

Open Water Committee Meeting Minutes

**Saturday 17th January, 2015 at 10am
National Swimming Academy, Stirling**

Les Rodger	LR	Chair
Jim Gallacher	JG	Safety Co-ordinator
Lynne Deans	LD	West District Convenor
Jennifer Davis	JD	Incoming East District Convenor
Jayne Smith	JS	Scottish Swimming

Item No.	Action
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Initial comments: Les welcomed everyone who was able to attend the meeting in spite of the very poor weather. In view of the difficulties and other events the same day, it had been agreed that this would be a short meeting, essentially to commence the organisation for the 2015 season and so any matters which we did not have to discuss urgently would be held over. This could mean that we will have to hold an extra meeting at some point.

1. Apologies for Absence: Andrea Gellan (**AG**), Ralph Payne (**RP**), Mhairi Connor (**MC**), Jennifer Ewen (**JE**), Kirsty Ewen (**KE**), Andrena Hammond (**AH**).

2. Declarations of Interest: **LR** – Parent of Ishbel Rodger, **LD** – Parent of Mark and Scott Deans, **JD** - Swimmer

3. Development Plan:

There was a brief discussion. It had been hoped that we would be able to more or less finalise the Draft Development Plan at this meeting but in the circumstances this would not be prudent.

It has been suggested that we should extend the timeframe for the new plan anyway. Sharon MacDonald, Development Director would like to meet us to discuss the plan so that we can ensure that this “fits” with the corporate plan to be published at the AGM.

A provisional date has been set for this as 1st March, two to three weeks before our next committee meeting, which could allow a draft to be prepared for discussion at that meeting. JS will check with Sharon that this date is suitable. Meeting to be in Stirling. **JS**

Also, JS, LR and Sharon to meet up if possible beforehand at a date (evening?) and venue to be decided (possibly Falkirk). JS to discuss with Sharon. **JS**

4. Events for 2015:

5K INDOOR:

The information is now on the website. We have experienced difficulty with the Final, insofar as Aberdeen Aquatic Centre initially offered us the pool and then told us we could not have all of it. If we can find a suitable venue, a final can still be held somewhere. Otherwise, it will be a purely postal swim.

The information on the website is not prominent and lies within the Open Water section, so it may not be intuitive for pool swimmers to find. JS suggested that she speak to the office about raising the profile within the website. Also the information can go into the club bulletin. JS

There was a brief discussion over an idea which had been floated at the Discipline Chairs meeting, that there could be a person attached to each discipline (not a committee member) who could raise the profile of the disciplines at events such as the Scottish OW Championships via Twitter.

SCOTTISH CHAMPIONSHIPS:

KE reports that she has agreed 15th and 16th August with Loch Venacher Sailing Club. Format of the championships to be similar to last year.

"LOCH VENACHER CHALLENGE":

There was a discussion around a possible specific wetsuit event on the under-used day two of the Scottish Championships. It was agreed that this should not be billed as part of the "championships" but rather as a separate event, with separate publicity. This could tie in quite well with proposed "Come and Try" events being organised by Participation at Stirling, being an opportunity to put into practice techniques coached at the Come and Try days. However, the participants would be largely unknown to us, so a short 1km course would appear optimal. This could be in waves if necessary for numbers and/or entry limited. Parking may become an issue and if there were large numbers we may need to run a minibus from Calendar.

We will need to let LVSC know of our intention and ensure that this was acceptable to them before we commit to anything. KE to contact and discuss. KE

Cost of entry should include temporary membership unless we can get an alternative cost-effective insurance option. Some research is needed to determine the appropriate entry fee (entry to Come and Try at Helix is £15, without TM). Note that the cost of any wetsuit hire would be extra (usually around £15).

JS will ask office if there are any insurance options. JS

EAST DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS:

JD has discussed with Lochore and 13th June is an acceptable date to them. Scottish Student Sport has so far been fairly positive towards the notion of running a student event on the same day probably concurrently with planned events. Although this date clashes with one or two other events by others, it was considered that these would not constitute a significant problem. JD

The East District Championships would again be used as the OW Scottish qualifier for the ASA Nationals, provided that this is still acceptable to ASA. LR to contact ASA to ensure that this is the case and that there are no rule changes, such as 'age on' dates and distances. LR

East District will not be holding the Forth Swim this year.

