

Les Rodger	LR	Chair
Jim Gallacher	JG	Safety Co-ordinator
Richard Collins	RC	Team/Squad Manager
Julie August	JA	Midland District Convenor
Jennifer Ewen	JE	North District Convenor
Jayne Smith	JS	Scottish Swimming

The meeting was therefore quorate.

Item No.	Action
1. Apologies for Absence: Ralph Payne (RP), Kirsty Ewen (KE), Lynne Deans (LD), Andrena Hammond (AH), Sandra Westgate (SW).	
2. Declarations of Interest: None	
3. Minutes of Meeting of January 2016: Proposed JA, seconded JE, minutes accepted without dissent.	
4. Matters Arising and Items on Action List:	
1 <u>Coach CPD Module</u> : JS reports that this is well into preparation and we can expect a module finalised within two months or so. Thank you to Colleen Blair (OW Statagic Lead) and Alan Reed (Education) for the work put into this. After discussion, it was agreed that an entry qualification of (pool) Coach Level 1 would probably be better, rather than Level 2 but Jayne will speak with Colleen and Alan for their opinion. CPD Module more likely to appeal to existing pool Coaches, rather than a full qualification. There will be a pool-based Come and Try on 14 th May, which is the same day as the next OW Committee Meeting, so it was agreed to pencil in this date for an initial CPD OW Coach training session as a trial utilising the swimmers in the pool for coach training. LR suggested that the Committee Meeting that day could be moved back to a noon start to allow use of the Conference room for classroom sessions if needs be. Draft of module to be emailed to AH for comment. Document to be "ratified" as soon as possible.	JS/AH
2 <u>Equipment Storage</u> : A wooden shed would fit in the space available at the boathouse (9ft by 9ft approx) but we do not know yet if we will receive the budget to do this.	
4 <u>Eventbrite Entries</u> : JS and KE should discuss.	KE/JS
5 <u>Great Run Co</u> : No news as yet. Meeting to be arranged.	
6 <u>Loch at Stirling</u> : Still appears to be at "feasibility" stage.	
8 <u>Timing equipment</u> : No further action to follow.	
9 <u>Marquee</u> : JS will obtain a cost for a second marquee with a branded room and unbranded walls. Wait 'til we have budget approval before purchase.	JS

11 Parkas: AH has a cost of £45 roughly plus VAT. Info from Speedo suggests they can do black parkas but they might not have hoods, which we definitely want. Also, we don't want black. JS will check to see if Speedo can supply what we want or if we are allowed to approach another supplier. JS
Ideally, we want these by the end of July for the ASA OW Nationals.

13 Rescue Points Buoys: These cannot be branded. Minimum order 5 or 6. There was a discussion about how effective these might be but it was agreed they should be ordered as a trial. They have multiple potential uses (such as finish) even if they did not do for the planned use. JG

15 Water Safety Training for STOs: We should organise this for a timeslot at one of the early Events in the season (East or Midland?). JG

17 Darnley Dams: Meeting took place. Anticipate this may come on stream in 2017 or more likely 2018. We will be consulted as to OW swimming training needs but these are likely to be similar to needs for a wakeboarding centre.

24 Paypal/Eventbrite for general events entry? Leave over for 2017.

27 Advise Refs of dates: Done. Issues with East date.

32 Video: Suggest this to be at SNOWs. JA also has contacts. JS and JA to investigate and report back so that we can decide best approach. JS/JA

5. **Correspondence:**

Equipment Storage: See comments above.

Great Run Company: JS will remind Forbes of this but meetings are to be organised by Great Run Co and Euro 2018, not led by Scottish Swimming.

Darnley Dams: See above.

STO Committee: Suggestion from STO Committee that there may be mutual interest in a member of the OW Committee attending STO Committee Meetings. Agreed unanimously that this is an excellent plan. LR to make contact. Since STO meetings are at weekends and RP cannot generally make weekend meetings (being committed poolside), our representative would likely be LR. LR

FINA News Release: This suggests, in effect, that wetsuits will be required in all OW events to be held in temperatures up to 18 degrees (ie typical of Scottish climate) after September 2016. However, we have not seen the wording of the rule yet. Also, no info on FINA-approved wetsuits at present.

There was a discussion surrounding possible ways of handling the change. There was a general acceptance that Scotland would likely have to follow FINA for all championships events at least but with a lower minimum temperature than 16 degrees (we currently have a lower minimum anyway). However, there was consideration as to whether there may be an option for non-wetsuits for Level 2 events, provided there was full risk assessment of each event and the organisers provide sufficient safety cover. No decision was taken and it was agreed to discuss again in May and then finalise our position in October after the new rules are published. Agenda
May

6. **Budget:**

2016 Application made and now resubmitted in new format. We should hear the result after the Board Meeting at end April

7. Domestic Events 2016:

SNOWs: Add check-in times (see 2015) to entry form. Also correct typo in the dates.

Ralph and Lesley can attend. Rooms to be booked to be advised to KE.

Agreed we should leave the references to lunches off the forms until we know more. KE

This can be dealt with on the information document sent to entrants later.

