

SCOTTISH AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

To : Members of Swimming Committee
cc Mr. D. McGowan
From : D.C.J. Brown (Swimming Convener)
Date : 11th June 1991

NOTICE OF MEETING

A Meeting of the Swimming Committee will be held on Sunday 16th June 1991 at East Kilbride (Centre next to the Pool) at 11.45am or as soon as the morning session has been completed. It is probable that the Meeting Room 3 will be made available for us. Lunch will also be available for members.

AGENDA

1. Minutes of Meeting of 26th Maycirculated
27th May.
2. Matters Arisingnotes to be
tabled
3. Correspondence.....attached
4. Domestic Programme
(Continued from last meeting)
5. A.O.C.B.

Douglas C.J. Brown
Swimming Convener

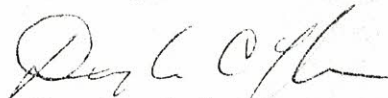
Note : Car Parking Passes attached for the undernoted for
the National Open Championships :-
District Conveners ; (East, North, Midlands)
Mr. White (SSCA) ;
Mrs. Smith (Co-opted) ; Mr. McGowan ;
: Ex-Officio Members to receive Passes from Mr. Craig ;
: Mr. Nelson to receive Pass as T.O. .

D.C.J. Brown

- 91.246 : From Convener to Mrs. Brockie, and delivered by 10.30pm on 26th May, revised cut-offs for the National Open Championships to enable ranked lists plus reserves to be available for the official programme.
- 91.247 : From Convener to Swimming Committee, draft Minute of the Meeting of 26th May prepared and circulated....with request for errors/omissions to be notified as soon as possible.
- 91.248 : Received from SASA Office, copy of 'Errata' sheet prepared by the Convener and issued to Clubs.
- 91.249 : Received from Mr. Charles, copy of his letter to Dundee trying to locate Trophy for Women 4 x 200m F.R.
- 91.250 : Received from SASA Office, copy of letter sent by Miss Roy (22nd May) to Glenrothes to book Pool for the Inter-District Contest (21st Sept).
- 91.251 : Received from Mrs. Murray, questionnaire regarding the potential use of the proposed new Swimming Pool at Musselburgh.
- 91.252 : From Convener to Mr. Black (General Secretary), letter (29th May) indicating the views of the Swimming Committee over matters such as the structure of posts within the Association. Copied for Swimming Committee Members.
- 91.253 : Received from Mr. Sheppard, copy of his letter of 24th May to Mr. Black expressing disappointment that he had not been advised by the General Secretary or by the Swimming Convener of Council's decision not to approve his co-option to Swimming Committee.
- 91.254 : Received from SASA Office, copy of fax (also copied to Mr. Craig) from Swedish Swimming Federation advising of arrival of their team (4 + 1) - Organising Committee to arrange transport.
- 91.255 : Received from Mr. Black, copy of his letter of 28th May to Mr. Sheppard expressing surprise that the Swimming Convener had not advised him of Council's decision not to approve his co-option.
- 91.256 : Received from SASA Office, copy of proof from Monument Press of the Accreditation for Swimming Committee - proceed.
- 91.257 : From Convener to Mr. Sheppard, letter (30th May) advising that the Convener did not feel that it is his responsibility to advise of Council decisions, noting that the matter had been reported to the Swimming Committee Meeting of 26th May and that the Committee had accepted the decision of Council.
- 91.258 : From Convener, contact made with Mr. Iain More (Dundee) and discussion on his possible input into the Commonwealth Games Working Party.
- 91.259 : From Convener to Mr. R. Taylor/Mr. D. McGowan, report on the above item and suggestion re basis of Mr. More's possible input.
- 91.260 : From Convener to Mr. Morton (Milngavie & Bearsden) in response to his letter of 22nd April. Copied for Swimming Committee Members.
- 91.261 : From Convener to Director of Swimming, memo seeking clarification of arrangements with Computa for processing of Age Group entries.
- 91.262 : From Convener to Mr. Craig (West District), noting points arising from the outline arrangements for the National Open Championships - delivered at Cumbernauld (West District Age Group Champs).
- 91.263 : Received from Mr. McGowan, copy of Results Sheets from the Open & Esso Championship Meet at Crystal Palace (4th May) for Angela Pendrich :- (1976)
- | | |
|----------------|---------|
| 200m Back..... | 2.26.45 |
| 200m Fly..... | 2.26.09 |
| 800m Free..... | 9.04.38 |
| 400m Free..... | 4.24.04 |
| 200m Free..... | 2.08.27 |
- 91.264 : Received from Mr. McGowan, letter (30th May) dealing with the matter of reciprocation for National Teams and recording the offer made on behalf of the Cumbernauld Meet on 26th May. Copied to Swimming Committee.
- 91.265 : Received from the University of Edinburgh Staff Club, account for facilities provided for Meeting of 26th May (£136)
- 91.266 : Received from ASFG (Rick Bailey), formal notification of the Swimming Technical Committee Meeting to be held in Edinburgh on 19th June 1991.
- 91.267 : Received from Mr. Black (General Secretary) copy of the letter of 31st May to the Commonwealth Games Council for Scotland formally asking their Executive Committee to re-consider the number of places allocated for 1994 for 'Aquatics'. As per draft from Convener.
- 91.268 /

