



GLoucester County ASA



President Mr Brian Guy
President Elect: Vacant

Opening:

Minutes of Gloucester County ASA Annual General Meeting held Monday 11 May 2015
at The Gables, Falfield, Gloucestershire

Present:

Brian Guy **President** Keith Smith **Secretary**

Past Presidents Philip Jones, Ian Stuart, Cheltenham, Sheila Bryant, Herbie Adams,
Pauline Adams, Marion Britton, Mike Hynd

Clubs delegates -: Bishopsworth (Mark Collins) Bristol Central (Nicky Booth), Bristol
Henleaze (Brian Guy), Bristol Masters (Herbie Adams), Bristol North (Gerald Staddon,
Janet Staddon), Bristol Penguins (Jeremy Dudley), Cheltenham S & WP Club (Phil Jones,
Ian Stuart Mike Hynd), Cinderford & District (Brian Bradley, Matt Rogers), Cirencester
(Peter Bennett), City of Bristol (Mark Collins), Dursley Dolphins (Michael Aldridge),
Gloucester City (Gavin Phillips, Amanda Perks), Gloucester Masters (Brian Armstrong,
Simon Cooper), Harlequins WPC (G E Staddon), Lydney (Gareth Whiteman Smith),
Severnside Tritons (Keith Smith, Rachel Roberts), Soundwell (Darren Stone) Southwold
(David Lowther), Tewkesbury (Allan Clift), United Bristol (Brian Guy)

1. **Apologies:** Neil Harper (Swimming Officials Manager), Richard Tomlinson (County
Swimming Age Group and Championship Manager), Dave Beament (C.O.B.), Brian
Dunning (Past President), Josh Pattison (GCSC & Para Swimming), Karen Bailey
(Treasurer)

CLUBS NOT REPRESENTED Bristol South, Brockworth, Chipping Campden,
Portway, Stroud Masters, University of the Bristol

2. **Approval of Minutes 14 May 2013**

The minutes of the AGM held 12 May 2014 were approved as distributed

3. **Matters Arising**

None.

4. **Presentation of Trophies 2015**

Elkington Cup – Performance & Participation in Age-Group Events – Soundwell
Delancy Trophy– Performance in Championship Events - Gloucester City Swimming
Club

Heron Shield - Performance in Relay Event - Gloucester City Swimming Club

Brian Harrison Cup - Ind 200m - Will Cole Soundwell

The President has yet to decide on the male and female President cups

5. Annual Reports

A. Secretary – Keith Smith

During this year Gloucester County ASA has organised the County Swimming Age Group and Championship Events and Masters Swimming events to its members. The County Open Water Championships were held in conjunction with the ASA SWR Open Water Championships.

In swimming the County fielded a representative swimming team ASA Inter County Championships at Sheffield in October and the County also hosted the annual 3-Counties meet at GL1 at which Gloucester County gained victory, the first time since 2002. The County also sent representative Water polo teams to the SWR Championships.

There is a new development activity planned in May/Jun where the County are running two starts and turns courses for County clubs.

This year saw another successful County Swimming Championships. The championships were reorganised again to meet the significant changes and new criteria from the ASA. The running of these Championships takes a huge amount of effort and thanks must go to Richard Tomlinson again for his dedication and effort in the management of the championships. Richard is prepared to manage the championships for a further year but we will need a new manager for the 2017 Championships.

Marion Britton has been active in delivering Team Manager Training across the county and Neil Harper as always in the training of officials.

Administratively this year the County has again had the able support of Jenny Sheppard in the County administrator role. She provides a point of contact for people from within and outside the County.

This year the County changed its approach to club development funding. We ran a scheme where Clubs were allocated a set development grant. Clubs applied for the grant and then reported how they utilised the money at the end of the year. The attached sheet summarises how the grant monies have been spent this year. It is planned to run a similar scheme this financial year.

The County has had a successful year but as always we need better communication and engagement with clubs and members. We also need more people to become active and volunteer to organise and run County activities.

B. Swimming – Richard Tomlinson

Richard Tomlinson was unavailable for the meeting but advised that following this year's review of the County Championships that he will be presenting his findings and recommendations to the Exec at the 7th September 2015 meeting.

C. Officials – Neil Harper

2015 saw the best supported County Blocks for many a year, certainly during my tenure as officials manager. For this I would convey my sincere thanks to all those who volunteered to assist. Without your support the event simply wouldn't happen! I will admit I was initially

concerned as the new Licensing conditions imposed the requirement for extra personnel, but as things turned out, my fears were unfounded.

