The 8 Nations Contest may be due to be swum in Ireland in 1994 - should Ireland not have a 50m Pool by that date, it may be to our (Scottish) advantage to offer to host that event in Scotland thereby assisting our swimmers to gain qualification times.