

Open Water Committee Meeting Minutes

Saturday 16th May, 2015 at 10am
National Swimming Academy, Stirling

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|-----------------|-----------|------------------------------|
| Les Rodger | LR | Chair |
| Jim Gallacher | JG | Safety Co-ordinator |
| Lynne Deans | LD | West District Convenor |
| Sandra Westgate | SW | Midland District Convenor |
| Jennifer Ewen | JE | North District Convenor |
| Mhairi Connor | MC | Team-Squad Manager |
| Andrena Hammond | AH | Open Water Head Coach |
| Kirsty Ewen | KE | Domestic Events Co-ordinator |
| Jayne Smith | JS | Scottish Swimming |

The meeting was therefore quorate.

| Item No. | Action |
|---|---|
| 1. Apologies for Absence: | Ralph Payne (RP), Jennifer Davies (JD). |
| 2. Declarations of Interest: | LR – Parent of Ishbel Rodger, LD – Parent of Mark and Scott Deans |
| 3. Minutes of Meeting of 21 March 2015: | Proposed LD, seconded JG, minutes accepted without dissent. |
| 4. Matters Arising and Items on Action List: | |
| <u>1 Equipment order:</u> new logo to be added to paddlers' bibs. New hi-vis vests to be ordered. | |
| Discussion on whether vests should be colour-coded and if so, in how many colours. Since safety generally wear lifejackets, no point in coloured vests. Agreed one colour for STOs and one for Event Staff. To be ordered | JG |
| Inventory of kit will be needed | LD/LR/JG |
| Buoys ordered – JG will check delivery | |
| About half equipment budget committed. | |
| We will need a container to store equipment which is presently filling LD's garage. LR to seek possible container solution, if possible before Scottish, so that equipment can be moved directly to it at that time. | LR |
| Marketing is "on the case" with a Scottish Swimming branded gazebo. | |
| Districts should note that a van hire will be needed to move the kit to events. | |
| Discussion on event barriers. These can be hired for events. If we buy our own we will need storage to accommodate this too. | |

2 Meeting to discuss Team plans will be held 19/6/15, probably at Stirling **MC/AH/LR**

3 Education is progressing the OW Coach qualification with ASA. This would not be a CPD module. AH has a Tutor's meeting on 19 June and will see what arises at that time. JS to send details of the course to AH and MC. **JS**

5 Held over: there may not be anything which is a perfect fit.

8 West District venue: good change that Loch Ken in Galloway will be a suitable location. Need a site visit. **LD**

13 Branded caps. Initial research suggests this is impracticable but AH suggested contacting Eddie Wright. **LR**

17 Flyer for Venachar Mile prepared but need Eventbrite details. Agreed to swap logos over and add "age at year end".

21 STO training – LR to produce a flyer to promote recruitment **LR**

23 Safety Officer training – first course already started. Flyer (see 21) to be amended to include this.

24 OW training at Broughty Ferry – information to be passed by SW to office.

Other points will be discussed as they arise.

5. **Correspondence:**

LR gave brief report on meeting with Nova and Discipline Chairs Meeting and brief explanation of Scottish Swimming Development Plan, under which our own plan will sit.

We should expect an email soon with details of kit and process for ordering. Unchanged from last year. The Speedo sponsorship will end in 2016. Shirts will be white or blue, with the discipline logo on.

Nothing heard from Nova since the meeting we had.

Strathmore can supply water for Scottish events. We should find out if this can be provided for the Scottish OW. **LR**

The European event in 2018 will likely be held in Loch Lomond but negotiations are still under way. LR stated that we should supply STOs for the event.

AH expressed surprise that British Swimming is not supplying GB kit and has raised the matter with Ally.

6. **Budget/Accounts:**

Expenditure is still very low, as usual in May. Brief discussion over cost codes, etc but no issues.

7. **Safety Officer Training:**

First workshop has been held in Dundee by Doug Milne with five attendees. (3 YeAABA, 2 Aquanauts).

We have another three or more interested in Midland District. Other districts to raise interest in this in their districts. **LD/JE/JD**