MIDLAND DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS:

SW has advised that the "Half Loch Earn" will be on 4th July 2015. No issues with that date.

NORTH DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS:

JE has suggested 18th July at Loch Morlich. No issues with that date.

Following issues which have arisen in the last two years judging the finish from the beach, it has been suggested that North District should consider an approach to the Sailing Club at the west end of the loch to see if it would be available and suitable as an JE

alternative, also to check that there is no clash with any regatta there as last year.

WEST DISTRICT CHAMPIONSHIPS:

This event still has no fixed venue. LD to discuss with potential venues. Provisionally 5th September

LD

LD has passed an internet link to some planning information on Balgray Reservoir from the local council, on to LR to see what response we should make if any.

LR

RELAY GRAND PRIX:

This was discussed and the principle agreed at the last meeting. Any type of relay (normal sequential or chain relay or pursuit relay, etc) would be acceptable, held at a Grand Prix event.

In discussion, it was agreed that we would operate this for 2015 on a points system more or less on the same lines as the individual grand prix, so there would be no restrictions on the number of teams from each club which could earn points in each event.

LR to draft rules on similar lines to those for the individual GP for agreement prior to publishing.

LR

CAPS:

Agreed that the National Committee would continue to supply the numbered caps to GP events (if requested by the districts). Cost to be based on 75p per cap from the district to the National Committee, number as in the previous year's event, so that districts can budget appropriately.

PUBLICITY AND BRANDING:

Money was ring-fenced from the 2013-14 budget to pay for new buoys with the new Scottish Swimming logo after it is unveiled.

Equipment and branding to be the subject of a separate meeting.

COME AND TRY EVENTS (Organised by Participation – for information):

There will be a pool "Come and Try" event on 31st May which will be open water related (swimming round buoys, etc).

Participation Team are also planning open water (wetsuit) events in June, July and August.

5. Minutes of the Last Meeting (October 2014):

Minutes proposed LD, seconded JG, accepted unanimously.

6. Actions:

LR to update actions list on the basis of the October meeting and the present one and circulate to the committee.

LR

7. Accounts 2015:

Draft budget allocations for 2015, based on same overall budget as last year were agreed.

8. Squad/Team Manager:

Will be the subject of meeting at a later date.

MC, AH,
LR

9. Health and Safety Coordinator:

Building a pathway with the RLSS. JG will be meeting them shortly to discuss next season. We should try to move forward together in partnership.

JG

It would be helpful if weekly training could be provided somewhere during the summer, which RLSS could also use for their own training.

10. Governance:

An ASA qualifying event at East District for 12 year olds would require an amendment of the Scottish Swimming rules, to be proposed at the AGM, rather than just the Open Water Regs.

LR

The Event Guidance will need to be reviewed and if necessary updated for the 2015 season and then published on the website.

LR/JG

11. AOCB:

None.

Next scheduled meeting 21st March 2015. However, there will be a meeting to discuss the development plan, possibly 1st March 2015.

Provisional Calendar Scottish Swimming Open Water Swimming Events 2015

Grand Prix and Scottish Events to be as follows:

Date	Day	Region	Venue	Event	Promoter	Contact for officials
13 June	Sat	Scot	Lochore Meadows, Fife	SASA East District OW Champs	East District (Jennifer Davis)	Ralph Payne ralph26@aol.com Les Rodger lesrodger@blueyonder.co.uk
4 July	Sat	Scot	Loch Earn	SASA Midland OW Champs, Half Loch Earn	Midland District (Sandra Westgate)	Ralph Payne ralph26@aol.com Les Rodger lesrodger@blueyonder.co.uk
18 July (tbc)	Sat	Scot	Loch Morlich (prov), Aviemore	SASA North OW Champs	North District (Jennifer Ewen)	Ralph Payne ralph26@aol.com Les Rodger lesrodger@blueyonder.co.uk
15 & 16 Aug	Sat	Scot	Loch Venacher, Callander	Scottish OW Championships (two days)	Scottish OW Committee (Kirsty Ewen)	Ralph Payne ralph26@aol.com Les Rodger lesrodger@blueyonder.co.uk
16 Aug	Sun	Scot	Loch Venacher, Callander	“Loch Venacher Challenge” (new challenge event)	Scottish OW Committee (Kirsty Ewen)	Ralph Payne ralph26@aol.com Les Rodger lesrodger@blueyonder.co.uk
5 Sept (tbc)	Sat	Scot	TBC	SASA West District OW Champs	West District (Lynne Deans)	Ralph Payne ralph26@aol.com Les Rodger lesrodger@blueyonder.co.uk

