



GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASA

President: Mr Mike Hynd, President Elect: Mr Brian Guy

MINUTES OF GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASA EXECUTIVE HELD AT THE GABLES, FALFIELD, GLOS ON MONDAY 16th SEPTEMBER 2013

Attendees:

Hon County Posts:

Mike Hynd -President, David Bishop - Treasurer, Neil Harper – Officials, Alan Giles - Open Water, Richard Tomlinson - County Meet Manager

Past Presidents:

Ian Stuart, Marion Britton, Pauline Adams, Herbie Adams, Frank Keeble, Phil Jones, Neil Harper

Club Delegates:

CLUB	Delegate 1	Delegate 2
Bishopsworth SC		
Bristol Central SC	Mick Shortman	
Bristol Hengrove Masters SC		
Bristol Henleaze SC		
Bristol Masters SC	Herbie Adams	
Bristol North SC	Janet Staddon	
Bristol Penguin Olympic SC	Jeremy Dudley	
Brockworth SC	Sharon Tuck	
Cheltenham S&WP Club	Phil Jones	Ian Stuart
Chipping Camden		
Cinderford & District SC		
Cirencester SC		
City of Bristol SC	Mick Shortman	
Dursley Dolphins	Sally Anne Evans	
Gloucester City SC	Josh Pattison	
Gloucester Masters SC		
Harlequins WPC	Gerald Staddon	
Lydney SC		
Portway SC		
Sevenside Tritons		
Soundwell SC		
Southwold SC		
Stroud Masters SC		
Tewkesbury SC	Allan Clift	Jenny Sheppard
United Bristol Swimming Club		
Univ of West of England		

Item	Action
<p>1. Apologies: Keith Smith - GCASA Secretary, Sue Jones, Sue Malone - Glos SC, Brian Guy - Bristol Hen , Marcus Lee - Glos SC, Rebecca Whitman - Soundwell, Sue Jones, Nicky Booth - COB, Mike Aldridge - Dursley Dol</p>	
<p>2. Minutes of Meeting 11th March 2013: Minutes accepted as record of the meeting</p>	
<p>3. Matters Arising from 11th March: Keith Smith has raised the issue of United Bristol Swimming Club's entry into Arena League requesting review into whether this complied with the agreed constitution approved at the 11th March meeting. Herbie Adams to review constitution and report back to the Chairman.</p>	Herbie Adams
<p>4. Correspondence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>ASA SWR School of Development</u> – proposal to include information in the Gloucester County 2014 programme. Proposed by Neil Harper, seconded by Marion Britton – approved by all attendees. • <u>Beacon Programme Application Support</u> – Mick Shortman C.O.B. and Dave Beament Aquasulis presented their proposal for Beacon status to the committee. A tender has been put forward to the ASA for the foundation of Beacon status for a joint C.O.B. and Aquasulis Beacon programme. This will operate from Bath and Hengrove pools in alignment with the ASA selection criteria (to include all disciplines except diving). The committee agreed in principal to support the application pending further information (proposed Phil Jones, seconded by Marion Britton – carried by committee with two abstentions) 	Neil Harper Richard Tomlinson
<p>5. Treasurers Report The Treasurer reported healthy accounts and that the account summary had been previously circulated;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Bursaries</u> – GCASA have opted out of the SWR bursary scheme due to the Swim 21 accreditation requirement. It is noted that SWR will look into this condition and notify GCASA of any updates. GCASA runs its own bursary scheme. • Proposals for utilizing funds available from the GCASA are requested for the next meeting in September. Bristol and Cheltenham clubs expressed interest in acquiring funds to support inter-school local galas and taster sessions. Proposals to be supplied at next meeting and should be applicable to all county clubs. 	SWR All Clubs
<p>6. County Championships 2014 Richard Tomlinson presented a paper on changes for the 2014 County Championships. The main changes include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the inclusion of disability swimming (requiring 2 new trophies) • electronic entries with swimmer sign-in • change to Hytek Meet Manager software • distance events with be held at Bath (800m) and Bristol Hengrove (1500m) • 4 cut-off dates • Team events < 9 teams will be HDW, 2 teams per club, 1 team per club in final, clubs can change order of swimmers between heat and final • 400 free and 400IM will be HDW – championship as per 800/1500m • Age groups will be 10/11 and 12 and over • Presentations for 12 and over will only be for championship final medals, BAGCAT and stroke awards • 400 free and 400 IM will be moved to beginning of session <p><i>Richard Tomlinson to supply paper to county administrator to publish on GCASA web</i></p>	Richard Tomlinson County Admin

