

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

Draft Minute of the Meeting of the Swimming Committee held on Sunday 24th March 1991 in the Cottrell Building of the University of Stirling.

Attending : Mr. D. Brown (Convener) Mrs. G. Philp (Ex-officio)

Mr. N. Dashwood-Brady (East) Mrs. J. Cochran (Ex-officio)

Mr. S. Davidson (Midland) Mr. W. Black (Ex-officio)

Mr. J. Phillips (North) Mr. W. Charles (Ex-officio)

Mr. T. Nelson (West) Mr. H.H. Smith (Director of

Mrs. E. Adams (SSCA) Swimming)

Mrs. F. Smith (extended co-option)

Apologies : Mr. K. White (SSCA : Scottish Schools Team : Mrs. Adams substituting)
Mr. D. McGowan (Management Services ; Malmo/ Rostock)

1(a) Minutes of Meeting of 23rd December 1990

The Minutes of the Meeting of 23rd December were approved without amendment on a motion proposed by Mr. Dashwood-Brady and seconded by Mr. Davidson.

1(b) Minutes of Meeting of 24th February 1991

The Minutes of the Meeting of 24th February were approved on a motion proposed by Mr. Dashwood-Brady and seconded by Mr. Davidson following clarification of Item 2(viii)(Rankings).

2(a) Matters Arising (23rd December 1990)

Page 1 : (Edinburgh Meet Accreditation) Mr. Black advised the Meeting that he had written to Edinburgh District Council regarding the omission of required information (eg under SASA Rules) from printed information. Members regretted that, once again, Association requirements had not been met. Members also noted that Accreditation had been granted on the normal basis of application - in this case it would require a 'second tier' of approval or simply refusal by the Association to grant approval of Accreditation to deal with events occurring after initial approval.

: (Peter Henry) The Convener confirmed that he had not received any response from Peter regarding times achieved in the USA.

Page 2 : (90.470) Members sought clarification of the view taken by Mr. Pendrich and on any potential confusion over the offer by Mr. Pendrich to 'pay' for any additional swimmers needed to cover for swims which Angela would not undertake on a Sunday.

The Convener explained that contact between Mr. Pendrich and himself had not taken place in the sequence desired by the Committee because Mr. Pendrich could not be contacted. Nevertheless, Mr. Pendrich had subsequently indicated that he was satisfied with the criteria for selection approved by the Committee ; the matter of 'payment' for a substitute swimmer was noted as an offer but had been taken no further until such a situation arose.

: (Job Descriptions : Mr. McGowan/Mr. Mason) The Director of Swimming advised the Meeting that no further steps had been taken ; instead, the matter would be raised at the Seminar for National Squad Staff in September thus giving wider opportunity for the matter to be considered. The longer-term objective shared with the Convener is to produce a handbook of guidelines for 'staff'. Members supported this objective and stressed the importance of positive orientation rather than a restrictive or demanding approach.

: (Stewart Bisley) The Director of Swimming confirmed that he had written to Stewart who was now back in swimming at Portsmouth.

Page 3 : (Year Programme Guide) Mr. Dashwood-Prady regretted that the supporting statement agreed by Swimming Committee had not been included in the Guide - it was not clear why that statement had been omitted as it had been available to go to the printers.

2(b) Matters Arising (24th February 1991)

Page 1 : (Ulster Games) It was noted that Sean McQuaid had not been available to
to substitute for Campbell McNeill and that Simon Capaldi had withdrawn for
medical reasons.

: (Luxembourg) Ian Shearer had been added to make up the eighth place for

the team - Ian had subsequently swum well in Ulster and thoroughly justified that selection. Clearly, there is doubt about the fitness of Simon Capaldi.

Page 2 : (Sports Council) Mr. Charles reminded the Committee of the requirement to present proposals to the Sports Council for use of the £12,500 granted towards the Wave Programme. It was noted that the Director of Swimming would be presenting such proposals to the Meeting.

: (City of Edinburgh District Council) Mr. Charles informed the Meeting that the Association had paid to the City of Edinburgh District Council a sum just less than £2,000 'in full and final settlement' of the account which had been for some £15,000. Mr. Dashwood-Brady regretted that the condition attached to that payment appeared to leave EDC with little option and he feared that the Association would lose-out in the longer-term. The Committee gave long and careful consideration to this matter and to its obligation to make suitable arrangements for the SASA National Championships in June ; it was finally determined that....

- a) A deadline of 5th April would be set for a response from the City of Edinburgh District Council ;
- c) In the event of non-acceptance of the payment from the Association and a continued ban on Association use of EDC facilities or in the event of no response from EDC by the above date, it was agreed that an approach should be confirmed to East Kilbride for use of that pool for the National Long Course Championships. Simultaneously, enquiries would be made for the possibility of holding the East District (Open to National Squad Swimmers) Time Trial at the same venue.
- d) As a contingency measure, it was agreed that consideration might have to be given to changes to the programme of the National Championships.
- c) Discussions would take place with East Kilbride in respect of the possibility of hosting one of the 1992 Multi-Nations Youth Meets.