YeAABA Swim Calendar 2015

Event	Date	Start Time	Contact
Club Only Single Tay Women	Saturday 30 May	13.00 hrs	Joyce McIntosh 07525179294 joyce.mcintosh@blueyonder.co.uk
Club Only Single Tay Men	Sunday 31 May	13:40 hrs	Joyce McIntosh 07525179294 joyce.mcintosh@blueyonder.co.uk
Balmerino	Saturday 13 June	13:00 hrs	Joyce McIntosh 07525179294 joyce.mcintosh@blueyonder.co.uk
Tayport Cup	Sunday 14 June	13:20 hrs	Joyce McIntosh 07525179294 joyce.mcintosh@blueyonder.co.uk
Monifieth	Saturday 27 June	09:40 hrs	Jenny Spalding 07983637257 Jenny_spalding1975@hotmail.co.uk
Dash	Saturday 27 June	12:00 Noon	Jenny Spalding 07983637257 Jenny_spalding1975@hotmail.co.uk
Broughty Ferry Harbour Relay (One Mile)	Sunday 28 June	12:00 Noon	Jenny Spalding 07983637257 Jenny_spalding1975@hotmail.co.uk
Midland District Half Loch Earn	Saturday 4 July	10:00 hrs & 12:30 hrs	Sandra Westgate 07875508254 sandra.westgate@btinternet.com
Double Tay	Saturday 11 July	10:50 hrs	Jenny Spalding 07983637257 Jenny_spalding1975@hotmail.co.uk
Woodhaven	Sunday 12 July	10:20 hrs	Margaret Moodie 07462221001 margaretmoodie@hotmail.com
Veterans Women	Saturday 25 July	09:30 hrs	Claire Moodie 07462866902 clairemoodie@hotmail.co.uk
Veterans Men	Sunday 26 July	10:30 hrs	Claire Moodie 07462866902 clairemoodie@hotmail.co.uk
Midland District Senior Championship	Sunday 1 August	14:30hrs	Sandra Westgate 07875508254 sandra.westgate@btinternet.com
Midland District Junior Stannergate	Sunday 1 August	16:30 hrs	Sandra Westgate 07875508254 sandra.westgate@btinternet.com
Loch Earn	Saturday 22 August	10:00 hrs	Margaret Moodie 07462221001 margaretmoodie@hotmail.com
Crannog	Sunday 23 August	12:00 hrs	Margaret Moodie 07462221001 margaretmoodie@hotmail.com
Discovery Mile	Saturday 29 August	15:15 hrs	Sandra Westgate 07875508254 sandra.westgate@btinternet.com
Club Senior	Sunday 6 September	09:45hrs	Jenny Spalding 07983637257 Jenny_spalding1975@hotmail.co.uk

Open Water Swimming Committee

17th January 2015

North District Report

North District Open Water Committee

There is now a committee of five for North District Open Water Swimming;

Jennifer Ewen (Convenor) – Buckie

Wendy Kaczmarek – Deveron

Lynne Barnett – Deveron

Charlie Smiles - Deveron

Helen Beveridge – Inverness

North District Championships

A date for the North District Championships will hopefully be agreed at the meeting following an approved date for the Scottish Championships.

The age categories for the championships will include 13-14 years and 15-16 years for the 3 km event and 12 years, 13-14 years and 15-16 years in the 800 metres race. There will also be a masters category decided on an age handicapped basis.

North District Team

Subject to agreement at the next North District meeting funding will be requested for £125 each for North District swimmers. A contribution of £150.00 to SASA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix Prize Fund will also be requested.

Jennifer Ewen

North District Open Water Convenor

West District Open Water Convenors Report January 2015

Not much to report I'm afraid. Still planning to have the West District Championships either the last weekend in August or the first weekend in September. The major problem for the West District is always the location ... our main venues having water quality problems or safety boat problems.

I think we may go back to Loch Ard this year but will discuss at the next meeting.

Lynne Deans

West District Convenor