It was good to see the number of trainees who attended in order to gain their competences, however it was disappointing that those from some of the smaller clubs did not use this as a vehicle to get some of their people qualified. More and more events require officials to be both registered members of the ASA and licensed!

Numbers wise we are in quite a healthy situation with adequate numbers of J1's, 2's and J2S's. However, I will raise my annual concern over the situation as it relates to the number of referees there are in the County. We still have only six, with one candidate sitting the exam this month. If we look at it from a blocks perspective, due to administrative duties, I'm very often out of the frame. To successfully run a session you need a minimum of three referees. I'll let you do the arithmetic, but it means we rely on that small number being available for every session!! With the best will in the world (as none of them have anybody swimming) I must beg the question, "is that reasonable?"

Finally I would like to convey my thanks to Richard Tomlinson and his team of non-technical officials. It's those of us in white who tend to get the plaudits, but without that dedicated team backing us up, we couldn't do our job

D. Synchro – Ian Stuart

The year has been competitively busy with the first competition, the Walsall Trophy, taking place on 17th May 2014 at Cheltenham's leisure @ pool.

The results are at -

http://swimwest.org.uk/swim/index.php/results1/doc_download/284-walsall-trophy-competition-results-17-may-2014

The next Walsall Trophy, a SWR competition with six clubs taking part, will take place at Cheltenham on 16th May 2015 with Cheltenham entering U12 duets and an U25 team.

The next competition was the Novice Figures competition, which gives many swimmers their first competition experience, on 28th June 2014 at Cheltenham, the results are at -

http://swimwest.org.uk/swim/index.php/results1/doc_download/283-novice-figures-competition-results-28-june-2014

The Multi Regional recreational strand competition took place on 27th September 2014 at Plymouth, with swimmers from Bristol Central and Cheltenham taking part, see the results here -

http://swimwest.org.uk/swim/index.php/results1/doc_download/285-sw-recreational-routine-competition-27-sept-2014

The results of the Multi Regional Age Group competition held on 19th October at Crawley, and in which Bristol Central did very well and Cheltenham was represented by one swimmer, are at -

http://swimwest.org.uk/swim/index.php/results1/doc_download/282-multi-regional-age-group-competition-results-19-oct-2014

The final competition of the year was the National Age Groups on 5th December - 7th December 2014 at GL1 in Gloucester when swimmers from Bristol Central and Cheltenham competed in the figures, solos, duets and team events in all the age groups, the competitive results are at –

http://www.swimming.org/assets/uploads/library/NAG_Synchro_2014_Competitive_Results.pdf and the recreational results are at -

http://www.swimming.org/assets/uploads/library/NAG_Synchro_2014_Recreational_Results.pdf

The National Synchronised Swimming Championships were held on 2nd and 3rd May 2015 at GL1 with City of Bristol getting excellent results, see -

<http://www.swimming.org/synchronationals/live-scoreboard-results/>

The ASASWR Synchro Standing Committee met on 20th September 2014 and 14th February 2015 at the ASASWR office at Wellington.

Numerous skill assessment days have been arranged around the country which Gloucestershire swimmers attended, and development days have been held locally and regionally for swimmers, coaches and officials, some of these days being qualification courses for volunteers wishing to be more involved in synchro.

More assessment and development days will be held during the year, using Honiton Leisure Centre and the Burnham-on-Sea pool as venues.

I would like to thank Alyson Bashford, Mary Hooper and Viv Ebbs for organising and publicising these days and their involvement in the organisation of competitions, and to thank all the coaches, officials and volunteers for their time and dedication.

E. Masters - Herbie Adams

Masters' Swimming in Gloucester County continues much as usual. Considered against a background of national austerity and increasing costs resulting in decreased opportunity, this is, perhaps, to be an indication of success. As is to be expected in such a situation, the successful are much more able to grasp the opportunity and flourish. Our established clubs are competitive and well above the average standard of the sport in the Country; on the other hand, whilst we see a marked increase in interest from "new masters", there is a decrease in the availability of, and for, competition at this stage.

Our annual competition remains one of a decreasing number of lower level meets. It is, however, not cost-effective, there being no income streams other than entry fees. Master's swimming owes a considerable debt of gratitude to the County's support of this event; a debt which goes beyond our border, by repute and hence example of what can and should be done. Our team competed well in the National InterCounty event in November, with 8th position out of 33 counties being our best for a few years. More importantly, the team contained a significant number of "new faces", some older ex-competitive members returning, some quite recent ex-agegroupers and one or two discovering the sport much later in life. All of them represent an important indication of what masters' swimming should be doing.