Page 3 : (Results for Rankings) It was noted that there had been some confusion between the desire of the Committee to ensure that the centrally based system (ie at SASA Office) is made to work as the logical system compared to the request from Mr. Dashwood-Brady for results between District representatives to allow District Rankings to be developed. Members maintained support for the former and had no objection to the latter.

3. Correspondence

The Convener presented written reports on the correspondence to 23rd March and on matters arising from that correspondence :-

- 90.501 : Mr. Philp asked if there had been any response from the Sports Aid Foundation. The Director of Swimming advised that he had received a telephone call indicating general support for his proposals - it was hoped that formal notification would follow shortly.
- 90.511 : Mr. Black asked about progress in respect of the Alloa Brewery invitation to submit applications for financial assistance for swimmers. The Director of Swimming advised the Committee that five applications had been prepared for submission. In discussion, there was clearly doubt about the status and timeousness of those applications.
- 90.522 : Mr. Dashwood-Brady sought copies of all District Handbooks for all the Conveners ; the Meeting took the view that the matter was one for the Districts to determine.
- 91.010 : The Convener was advised that there had been no further action in respect of a potential claim for damages from the hotel in Harrogate.
- 91.019 : Mr. Dashwood-Brady offered accommodation at the University Staff Club for the ASFGB Swimming Technical Committee scheduled for Edinburgh on 19th June.
- 91.026 : The Director of Swimming advised that the likely venue for the 1992 World Cup Super Final would be the USA.
- 91.033 : Mr. Black advised that a meeting would take place shortly with Mr Murdo Wallace and that the points recorded in respect of concern from the Press about the availability of information would be discussed. Mr. Smith thought that the problem probably stemmed from the non-circulation of information from the SASA Office.

- 91.063 : The Committee approved the draft response prepared by the Convener to the letter from Tait & McLay.
- 91.068 : The Committee noted from Mr. Black's letter the response from Council to the previous proposal to establish a Commonwealth Games Working Party. The Committee also considered and approved a Proposal to Council subject to amendment of item 3 (a) to read....

"Chairman to be appointed by Council."

ACTION : Convener to include in formal Report to Council.

4. Reports

- a) From Convener to Council of 3rd February.
Report accepted.
- b) From Convener to Committee, Lactate Testing (29th January)
Report accepted.
- c) From Mr. Davidson, Lactate Testing (19th February)
Members noted that the report contained costing which would be the subject of an application to the Sports Council for funding. It was also noted that the Drs Howat and Robson had indicated that rather than be paid a set fee they would be pleased to accept an honorarium - the level had not yet been determined but would be covered within existing budgets already approved.
Report accepted.
- d) From Mr. H.H. Smith, Discussions with EMC (20th February)
Report accepted and noted in the context of previous discussions at the Meeting.
- e) From Convener, Commonwealth Games 1994 (3rd March)
This report was the subject of extensive discussion. Members supported the twin approach contained within the report of support for the athletes and a broad plan of activities through to 1994.
Some members expressed reservations in respect of the amount of funding identified and the ability of the Association to raise such funds. Those reservations extended to the likely concerns of the Districts that they might be asked to 'underwrite' expenditure of such magnitude. The Meeting recognised that should the total sum identified (£161,580) not be raised then the outline plan could not be activated - hopefully, some part of the total could be achieved and a proportion of the plan activated.
The Meeting was advised that success in raising funds for the Games would not adversely effect normal grant provision from the Sports Council.
The Meeting determined to accept the report and to support it with strong recommendations to Council : the overwhelming view of the Committee was that positive thinking and action is required if we are to give our Team the best chance of success in Canada in 1994.
- f) From Mr. Raeburn, Working Group, Young Swimmers
The report which had been tabled was noted.

5. Swimming Committee Budgets 1991/92

The Convener noted the continuing need for feed-back from the Office on actual compared to estimated expenditure on the International Programme.

Mr. Charles outlined the current situation of the Association in respect of anticipated income and expenditure and, in particular, of cash flow problems. The Treasurer asked the Committee to make the maximum possible savings. The Treasurer also sought details of the Swimming Committee allocations - the Director of Swimming undertook to meet with Mr. Charles to go through previous papers which should have been available to him through the Office.

The Convener expressed the hope that in any possible restriction on expenditure there would always be room to deal sympathetically with individual cases of transfer between meets in the interests of the swimmers - that would not imply additional expenditure in total.

As the Meeting was unable to undertake the planned business, the agenda paper was held over until the next Meeting.