- 91.268 : Between Convener and Mr. Bailey (ASFGB) discussion on items relating to the Meeting of 19th June.
- 91.269 : Received from the Scottish Sports Association (via SASA Office), copy of their circular re proposals for full-time administration and with a questionnaire re costs of international representation by Governing Bodies.
- 91.270 : Received from Mr. Dashwood-Brady, telephone notification of wrong entries in the age-group section of the National Open Championships programme - subsequently notified to Mrs. Brockie by Convener and Mr. Dashwood-Brady.
- 91.271 : From Convener to Mr. Charles, request to pay item 91.265 in full by end June as required.
- 91.272 : From Convener to Drs Howat/Robson (following discussion at Cumbernauld) letters requesting them to operate the Lactate Testing Service at the National Open Championships - letter also advised them of the recommendation from Swimming Committee to Council re fees.
- 91.273 : Received from Derek Stubbs (ASFGB capacity) on Sunday 9th June, notification by telephone of the addition of the Junior Olympics (Madrid) on 15-18 July as a GB event - had previously been considered as that but rejected for financial reasons - subsequently, offer to fares had been received making it possible. Selection necessary on 19th June - SASA being advised so that we can have times available for consideration.
- 91.274 : From Convener to District Conveners, note outlining above (91.273) information and asking for times to be available on Sunday 16th June.
- 91.275 : Prepared by Convener, recording sheets for the National Open Championships - passed to Mr. Craig at Organising Committee Meeting on Monday 10th June - points to note are :-
- (1) Convener will assist a recorder at National Championships (Open and Age-Group) this year....thereafter, it will be the responsibility of Organising Committees to obtain a recorder for the points/awards.
 - (2) Organising Committee agreed to clarification suggested by the Convener that (Berger Trophy) :-
 - (a) Times recorded in Consolation finals do not count ;
 - (b) Relay split times do not count.
- 91.276 : Received from Mr. Stubbs, copies of information relating to 91.273 - attached to item 91.274 for District Conveners.
- 91.277 : Received from Paul Bush (ASFGB), copies of items of correspondence for 19th June - transferred to GB File.
- 91.278 : Received from Mr. Taylor, Minute of the Meeting of the Commonwealth Games Working Group held at Whitburn on 11th May ; also copy of letter sent to immediate past and potential Commonwealth Games competitors (Aquatics) re meeting at East Kilbride on 22nd June.
- 91.279 : From Convener to Mrs. Murray (Ref items 91.165/91.251), response to her questionnaire.

Correspondence to 11th June 1991



Douglas C.J. Brown
Swimming Convener

Scottish Amateur Swimming Association



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Mr. W. Black,
General Secretary, SASA.,
5, Burnside,
Spokers Loan
Balfron
Glasgow G63 0QQ

29th May 1991

Dear Bill,

The Swimming Committee, at their meeting of 26th May, asked me to write to you as a matter of some urgency to express to the SASA Executive/Emergency Committee their growing concern that the existing structure of posts, duties and responsibilities within the Association is proving to be inadequate and increasingly inappropriate to meet current requirements and future objectives.

Although discussion in the Committee was primed by the events surrounding the recent World Cup Final and the role of the Director of Swimming at that event, the issues which emerged were much broader; the Committee attempted to adopt a positive approach and to assess current and future requirements from the existing situation. On behalf of the Swimming Committee, I trust that the Executive/Emergency Committee will view the following points in that same light :-

(1) Swimming (Technical) Leadership

In the view of the Swimming Committee, there is a clear need for the Wave Programme to have 'hands-on' leadership of a swimming technical/ chief coach nature.

Such leadership cannot be provided on an occasional basis - the swimmers involved are our best 'senior' swimmers who need and deserve the best service and assistance which we can provide. If we can provide for them we are sure that the Association and Scottish Swimming will benefit from them in the longer-term.

(2) Grass Roots Development

The Committee is also concerned to see the development of a strategy and action to nourish the grass roots of Scottish Swimming - the club and community activities within the Districts.

We have no immediate or easy solutions to offer. There are examples which the Association might wish to consider such as the SRU initiative of appointing Regional Development Officers (SASA District Development Officers ?).