- 8. Safety:**
 East District: Very close and needs a site visit, particularly since we have not seen the venue for three years. LR and JG to agree date with JD. [Subsequently agreed 23 May] **LR/JG/JD**
- North District: Also need site visit to new venue at sailing club. Sunday 21st June was suggested. JE to confirm. We will need a boat to have a look at water depths. **JE**
- Scottish: It would be prudent to have a site visit shortly after closing.
- Midland: arrangements proceeding.
- West: still organising venue. Site visit to Loch Ken will be needed. **LD/JG/LR**
- Canoeists: problems with canoeists last year pulling out at the last minute. JG has been reaching out to canoe clubs recently for the 2015 events. It was agreed we need good, experienced reliable paddlers for this, whom we know. JG asked for guidance on how much donation he is authorised to make to the relevant canoe clubs. Discussed and figure agreed.
- 9. Level 1 Guidance:**
 As agreed at the last meeting, LR had produced a discussion document. Unanimous agreement that we should proceed with this. However, we should produce and publish consultation to check that there are no complications and nothing we have not considered.
 There followed a discussion in detail on the various aspects. LR to produce new document based on the discussions and circulate, then send to Districts for feedback. Feedback to be given by 10th August. Positive and negative, please. **LR**
 LR willing to attend a meeting if this would help clarify. **LR**
- 10. Domestic Events:**
5km Indoor: about 70 entries. LR to check times before we publish. Medals order from **LR**
 Scottish Swimming but not yet arrived.
 LD to give KE 5k male trophy.
 LR to email for 5k female trophy
 Agreed to give these out this year to the fastest swimmers (no final)
 Entry possibly down due to absence of a final.
 Medals to be distributed.
- Venachar Mile: There was a discussion over the possibility of ring-fencing places for development swimmers. We will keep an eye on this and may introduce but more likely to be practicable next year.
 Closing date to be 31 July.
 KE will send details out with acceptances for Scottish Champs.
 KE will add an information pack to swimmers with prelim information on West Districts and on events in 2016.
 JS advises that we don't need temporary memberships. Agreed to leave admission prices as is (£20 and £30).
 We should obtain a license. **KE**
- JS gave demo of Eventbrite and KE satisfied that there is sufficient control to adopt this method of entry.
- Scottish Champs: KE has provisionally booked some rooms and will now confirm and ask Stirling to pay for them. We will need non-championship medals. **KE**
 We should do the Saturday night meal again and include the canoeists. This was very good for morale last year.

KE to ask Venachar if any buoys have been moved.

KE

11. District Events 2015:

Mostly discussed already.

Catering at Loch Morlich for STOs, events and canoeists, etc: Coffee and sandwiches should be fine.

12. Open Water Coach and 13. National Squad/Team:

Selection policy amended to include selection for GB Squads, Camps and Events.

Also add that attendance at these when they clash with Scottish GP events will not be held against Team members. LR to amend document and send to Stirling to go on website.

LR

Discussion meeting to be held after the East District (19th June, see 4.2 above, sometime in the morning). LR to ask if any rooms available.

LR

German Champs 2-5 July

LEN 1 August (Spain)

LEN 22 August (NL)

LEN 29 August (Denmark)

Cyprus International 3 October – LEN Cup Final?

Total budget for Team/Squad events is £6500.00.

2/3/4 swimmers for these events but we aim to take more to Cyprus if possible.

Settle ASA squad after the East District OW.

14. Technical Officials:

Discuss training with RP at the East Districts.

15. District Reports: Nothing to add to written reports.

16. Communication:

Mailing list has been updated.

17. AOCB:

None.

Next Committee Meeting: Sunday of Scottish Championships to make recommendations for Open Water Awards.

Open Water Report

YeAABA

All licences and risk assessments for all swims are completed and submitted to open water committee for approval. The Discovery Mile swim has had to be changed for this year as we cannot have access to the slip way at Discovery Point due to the current build for the V & A Museum.

Open Water Training

The open water training season will started on Sunday 19th April 2015 at 2.00pm. For more information about YeAABA and harbour training and swims can be found at the website www.yeaaba.org.

Midland District Championships

Half Loch Earn championship Saturday 4th July 2015 has been approved by the open water committee. Entry forms are available on the Midland District and SASA website. No entries at present.

Midland Senior and Junior Stannergate Saturday 1st August 2015 – There are problems with this swim as we cannot exit slip way at Discovery Point. I have found another exit point and booked a venue for changing and showers. The course is now 3 miles 395yds instead of four miles. I am still waiting for charges from YeAABA for boat hire and equipment.

NORTH DISTRICT OPEN WATER REPORT

16.05.15

North District Championships

The OW licence for this meet has been requested, and entry forms are available for download in the Open Water section of the Scottish Swimming web page.

Temporary Scottish Swimming memberships will be available for this event.

Swimmers not affiliated to Scottish swimming will be able to apply for a temporary SASA membership, at a cost of £10 (made payable to SASA), and be covered for this event.

Wet suits can be worn for the event but no award will be given it will be time only.

As to date I have not had any officials contact me regarding Open Water officiating.

So far I have no confirmation regarding safety cover for the Open Water Championships this will be further discussed at the meeting.

Jennifer Ewen

North District Convenor

West District Open Water Convenors Report May 2015

We now have a provisional date and venue for the West Districts Open Water Swimming Championships ... Saturday, 6th September, 2015 at the Galloway Activity Centre near Dumfries. Website is www.lochken.co.uk

The safety boat issues at Balgray Reservoir in East Renfrewshire are progressing very slowly so that venue is not an option this year.

The staff at the Galloway Activity Centre are keen to try out our event this year and have all the facilities we require ie. their own safety boats and crews, their own kayakers, all showers, changing rooms and toilet facilities we need and briefing rooms and catering needs. We have provisionally booked the facilities for that date and subject to myself, Les and Jim going on a visit to the venue then we will have our championships there this year.

Lynne Deans

West District Convenor