6. International Programme Reports / Up-date

Reports were received and formally approved for the undernoted International Meets :

Viareggio (Team Manager and Coach)

Harrogate Meet (Team Manager and Coach)

Milan,

Milan and Bonn (Team Manager and Coach)

Ulster Games (Team Manager : Report from Coach to follow)

There were several points arising from consideration of these reports. First, the Committee noted that all the Meet reports (either in Team Managers's or Coach's report) contained a summary of the times achieved by the Swimmers at the Meet. Those times should now be made available through the District Conveners to the Clubs within their District with swimmers in those Teams. Second, it was noted that the support of a sponsor for the Senior Squad would provide additional opportunity since all other squads attracted some special funding. Third, that the Ulster Games should be undertaken on an annual basis. Fourth, that additional guidance could be provided for coaches in respect of comments regarding individual swimmers. The Meeting congratulated the Swimmers and Staff of the Teams for their excellent overall performances.

The Director of Swimming presented his proposals for the Wave Programme and identified two potential additional swimmers (making a total of four) to participate in the World Cup Final in Canada in April (4th to 12th). The President noted the clash of dates with the proposed Education Seminar on 7th April. The Director of Swimming advised the Meeting that he had previously contacted Mr. Black who had acknowledged the possibility of deferring the Seminar into May. Alternatively, Mr. Alan Lynn could substitute. The Meeting expressed the hope that the Director of Swimming could be free to attend the World Cup Final and continue his specialist input for our top level swimmers. The Meeting also noted that with the 1992 World Cup becoming an official FINA event, there is a potential technical problem of Scottish representation as an entity outside that of GB ; it is hoped that would only apply to the Finals. The Wave Programme proposal was accepted.

7/8. Domestic Programme/ Championship Venues

In view of previous discussions regarding the 1991 National Championships, these Agenda items were combined.

The Convener noted the previous decision of the Committee in respect of action to write to all Local Authorities inviting them to bid for our National events. Subsequent discussion with the Director of Swimming had highlighted potential problems with this approach and, because of doubts on the part of the Convener, the matter had been placed on the Agenda for further consideration.

Essentially, there were two potential problems with the previous policy : first the Association lost control over the geographical spread of these events and would be subject to an obligation to locate each event according to the 'best bid' ; second, and potentially more damaging, the effect on Local Authorities who went through all the formalities in order to lodge a bid which was unsuccessful might well react negatively in future.

Following detailed consideration of proposals it was agreed that the Director of Swimming, Mr. Dashwood-Brady and the Convener should combine to identify specific packages to go to the Local Authorities of the following venues :-

<u>Event</u>	<u>Month</u>	<u>1991</u>	<u>1992</u>	<u>1993</u>
Club Team	February	Bellshill	Johnstone	Bellshill
Nationals	June	Edin/E.K.	Edinburgh	Edinburgh
Age Groups	June/July	E. Kilbride	E. Kilbride	F. Kilbride
Inter-Dist	September	Glenrothes	Bellshill	Dundee
Sprint	Nov/Dec	Dunfermline	Larkhall	Glenrothes
Winter	December	Ayr	Aberdeen	Larkhall

It was also agreed that the packages would contain a 'cut-off date' for responses to prevent the Association being left in an uncertain position.

Members preferred to defer consideration of the possibility of foreign swimmers being invited to participate in the National Sprint Meet.

9. LEN Calendar Conference

District Representatives had not been able to identify any additional meets for inclusion in the LEN Calendar for 1992. The Convener therefore undertook to contact Cumbernauld, East Kilbride, Dundee and the Edinburgh Composite Team for dates and preliminary information (one A4 Sheet) on their 1992 Meets.

The Meeting also considered the undertaking given in 1990 to investigate the possibility of hosting one of the Multi-Nations Youth Meets in 1992. The Meeting recommended to Council that, with the co-operation of East Kilbride, such a bid

should be made. The cost would be likely to be within the range £5,000 to £7,000 depending on pool hire charges.

10. Schedule of Championship Trophies

Although the Change of Rule will not become effective until 1st January 1992, the Convener lodged a list of Trophies associated with the various Championship events. The Convener stressed that there was no intention to change the purpose or use of existing trophies (eg at National Long Course) but there is a problem of accurate identification and record. The assistance of Members was sought to check/verify the list prepared.

11. Other Business

- (a) Mrs. Cochran asked if there had been intention to change the Consideration Times for the National Short Course Championships from those published in the Annual Programme Guide in 1990.
The Director of Swimming advised that there had been no such intention - the times had probably been extracted and printed from those of the previous year.
- (b) Mr. Dashwood-Brady requested that the agreed statement of logic be made available. Discussion should take place on matters such as the change in proposed date of the East District Open.

Douglas C.J. Brown
24th March 1991.

Note : As the next scheduled meeting is not until June (at National Championships) there will clearly have to be an additional meeting in late April/early May. This will be notified as soon as possible