

HERTFORDSHIRE AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION
SWIMMING COMMITTEE

Minutes of the meeting held at the Welwyn Civic Centre, 8th July 2009 at 8.00pm.

Present; Bryan Thompson (Swimming Manager), Alan Bowell, Karen Huckle, Ian Mackenzie, Derek Milton, Barbara Scorer and Richard Sumner. The Minutes were prepared by Richard Sumner and the meeting was chaired by Barbara Scorer who was re-elected as Chairman, by the Committee.

Apologies for Absence

SO9/69. Apologies for absence were received from Caroline Holt.

Minutes of Previous meeting

SO9/70. The minutes of the 9th June 2009 were approved.

Matters Arising

SO9/71. On Item SO9/57, IM confirmed that the cost of 8 lapcards is £365.92 including VAT and delivery.

Masters update

SO9/72. RS noted that the official invitations to the Inter Counties Masters gala on November 15th at Newmarket would be issued shortly. He noted that he would be attending the East Region Championships in Newmarket on Oct 3rd as an official and he will be promoting the event through his Masters contact list.

RS reviewed the recent Herts Masters event at Borehamwood and thanked those involved for their hard work, especially Jane Evans KH, CH and Gary Robb. Despite the AOE equipment failing to work the event had been a success. RS commented that he would issue his notes about the gala to the Committee for their input and from this he would produce an information sheet on the event for use in future years.

IM is producing the Certificates for those who requested them and Jane Evans will sign them.

RS had passed the gala results to BT for inclusion on the Herts website and to Dave Chandler for inclusion on the national website. The lack of AOE would not compromise any county records set at the gala.

It was agreed that Chris Hisgrove needed to train volunteers on the use of the AOE at Borehamwood and BT felt that an ad hoc gala in October could be a suitable training fixture and he would look into this possibility.

Competition update –Development Meet and Daplyn Trophy 2009

SO9/73. BT will check that the pool charge for Woodside is an all inclusive charge, including the use of AOE.

IM will check on his stock of medals to see if there are enough for both galas.

Competition update - BAGCATS 2009

SO9/74. BT confirmed that The Venue at Borehamwood will not give us a Saturday morning for this event.

Gary Robb will have a separate room for his results service and needs a wireless connection to the old control room. He will try out the new Hytek system at the Development meet running in parallel with the old one.

The Venue were concerned about hiring out the gym but not providing the catering but will allow us to provide our own.

Gary Robb is printing up the 2009 BAGCATS certificates.

There was broad acceptance of Nick Juba's schedule of events but BT will query with him, the mixture of events at one of the sessions.

The finals races will count for BAGCATS points.

Competition update – Inter Counties region and National

SO9/75. DM reported on the IC East Region event at Thetford which Hertfordshire had won, comprehensively, with 19 first places. There was a good spread of competitors from the county's clubs, in the team.

Thanks were expressed to Tina and Mark Lander and Nick Juba for their hard work in making this a very successful event and to Sean Bailey and Janet Warrington, the coaches who accompanied the team. BT will ask Tina Lander about the preparations for the National Competition.

Competition update - Open Water

SO9/76. The event at Datchet went well. The early start (5.30am) may have put off some swimmers but 11 took part.

It was considered that a more local venue would be more attractive and IM is trying to obtain some time in the Lee Valley at Broxbourne. Stanborough and Fairlands at Stevenage are also possibilities and they are also official RYA sites with rescue facilities.

There are 13 entries for the County and Regional Open Water event at Norwich on July 19th and BT will email the clubs with swimmers taking part to see if they can assist with the event. As these are the County Championships for Hertfordshire, DM will take a selection of medals which he will present but only after BT has been given the criteria for the award of medals by the next Management Board.

Officials update

SO9/77. Marilyn Hughes reported that 11 new Timekeepers had passed their exam at the recent Bushey course. There is a Timekeeper course coming up at Stevenage and Royston, Buntingford and Hatfield have all requested Timekeeper courses.

There will be a final assessment of J1 J2 and J2S officials at the Bishops Stortford Open meet for those considered ready. Some wish to wait for the County events next year but IM commented that the Development Meet was a better event for testing officials.

KH reported that there had been an excellent turn out of officials for the Masters championships gala.

Marilyn Hughes has gone through the County list looking for potential long service awardees and, following this, KH will make recommendations to the Swimming Committee.

IM reported that the Club Forum on Swim 21 will be on Sept 16th and not Sept 9th, as previously reported; Sept 9th will be the Refresher course for Referees. In October there will be a reprise of the 'contemporary issues' course for judges, which is obligatory for licensed officials.

IM commented that from Sept 2010 any licensed meet would have to use only licensed officials and there was therefore a need to get as many of our unlicensed officials, licensed as soon as possible.

County Development Plan

SO9/78. BT reported on progress with the CDP.

The forthcoming talent camp at Haileybury College has gone down very well with both parents and swimmers with 44 swimmers due to attend this coming Saturday. KH and DM will be there as Committee representatives. Blue hats will be distributed by BT and although he had emailed parents to advise them on eligibility for the camp, a careful watch will still need to be kept to ensure that additional swimmers are not sneaked in! BT also noted that the College had given a 25% discount of charges and the use of the Sports Hall for free. AB will ring the Mercury newspaper group to see if they will report the event.

BT presented website usage statistics up to April but it was difficult to deduce anything particularly useful from the information.

BT noted that under item 3.4 of the Plan he had been unable to get a better deal out of Watford council for the Daplyn event. He also expressed his concern that the potential new pool in St Albans would have inadequate facilities for competitive events, despite the repeated input of interested parties. Under the same item it was noted that the SAG meetings would not start until the county swimming co-ordinator was in place which should happen shortly.

BT noted that under item 4 of the CDP, 'Competition programme', all items could now be considered 'green'.

Records

SO9/79. The record claims brought before the Committee were agreed and approved. These are attached.

Any Other Business

SO9/80. KH commented that the lane ropes at Borehamwood were in need of repair. BT will speak to Barry Ellis to ask if they can be re-strung.

SO9/81. BT noted that John Sargent had put in a recent appearance at Harpenden SC to give a starts and turns master class. The event was very well received and BT would recommend this to any club.

Date of next meeting

SO9/82. The next meeting is on Tuesday 15th September 2009 at the usual venue.