7. Activity and Reports

a. Swimming

Inter-county team meet 20th October 2013 at Sheffield taking place. Some swimmers had opted to attend an open meet the same weekend and were therefore unavailable to attend the inter-county meet. Jon Falco has taken responsibility for team selection however is unable to attend the meet. Keith Smith and Kevin Walters (Tewkesbury) will provide coaching cover on the day.

b. Open Water – Alan Giles

Alan Giles reported that only 30 swimmers had taken part in this year's GCASA Open Water at Henleaze lake. The number of swimmers attending has declined over the last few years with Alan and Henleaze committee asking for the GCASA to confirm commitment by GCASA to continue the county open water event. A deficit of £600 for running the event occurred this year an increase in deficit from 2012. Despite training sessions prior to the event which saw greater numbers attend including swimmers who went on to compete at Nationals many of the GCASA clubs did not attend the GCASA Open Water event. In addition a L3 swim meet was held in Gloucester on the same weekend which may have accounted for less numbers at the open water. Josh Pattison notified the meeting that GCSC have booked a L3 meet for the next 2 years for the second week in July and therefore the GCASA open water championship should avoid that weekend.

Training sessions can be arranged for any club during the warmer months of the year by contacting Alan Giles and one of these sessions was recently been taken up by Bristol Penguins who enjoyed the session.

The committee thanked Alan Giles and Henleaze for their on-going support.

c. Swimming Officials – Neil Harper

Neil Harper had recently issued 4 yearly changes to officials and coaches which had been distributed.

d. Synchronised Swimming – Ian Stuart

Report supplied prior to meeting (see attached)

e. Water Polo – Phil Jones

22nd Inter-county championships at Millfield. John Spicer has reported lack of support by clubs in the south of the county possibly due to Beacon programme taking up time.

Kate Reed has been selected as goal keeper for the U17 European championships in Istanbul with several other players in Team GB selection.

John and Lyn Sessions have been running taster sessions in Bristol with excellent uptake by 90 youngsters. Phil to liaise with John/Lyn to see if they can assist.

It was noted that a document has been presented to the ASA committee for a separate water polo group. The GCASA Water Polo clubs are against the proposition.

Alan
Giles

<p>f. Disability – Josh Pattison 3 disability swimmers attended the National Championships (Ryan West, Sallie Phillips and Daniel Bennett. Ryan was 3rd in the 50 free.</p> <p>g. Masters – Herbie Adams The County/SWR master championships took place on 14th September 2013 at Horfield Bristol. Entries had dropped possibly due to post Olympic reticence. Plenty of officials (thank you). There was a problem with the timing equipment which meant only 6 lanes operating. Herbie to write to Horfield LC and asked that GCASA also wrote noting that with only 6 lanes available that the pool would be unsuitable to hold regular meets.</p> <p>h. Regional Keith Smith supplied a regional report prior to the meeting. It should be noted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • regional relays and masters will take place in September for subsequent years • Plymouth have agreed a 4 year contract for holding SWR youth championships starting in 2014. • SWR distance events will take place at Hengrove on 15/16th Jan 2014 • SWR has raised an issue of lack of officials being supplied by some of the larger GCASA clubs. Keith Smith to notify clubs involved. 	<p>Herbie Adams</p> <p>Keith Smith</p>
<p>8. AOB:</p> <p>None</p>	
<p>9. Next Meeting: AGM – 18th November 2013 – 19.30pm</p> <p>All meetings are held at The Gables Hotel, Falfield, Glos. Just off Junction 14 of M5</p>	