Nationally, the culture of this section of our Sport is changing. On one hand, an ASA appointment with responsibility for this section of swimming should lead to greater recruitment and inclusion. On the other hand, the establishment of programmes which have extended involvement beyond the 16/18 years old "drop-out phase" can create a major pathway into major events with an inhibiting effect.

I have to announce that, this year, I shall be relinquishing my position as County Manager for Masters' Swimming. There is no reason other than the fact that Pauline and I have been arranging sport and sporting events for just over 50 years and simply want to divert the time into other fields though one of them is swimming-related but intellectual rather than social. I would like to thank the County's Management for the total support it has given me in the running of masters' issues since 1997. Likewise, I am totally indebted to a vast number of friends, too many to mention, who have helped me get things done – of course, I couldn't have done it without you, that's so obvious it's not necessary to mention. What is more to the point is that I couldn't have enjoyed doing it, and I have enjoyed every bit of it- and that's what my thanks are for!

F. Open Water Report – Alan Giles

Some months ago I understood Emily Taylor, the ASA South West Club Development Officer, was involved in discussions with GCASA about swimming development opportunities? Subsequently in December I met Paul Shergold at Henleaze Lake, standing in for Emily until mid-2015, to discuss Open Water Opportunities not only for the County, but potentially other interested parties utilising the resources of Henleaze Lake. He is also intending to liaise with the ASA South West Open Water committee.

I am hoping Paul's enthusiasm will help to promote Open water; in February I intend to meet with him again to progress ideas and opportunities 2015 Training opportunities for Clubs at Henleaze Lake.

Extract from a previous report which may be of interest to GCASA Clubs) HSC is interested in supporting Open Water.

HSC, with their Superintendent team would be able to provide evening and Saturday Open Water sessions (say from mid May / early June to September) (Evenings could be say 7.20 pm to 8.30pm & Saturdays say 9.00am to 11am)

These sessions would provide an opportunity for Clubs to have specific Open Water sessions with HSC – and help to provide training for the West ASA Open Water championships at Weymouth at the end of June, and the National Open Water championships at Rother Valley, near Sheffield.

Finally, if you or your Club want to know more about Open water and use of Henleaze Lake please contact Henleazeswimmingclub.org or contact me.

G. Water Polo– Phillip Jones

This has been another good year for the County players, both female and male, although the County teams were not as successful in the Regional Championships as in previous years, the age grouping for the various championships plays tricks with who may play in which championship.

However our players have done well in representing the South West Region in winning the ASA Inter Regional U/19 Championship for boys. Eight County boys were in the U/19 team which won the championship. Four County girls were in the South West Regional U/19.team. Five County boys were in the team which took the Bronze medal in the U/17age group team.

The Bristol Central ASA Beacon project has had a flying start and the County wish to congratulate Bristol Central for taking on such a challenging project. The project is financed by the ASA. (See Appendix No. 1.)

Central's Men also won the Premier division of the BWWPL in 2014.

Finally, we have re-introduced a Women's team this year, to ensure that we have progression from junior water polo through to senior polo for the athletes.

In the first year of the "New Look" British Championship (2015) two county clubs have reached the semi-final stage, Bristol Central and Cheltenham. Playing in the Home and Away stages of the championships the home legs were very successfully staged with over 250 spectators at every game both in Bristol and Cheltenham. Both teams have qualified for the semi-finals when they will meet each other for a place in the finals!

Gloucester is the only county with 2 teams that have qualify for a place in the semi-finals! On top of this Cheltenham have won the British Water Polo League for the 2014-5. season.

This is a great advert for the quality of water polo in the county. Now with the growing interest in Ladies Water Polo both junior and senior in the county we will have to re-think our County Training programme for this year 2015-6. Plans are already being drawn up for training in Bristol and Cheltenham ready for the Western Regional Championships in July and December 2015.

Approaches have been made to the "new look" ASA Water Polo Management Board for the ASA Inter-County Championships to be re-introduced, this would give our young players a real chance to develop their game, these championships were suspended some 20 years ago.

INTERNATIONAL HONOURS 2014

The county held its own in the international field of young players, to their 2013 honours Will Rayson and Kate Read of Cheltenham both added to their records with places in the Great Britain U/19 Teams along with new comer Jack Simcox from Cheltenham.