(3) Diversification

The Swimming Committee is concerned that the Association seeks to provide for high level swimming technical expertise, for grass roots development, for input into Synchronised Swimming, Water Polo and Diving together with technical administrative support all from one post.

The Committee is deeply concerned that such diverse and demanding roles are expected to yield significant results from any one man or woman.

(4) Technical Assistant/Administrator /

President Mr G Philip
0383 725860

Vice President Mrs J Cochran
0224 867479

General Treasurer Mr W Charles
0786 61002

General Secretary Mr V
5 Burnside
Spokers Loan, F
Glasgow G6
0360 /

(4) Technical Assistant/Administrator

The Swimming Committee acknowledges that the current situation in respect of the SASA Office is unfortunate and we are very grateful to Mr. Charles for his hard work and willing assistance on numerous matters.

However, there have been many recent examples to support the view of the Swimming Committee that there is urgent need for the provision of technical administrative support based in the SASA Office.

While there is undoubtedly an argument to identify technical administrative support and expertise with the relevant discipline committee and with the appointed conveners of those committees there are equally valid arguments which severely constrain their effectiveness. As Convener of the Swimming Committee, I have attempted to service the main administration requirements of that Committee and to retain as much personal contact as possible. However, I cannot leave work and go to the Office to deal with problems or travel to every committee/working group which would ideally be attended. There is a clear need for a technical administrator who would attend discipline committee meetings, learn the background to the policy decisions taken at those meetings and, in conjunction with the convener, ensure that the appropriate actions are taken at the Office.

(5) SASA Structure

The Swimming Committee is also concerned to see the development of the revised Committee structure of the Association along the lines suggested at the A.G.M. in February 1991.

While such changes are for the delegates to decide in February 1992 there is concern on the part of the Swimming Committee that input of their views to the key policy-making body of the Association and feed-back from that body are both distant and delayed.

(6) Timing of Considerations

The Swimming Committee requested that these matters be given consideration on the first possible occasion and noted that the Director of Swimming expressed his willingness to negotiate with the Association on those matters which touch on his current post.

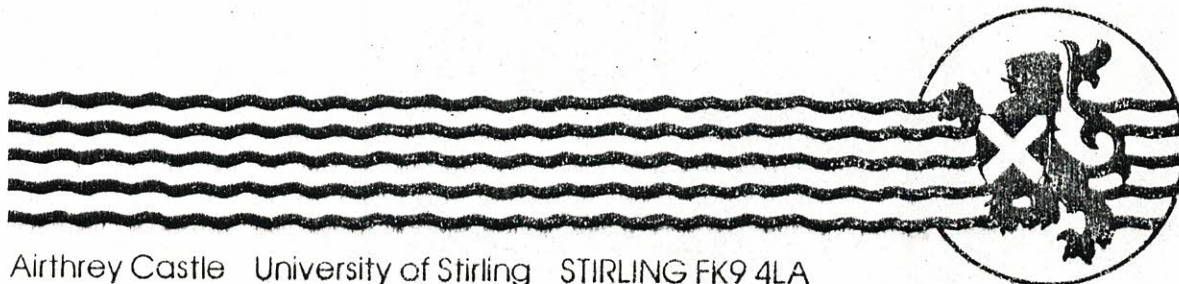
As Convener, I would like to record my thanks to all members of the Swimming Committee present on 26th May for their constructive and positive inputs to the discussions on difficult and sensitive issues.

Yours sincerely,

Douglas C.J. Brown
Swimming Convener

cc Members of Swimming Committee
Mr. W. Charles (Treasurer)

Scottish Amateur Swimming Association



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Mr. J. Ramsay Morton,
Secretary, Milngavie & Bearsden ASC.,
17 Lochend Drive,
Bearsden
Glasgow G61 1ED

30th May 1991

Dear Mr. Morton,

World Cup Final : Canada

The Swimming Committee considered the contents of your letter of 22nd April at their meeting of 26th May. The Committee sought explanations for the matters identified and I have summarised the outcome as follows :-

Selection

It is acknowledged that Alison did not receive notification of selection by letter. However, the Committee was advised that Alison and others had been advised of potential selection at the Milan/Bonn meets and they received confirmation of selection at Sheffield.

The Committee is also aware of other circumstances which placed the whole venture to Canada into question until two days before departure - no one person can be held responsible for that situation.

Therefore, under the circumstances, the Committee and the Association can only apologise for the fact that normal selection procedures were not followed.

Travel/Accommodation

a) For reasons noted above, it is recognised that travel arrangements were notified late ;

b) The Committee was advised that the Director of Swimming informed the swimmers at Gatwick Airport of their hotel accommodation (first night) and of the other travel arrangements. Swimmers had opportunity to telephone to parents and advise them of that information if necessary. The Committee noted that there are many occasions when Teams cannot be given, in advance, details of accommodation.