Signed

Dated

President

Secretary

GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASA
OPEN WATER REPORT for meeting 16 September 2013

Introduction & general comments

- It should be appreciated Open Water refers to outdoor swimming (ie not in an indoor pool). Water temperature is an important consideration in any Open Water training or competition (with guidance on required water temperature provided in the ASA handbook)
- As will be appreciated outdoor water temperature will be very dependent on the time of the year and the amount of sunshine (to heat the water). Consequently in the UK Open Water swimming will be limited to the summer months ie late May to say mid-September.
 - With this in mind the County's Open Water championships have been held each year in early July at Henleaze Lake, with prior training and familiarisation sessions in June / July.
- It should be appreciated that many Open Water swimmers still train regularly in the indoor pool, but also have outdoor swim sessions to acclimatise with the requirements of Open Water.

Do the GCASA Clubs still want Open Water swimming / opportunities at Henleaze Lake?

- Open Water championships commenced in 1999 > 2013 was the 14th year.
- For the initial few years there were approximately 30 or so swimmer at the Championships – thereafter (up to 2011) swimmers increased to approx 80 each year – ie a good number in each of the various age group events, with many Clubs represented.
 - But in 2012 & 2013 swimmer numbers dropped significantly (2012 to 45, 2013 to 30)
- Considerable time and effort is involved each year by Henleaze Swimming Club (HSC) to arrange the championships and prior training sessions – and there has to be sufficient number of GCASA clubs and swimmers interested to make it worthwhile
 - In 2013 apparently another swimming meet was arranged in Gloucester on the same day as the Open water championships (many Clubs & their swimmers went to that event instead)
 - *If inadequate support from the Clubs the Open Water championships will not be able to continue in future years as HSC has many other commitments to its own members*
- Clubs should be aware there are other Open Water swimming events that might be of interest ie
 - West ASA Open water championships (in the sea at Weymouth) - end of June
 - National Open Water championships (Lake at Rother Valley, near Sheffield) at the end of July each year > for swimmers with qualification times

Open Water training & familiarisation sessions at Henleaze Lake on Saturday mornings

- In 2013 HSC arranged three Open Water training & familiarisation sessions at Henleaze Lake on Saturday mornings in June and July, particularly for those new to open water swimming
 - Similar sessions could be held in 2014, but only if they are supported by GCASA clubs
- In addition it might be feasible to arrange evening sessions in June and July from say 7. 15pm to 8.30pm if Clubs were interested (with sufficient numbers of interested swimmers)

Sunday 14 July 2013 - GCASA OW championships – overview of events /winners

11/ 12 years 600 metres

Ben Hall City	Gloucester	9. 05. 54	Delphi Evans	Sevenside	9. 17. 89
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13 /16 years 1,500 metres

Rafael Libson Hochenberg	Sevenside	22. 52. 50	Jorji Longdon	Soundwell	21. 39. 36
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17 years + 2,000 metres			
Geoff Twinning Masters	Stroud	26. 22. 95	Jessica Wooddisse Stroud Master
			26. 55. 36
17 years + 1,200 metres (not championship)			
Julian Locke Southwold		21. 10. 00	Juliet Barrell Masters
			23. 55. 67

Alan Giles Open Water manager

16 September 2013

**Open Water training & familiarisation at Henleaze Lake
Lake Road, Henleaze, Bristol BS10 5HG
Saturday session (approx. 9.00am to 12.30pm)
Briefing Note / Information @ 15 August 2013**

This note is to be used for reference for anticipated arrangements, and for briefing by Event manager / Lead Superintendent to all swimmers / observers, prior to the session.
The Event Manager will liaise with the swimming Club re expectations of training session.

