

# **Gloucestershire County Open Water Report – March 2017**

## **Gloucestershire Championships**

I am still looking for local venue for the Glos Champs as an alternative to running them in parallel to the Regional Event. Preliminary talk with LPS Events, who run competitions at Lake 62, has shown some promise and they would be keen to run the Champs in conjunction with their Cotswold Swim participation event and can accommodate younger swimmers as well.

I have spoken to Sharon Lock (Open Water Officer) and she is broadly supportive of such a joint event. I have also communicated with Paul Kendall (East Region) who has given me a few more pointers as to the issues involved (insurance; referees and policing; safety etc).

Previously I have attempted to discuss with Wiltshire an option to include the Glos Champs with their event (which was not held in 2016 due to unforeseen circumstances). This would have been a much more cost effective option for both counties, however Wiltshire have now said that they have “no interest” in holding a joint event, and I have yet to be informed of a reason as to why.

I will continue to pursue the possibility of running the event in the LPS event in August.

There is also some momentum to start county based coaching sessions for Gloucestershire swimmers. Howard Green from Cirencester and Daisy Bond from Gloucester City/Masters are keen to be involved. Dates and venue to be confirmed, but likely to be initially at one of the lakes at South Cerney, but also could include Henleaze. Any other clubs interested in participating, please contact me and I will keep you in the loop.

## **ASA South West Open Water Committee Meeting**

The next committee meeting has been postponed from February 15<sup>th</sup> and will now be held tomorrow, March 14<sup>th</sup> at the ASA South West offices.

There are a number of items I wish to raise

- Lack of minutes from previous meeting (as at Feb 18<sup>th</sup>)
- Misplacing of the Glos open water swimmer of the year nomination and the rushed requirement to vote on said nominations (less than 24hrs).
- Possible selection of swimmer whose achievements, whilst substantial, do not fall within the jurisdiction of the ASA
- Glos champs as above
- Wetsuit rules and how they will affect the SW Championships
- State of the regional website – out of date and missing info; no updates etc

SW Champs date has been posted on the ASA Calendar as June 24<sup>th</sup> in Weymouth, but not on the regional website (?).

If anyone has any questions or topics that they would like me to discuss/table at the meeting, please let me know.

## **ASA/FINA/LEN Events 2017**

Additional event dates have been announced/confirmed and some entries are already open

### **ASA South West**

Date is June 24<sup>th</sup> and will be held in Weymouth.

### **ASA Nationals, Rother Valley Country Park**

Dates are Sunday July 30<sup>th</sup> for the National Masters and Open Water Challenge events; Monday July 31<sup>st</sup> for the National Age Group competition.

### **World Masters Open Water Champs**

These will be held at Lake Balton, Baltonfured, Hungary on 10-12 August starting with oldest swimmers on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Training days are 9<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup>.

### **Swim Serpentine**

The mass participation part of this event has been confirmed as September 16<sup>th</sup>, but it appears unlikely that the British Swimming competition will be included. A new event is being considered as a replacement – TBA.

## **Local and National non-ASA Swims**

A selection of swims are listed at the end of this document, but this does not represent the entirety of open water swims available.

### **TriFerris Big Cotswold Swim 1 & 2**

July 1<sup>st</sup> and September 17<sup>th</sup>

### **LPS Cotswold Swim**

August 20<sup>th</sup>

### **FINA wetsuit rules**

An additional memo has been released from FINA regarding the new rules

[http://www.fina.org/sites/default/files/wetsuits\\_for\\_ows\\_memo\\_nfs\\_11.01.2017\\_0.pdf](http://www.fina.org/sites/default/files/wetsuits_for_ows_memo_nfs_11.01.2017_0.pdf)

In summary, for 2017, the acceptance of a suit will be at the discretion of the lead FINA official at the meet, but suits should be smooth and not contain any shapes, ridges or fins.

Sharon Lock has produced a brief summary to assist with interpretation with respect to this year.

<http://www.swimming.org/masters/fina-guidance-on-wearing-wetsuits-open-water/>

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