County Water Polo is managed by one Manager, a number Team Managers and Coaches. The only competitions open to the County to enter are the South West Regional Inter County Championships which are held annually. The County enter all these championships which cover all the age groups, for both Boys and Girls.

The County also hold training sessions for both boys and girls throughout the year.

Manager Philip Jones, 1 Whitley Court, Leckhampton Road, Cheltenham,
GL53 0BJ. Phone 01242 526604.
E-mail philip.jones4@talktalk.net

Team Manager Mike Howells, 24 Priory Parade, London Road, Cheltenham,
GL52 6DX. Phone 01242 515236
E-mail helenhowells@blueyonder.co.uk

Ladies Team Manager Fiona Jones, 12 Thatcham Road, Walton Cardiff,
Tewkesbury, GL20 756 Phone 01684 297286.

Coaches John Spicer, Bridge Hay, Sunset Lane, Southam, Cheltenham,
GL52 3NL Phone 01242 233207.
E-mail spicer@johnspicer.orangehome.co.uk

Martyn Thomas, 37 Mill Lane, Brockworth, Gloucester.
GL3 4QH. Phone 01452 865955
Mobile 077470 24658
E-mail. martynthoms@hotmail.com

Any Girl or Boy in the County that is interested in playing Water Polo please contact one of the above officials, they are able to direct you to your nearest club.

ACTIVE WATER POLO CLUBS

Bristol Central SC (A "Beacon" Club for Water Polo)
Cheltenham S&WPC
Harlequins SC (Bristol)

Appendix No.1.

Bristol Central SC Beacon project by John Sissons

The Beacon has been operating for just over 12 months now and has 2 main elements to it.

The daily programme involves Bristol Central SC (BCSC) club members, and we have over 100. junior members attending sessions in pools across the city on a weekly basis. These athletes range in age from 8 through to 16, and participate in starter, mini-polo and junior sessions. BCSC juniors have competed in the BWWPL and the NAG's where numbers and ability allow.

The Regional Beacon programme involves athletes from as far and wide as Carmarthen, Cheltenham, Swindon, Bournemouth and Penzance. Trials were held in the summer of 2014 and from these trails, training squads in the age groups of 1997/98, 1999/2000 and 2001/2002, to mirror the England Talent Age Groups, were selected. These age groups have been training from September through to March on a monthly basis, with the sessions being very well received.

The sessions are designed to bridge the gap between club water polo and National Representation and are therefore taking the RTC skills to the next level of applying them to game situations and basic tactical play. This will then allow the ET coaches to focus far more on tactical play rather than basics such as body position, etc.

The 1999/2000 age group has also played 3 games, preceding Central's British Championship home games, giving the athletes the chance to put the skills learned into practice and the opportunity to compete in front of 250+ spectators.

Beacon Head Coach, Craig Figes, and Director, John Sissons, are currently entering into discussions with the ASASW Committee on how we can align our regional programme with the ASASW goals and improve the delivery of Water Polo in the area. This will also be in line with the targets of the newly formed management group under the leadership of Ian Elliot.

Bristol Central Men's team.

As noted above Centrals Senior Men's team competed in the Home and Away stages of the British Championships. The home legs were very successfully staged with over 250

spectators at every game. Central have qualified for the semi-finals where they will meet local rivals Cheltenham for a place in the finals!

H. Disability – Josh Pattison

Josh was unavailable to report to the meeting however had reported that there had been good representation at the County Championships – mainly from Gloucester City Swimming Club. 8 swimmers had attended the British Disability meet and achieved 70% personal bests.

6. Annual Financial Report and Accounts – Karen Bailey

Karen was unavailable for the meeting however the accounts and budget had been circulated prior to the meeting. They have been yet to be approved by The Independent Examiner.

The accounts were approved. It was noted that the Associations bank account would be moved to Lloyds TSB in the near future due to the ability to better control on-line banking procedures and safeguards with a Lloyds TSB account. As previously reported on-line banking with a £300 limit and a daily limit of £300 has been previously approved.

The meeting voted to increase the amount budgeted for club grants to £12000

7. GCASA Constitution Changes

Herbie Adams walked the attendees through proposed changes to the constitution. The meeting accepted and approved the new constitution with minor changes. Herbie will make the changes and a new constitution will be published and circulated.

8. County Levy

It was agreed to leave the County Levy at £1.70.