General information

- Event manager HSC lead superintendent
- Approx 30+ swimmers, and with parents etc say total of 50+ people coming
- Car parking – say only 10 spaces in Lake available > therefore some use of outside roads for parking (HSC need to ensure space in Lake car park for HSC Club users from 11am)
- Signing in of everyone coming (from. 9.00am to 9.30am)
- Charge £4 each - for everyone (one cheque or card payment from SC to save time)
- Thereafter verbal briefing to swimmers / guests, at 9.30am before swim session)
- Exclusive use of Lake from 9.30am to 11am (**NB** HSC Club members may be present from 11am)
- Session ends by approx. 12.30pm
- Buoys down middle of Lake to approx 90mtrs (nb up to 80 metres steps on both sides of Lake).which provides a training course. For some training pontoon can be used as starting board
- Guest leaflet attached for information – Please note Non-swimming juniors are not admitted
- Swimmers should be able to swim at least 50m in lake conditions - all swimmers will initially have to take HSC 50metres test
- No alcohol permitted at Henleaze Lake
- Bring warm clothing to put on both before and after swimming

Conditions –. It is essential swimmers should appreciate an important difference with this training session - Henleaze Lake is Open Water, ie different to indoor pool conditions

Water Temperature of the Lake is anticipated to be not less than 16oC

Swimming Area – The training area is anticipated to be generally confined to the area from pontoon, adjacent to the ladies changing room, up to a turn buoy/s at approximately 80 / 90 metres.

Buoys will be placed down middle of lake training area. During swim training session/s swimmers will be expected to swim close to the buoys, and in one direction (keeping away from Lake edges); There will be float lines / buoys on both sides to identify any jutting rocks.

From 11am recreational swimming in the Lake, bear in mind there may be HSC pool users

Diving boards –comprise a floating pontoon, 2 spring boards and a platform boards (at 5 & 7.5 metres)
– *But unfortunately not available for use as Lake water level too low*

Weather conditions – if rain / drizzle is expected gazebos will be provided for guests' shelter

HSC Superintendents – Anticipated there will be 4 HSC Superintendents on duty with 2 or 3 at Lakeside available for questions during and after training session

Open Water focus It is hoped these training sessions will prompt Gcasa Clubs to consider participation in Open Water events (Incl Gcasa champs.at Henleaze Lake (early July), West ASA champs. (Weymouth (end June) and National Champs at Rother Valley, near Sheffield (end July)
Henleaze Swimming Club is a charity limited by guarantee, registered in England & Wales Company No 7011983, Charity No 1132633 Registered Office: Henleaze Lake, Lake Road, Bristol, BS10 5HG

Synchro report to the Gloucestershire County ASA
Executive meeting, Best Western Gables hotel, Falfield, Glos
16th September 2013

The Walsall Trophy, a SWR competition with eight clubs taking part, took place at Cheltenham on 18th May 2013 with Cheltenham entering an U12 duet and team and an U19 duet and team.

The Novice Figures competition, which gives many swimmers their first competition experience, was held on 29th July 2013 at Cheltenham and the Multi-Regional recreational strand competition will be held on 28th September 2013 at Plymouth. The competitive strand competition will be held at GL1 on 12th October 2013.

The final competition of the year will be the National Age Groups on 29th November - 1st December 2013 at GL1 in Gloucester when swimmers from Bristol Central and Cheltenham compete in the figures, solos, duets and team events in all the age groups.

Samantha Wilson, a Bristol Central and ex-Cheltenham swimmer, was a member of the GB synchro team that competed at the Synchro World Championships in Barcelona in July.

The ASASWR Synchro Standing Committee will meet at the ASA Regional Office in Wellington on 5th October 2013.

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.

More assessment and development days will be held during the year, using Honiton Leisure Centre and Marlborough School as venues.