The Committee was advised that the SASA Office knew of the contact number in case of emergency.

Appointment of Coach

The Swimming Committee is conscious of the issues raised in your letter under this heading. However, because the Swimming Committee has already formally raised these issues with Mr. Black (General Secretary) it would not be appropriate to deal with these matters in detail. The simple answers to your two specific questions are as follows :-

a) There was no indecision on the part of the Swimming Committee - indeed, a positive recommendation was made, for good reason, that the Director of Swimming should be coach/team manager.

b) As far as I am aware, the Swimming Committee did not apply any pressure,

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Vice President Mrs J Cochran
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pressure/ on Alex McNeil ; unfortunately, at the time these issues arose I was away on holiday.

Coaches' Responsibility

The Committee gave long and careful consideration to this matter.

On one hand, Mr. Smith accompanied the swimmers to the departure lounge for their flight to Gatwick ; the swimmers were all of an age where they should be capable of behaving responsibly ; and all the swimmers were relatively experienced travellers.

On the other hand, the Committee took the view that the Association and the parents should have been aware of the arrangements prior to departure from the UK.

Taking overall account of the situation, the Committee has recommended the following guidelines for future travel arrangements :-

- (1) That the Team Manager/Coach should under normal circumstances travel with the Team ;
- (2) That any exception should have the prior approval of Swimming Committee or be the result of an emergency situation.

Performance/Communication

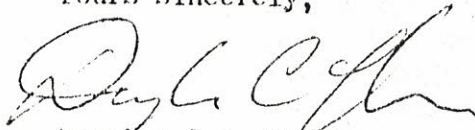
The Committee is likewise pleased to note the good performances of the swimmers and feels that the correct swimming (technical) decisions were made.

As Convener of the Swimming Committee I have tried hard to ensure that the business of that Committee is 'open' as far as possible and practical. In that context the Committee is grateful to you for bringing these matters to our attention ; where we have been able to take positive action we have done so ; unfortunately, as indicated previously, the Committee is bound to deal with some matters on an internal basis within the Association.

Travel Insurance

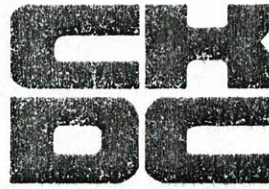
Although not specifically considered by the Committee, I can advise you that I have subsequently been assured by the Director of Swimming that our normal travel insurance cover was valid for the Meet.

Yours sincerely,



Douglas C.J. Brown
Swimming Convener

cc Mr. W. Black (General Secretary)
Mr. W. Charles (Treasurer)



Cumbernauld & Kilsyth District Council

Council Offices, Bron Way, Cumbernauld G67 1DZ.
Telephone: Cumbernauld 722131
Twinned with BRON and MEULAN, France
Fax: 0236 736258

James Hutton I.P.F.A., F.R.V.A.
Chief Executive and Director of Finance

Daniel McGowan M.I.L.A.M.
Director of Community Services

If phoning or calling please ask for

Our Ref: DMcG/AGL

Your Ref:

30 May 1991

Mr Douglas C J Brown
29 Hartington Place
EDINBURGH
EH10 4LF

Dear Douglas

Cumbernauld International Swim Meet
8, 9, 10 November 1991

Further to the discussion at the Swimming Committee meeting, on Sunday, 26 May 1991 in Edinburgh, I now write to confirm my offer which I hope will be given serious consideration by the Association.

1. The Association be allowed to invite foreign National Team swimmers to the Cumbernauld International Swim Meet.
2. The Association will pay for accommodation for countries and numbers, to be determined by agreement with the Meet Director.
3. The Meet Director will deal with all other administration, such as booking of accommodation, transport to and from airport, hotel and pool.
4. Executive members and the Swimming Committee Convenor, plus all foreign swimmers and coaches will be invited to the Civic Reception hosted by the Provost.
5. Information packs including entry forms will be provided to the Association for sending to foreign National Teams.
6. Foreign teams to arrange and pay for own travel arrangements to Glasgow Airport.

2.

30 May 1991

Mr Douglas C J Brown

7. The Meet Director will reserve the right to invite other International Swimmers if this is felt to be necessary.

I believe that this joint initiative will be in the best interest of both the Swimming Association and the Cumbernauld Meet. It will permit the Association to fulfil what I believe to be an obligation to reciprocate the hospitality of invitations received from many other Swimming Associations for many years.

I am not convinced that it is appropriate to invite these teams to our National Championships as the position could become farcical if their standard was much higher or their numbers too great.

Finally, can I request that this matter be treated with urgency as such invitations should now be given out as soon as possible.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'D McGowan', with a stylized flourish at the end.

D McGOWAN
Director of Community Services