9. Appointment of Tellers

Peter Bennett and Simon Cooper were appointed as Tellers

10. Elections to GCASA Posts

See Appendix A

11. Elections to SWR Posts

See Appendix B

12. Dates of Executive Meetings

7th September 2015

16th November 2015

11th January 2016

7th March 2016

12th September 2016

14th November 2016

13. Annual General Meetings

9th May 2016

ALL CLUBS ARE STRONGLY ADVISED TO SEND A REPRESENTATIVE TO THESE MEETINGS SO YOUR CLUB CAN BE KEPT UP TO DATE WITH DEVELOPMENT IN THE COUNTY.

Thanks to all the officers of the County for their work during the year.

Meeting closed at 21:45 pm

Signed

Dated

President

Secretary

Appendix 1

GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASA OFFICERS AND REPRESENTATIVES 2015 / 2016	
Officers:	
President	<i>Brian Guy</i>
President Elect	<i>Vacant</i>
Hon Secretary	<i>Keith Smith</i>
Hon Treasurer	<i>Karen Bailey</i>
Representatives:	
County Welfare Officer	<i>Rachel Roberts</i>
Trophy Controller	<i>Sheila Bryant</i>
Hon Manager for Swimming Age Groups and Championships	<i>Richard Tomlinson</i>
Hon Manager for Speed Swimming	<i>Vacant</i>
Hon Manager for Open Water	<i>Alan Giles</i>
Hon Manager for Water Polo	<i>Phil Jones</i>
Hon Manager for Synchronised Swimming	<i>Ian Stewart</i>
Hon Manager for Masters' Swimming	<i>Vacant</i>
Hon Manager for Disability Swimming	<i>Josh Pattison</i>
Hon Manager for Swimming Officials	<i>Neil Harper</i>
Hon Legal Advisor	<i>Julie Hughes</i>
Emergency Committee	
President	<i>Brian Guy</i>
President Elect	<i>Vacant</i>
Hon Secretary	<i>Keith Smith</i>
Hon Treasurer	<i>Karen Bailey</i>
Elected Member (1)	<i>Sheila Bryant</i>
Elected Member (2)	<i>Rachel Roberts</i>
Substitute Member (1)	
Substitute Member (2)	
Rules Committee	
	<i>Sheila Bryant</i>
	<i>Herbie Adams</i>

Appendix 2

ASA South West Region

Gloucester ASA Nominations 2015

Post	Nomination
President Elect	
Administration Officer	<i>John Bird</i>
Finance Officer	
ASA Swimming Officials Organiser	<i>Lynn Elliott</i>
Handbook Editor	
Medical Advisor	
Welfare Officer	<i>Marion Britton</i>
Health & Safety Officer	
Emergency Committee	
Elected Member (1)	<i>Phil Jones</i>
Elected Member (2)	
ASA SWR Annual Council	
County Representatives (1)	<i>Frank Keeble</i>
County Representatives (2)	<i>Jenny Sheppard</i>
Management Board	
County Rep	<i>Keith Smith</i>
Members Forum (in addition to County Sec & Treasurer)	
County Elected Representative 1	<i>Frank Keeble</i>
County Elected Representative 2	<i>Jenny Sheppard</i>
Disabilities Committee	
County Representative	<i>Josh Pattison</i>
Diving Committee	
Secretary	
England West School of Swimming	
Secretary	<i>Neil Harper</i>
Open Water Committee	
Secretary	<i>John Helm</i>

County Representative	<i>Alan Giles</i>
Swimming Committee	
Secretary	<i>Chris Tremellen</i>
County Representative	<i>Marion Britton</i>
Masters Committee – County Representative	<i>Vacant</i>
Swimming Officials Committee – County Representative	<i>Neil Harper</i>
County Assistant Exams Organiser	<i>Neil Harper</i>
Synchro Swimming Committee	
Secretary	
County Representative	<i>Ian Stuart</i>
Water Polo Committee	
Secretary	<i>James Baker</i>
County Representative	<i>John Spicer</i>
Regional Representatives to ASA Committees'	
ASA Board (4 year appointment) Next 2014	
ASA Board Substitute (2 year appointment) Next 2013	
ASA Council - County Nomination	<i>Keith Smith</i>
ASA Council – Regional Elected Rep 1	<i>Phil Jones</i>
ASA Council – Regional Elected Rep 2	
ASA Masters	
ASA Medical Advisory	
ASA Judicial Appointments Panel	
ASA President Elect	