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

Ian Stuart

Gloucestershire County member, ASASWR Synchro Standing Committee

SWR BOARD REPORT – SEP 2013

ASA Governance

The ASA is changing the way it is governed at the top. In the past there has been a single ASA Board responsible for the complete operation of the ASA. This is now being split into two boards. One board called the “Group Board” responsible for the commercial activities of the ASA and its subsidiary companies, the delivery of sport England targets for participation and the overall finances. The other Board is the “Sports Governing Board” responsible for swimming (aquatics) as a sport which includes clubs and their development. This change is due to be finalised later this year by the ASA Council.

SWR Governance

The governance relationship between the ASA centre and the ASA SWR has now fundamentally changed. The SWR is no longer a management sub-unit of the ASA and is not responsible for delivering ASA centre activity. Whereas in the past the Regional Chair was the line manager for the Regional Director this is no longer the case. The operation of the ASA SWR is now more autonomous and more akin to the old Western Counties ASA.

The ASA has now organised and allocated its staff on the ground into “Divisions” not “Regions”. In our case the ASA has a South Division which covers the areas which were covered by the South East and South West with a single director for the South Division (Alison Usher).

In reality there are still ASA Centre “Aquatics Officers” allocated to County areas as before and it is now much clearer that they are concerned with delivering the programmes and targets of the ASA Centre based on agreements with Sport England:

Swim Britain – A 3 year programme led by British Gas to get more people swimming, centred around 10 key challenge events in September in 50m pools across the country, with coaching programmes leading up to the event. The challenge events in the south west are: Bristol, Hengrove. For more information please visit the website: www.swimbritain.co.uk

Active Workplaces – A programme to link employers and their workforce to their local swimming pool. We facilitate the link between the two organisations and ensure the offer in the pool fits with the needs from the employees. We monitor interest and follow up on the impact upon participation.

Swimfit – The gym in the pool work out programme. The team are currently rolling out the swimfit programme and units to sites across the region, with a target of 8 additional sites per AO this year.

Partnership Provider Programme – A formalised long term partnership with our leisure operators to add value and grow their business using our expertise. Centred around developing a clear aquatics improvement plan which will shape our investment and effort with them over a minimum 2 year period.

Local Aquatic Networks - Pulling together local partners in an area who all share a common objective (i.e. more people swimming, this will involve; leisure operator, local authority, schools, clubs, private pools to develop a growth plan to increase participation with; a. Clear swimmer pathway and b. Effective pool programming to maximise water space

As you can see from the Aquatics officers have little or no responsibility for Affiliated Club affairs or development. The “Local Aquatics Networks” are not the same as “Club Networks” that have been established or supported in the past.

There is however a new post in the ASA called “Head of Clubs” responsible for Club Development and part of the England Talent programme management. The Head of Clubs has at their disposal a number of Club Development Officers (1 per region). They are responsible on the ground for Club development and their directive is currently Beacon Programmes and Club Networks in priority areas.

The SWR Board recognised that the Club Development Officer for the SWR (Emily Taylor) will not have much time to support regional clubs in general and are continuing to secure the services of Jackie Hilliard as “Regional Development Co-ordinator”. Her role is to be the POC for general club issues and development matters including Swim 21.

Swim 21

As most of you will know this has now changed and will require all clubs to re-accredit. However, the base club accreditation does not cover all the aspects that previous accreditation covered and is focused on club administration not swimmer/athlete development. All evidence now has to be submitted electronically. There is a Swim21 “drop in” clinic organised on the same day as the Annual Council Meeting, 22nd September in Taunton, for people who wish to know more about the requirements and impact on them.

Another point to note is that the “Time to Listen” course for welfare officers is now a mandatory requirement for Swim 21 Accreditation

SWR Annual Council Meeting

The ASA SWR Annual Council Meeting is on the 22 Sept at Taunton. All clubs should have received their invites direct from the Region. This event will be the launch of the new ASA SWR Strategy 2014-2017 and Regional Aquaforce volunteer awards.

Keith Smith