Midland: Draft Event Entry Info looks fine.

Medals – normally districts give district medals in open as well as district categories.

Red Cross – Jim will contact.

Catering – soup tea coffee sandwiches should be fine for helpers, safety and officials, say 30. Others should be advised that there is a cafe on site.

Setting up – Should be okay for night before. JA to find out if JG can camp overnight. JA

Recorder – could be JA if required. Plenty of time to organise.

Boats – RLSS one boat. Monikie to supply second safety boat. Third boat (and cox) will be needed for Referee.

We must be off the water by 5pm.

North: JE will be doing a site visit shortly. Same provision of boats required as above (Midland).

Buoys to be put out the night before. RC advised that there is a hostel for military use nearby. He will check out permissions for this.

West: Entry info should state that the team relay requires a wetsuit (though the centre will provide these) LD

East: No event info supplied by JD, no license application made. No contact from ED Convenor. After a discussion it was agreed that LR should email JD and East District and advise that if sufficient reassurance has not been given by next weekend, we will move the ASA qualifier to Midland (and amend the Midland programme as required to accommodate this). LR

Venacher Mile and Half Mile: Discussion.

Numbers agreed 30 for Venacher Mile and 30 for Half Mile. Determining factor may be parking.

Suggested timings: Briefing for Half Mile at 09:00. Half Mile from 09:30 to 10:30.

Briefing for Mile at 10:30. Mile from 11:00 to noon. KE

This should be okay to allow time for safety briefings for the 10k SNOWs which follows.

Loch Ken Challenge: Dont know what LD has in mind but it would be fairly simple to use the template for the Venacher Challenges for the Loch Ken Challenge if she wishes. LD

8. Team/ Squad:

Either RC or AH intend to be present at ASA OW Nationals to provide a support for swimmers, though swimmers will technically be swimming for their clubs.

Programme in summer to include Faros Marathon (if invited) and probably the Final round of the French cup (preliminary 6 to 8 swimmers, from Development Squad, 10th and 11th September) and also Cyprus (2 to 4 swimmers – Scottish Team, 8th and 9th October).

The OW qualification route for the ASAs has changed such that the first three swimmers from each age group qualify. This could now be up to 42 swimmers. The Scottish Development Squad should be selected from that group. This will mean a minor change to the Team/Squad selection criteria to be published to allow RC and AH discretion over the selection from the qualifiers. LR

Richard suggested that a certificate or letter of congratulation should be sent to those who qualify for the ASAs.

A Training event has been suggested to be held between the ASA Qualifiers and the ASA event itself. This to be for swimmers to practice and to meet AH and RC. Parents should be involved in terms of recruitment for STO, Safety or general volunteers, meeting LR, JG and/or RP. It was suggested that a group of the qualifying swimmers be invited. Potentially at Lochore, which has classrooms, etc. LR to contact Lochore to discuss costs and options.

LR

Agreed Scottish Team should be in Royal Blue polos with OW logo.

LR to email Speedo catalogue to AH and RC.

LR

9. Safety:

This Friday am pencilled in for equipment audit by LR and JG. To be confirmed.

LR/JG

Agreed cost of £50 to £100 for JG to attend safety course at Loch Venacher Sailing Club.

JG expects some work will be required by SW and JG to get sufficient kayakers this year.

10. Technical Officials:

JA advises that Joyce MacIntosh and Margaret Moodie say they have not been given a certificate to indicate that they are qualified Safety Officers.

JA asked to request that Joyce be asked to check her online membership details, where it should be recorded. If not, then please advise and this will be fixed. The Committee has no information on Margaret's status in the training process.

JA

11. Governance:

The changes to the FINA rules will come about in September. However, we will have to submit any corresponding changes to the Scottish Regs for approval by Board by November. This gives us very little time for consultation.

JA advises that she feels she will be able accurately to represent Midland District and YeAABA's opinions on the matter at meetings of the Scottish Committee.

12. Communication:

LR will email mailing list for each district to convenors for updating.

LR

14. AOCB:

None.

Next Committee Meeting: Saturday 14th May 2016, Stirling. This will be either at 10am as usual or may be noon (see above). To be advised. See Item 4.1 above.

OPEN WATER SWIMMING COMMITTEE

19th March 2016

North District Convenor's Report

Our championships will be on Saturday 30th July 2016, at Loch Morlich

	<u>Briefing/Start</u>
Event 1: Senior 5 km	09:30/10:00
Event 2: Junior 3 km	12:30/13:00
Event 3: Senior 1.5 km	14:30/15:00
Event 4: Junior 800 metres	15:30/15:45
Event 5: Relay	16:15/16.30

Times subject to change.

Senior 5 km event and junior 3km event are the distances of the 2016 Scottish Open Water Swimming Grand Prix Series.

North District Team

Funding has been agreed at £125 each for North District swimmers. A contribution of £150.00 to SASA Open Water Swimming Grand Prix Prize Fund was approved at the North District AGM.

A site visit is planned within the next 3 weeks to carry out an inspection of the facilities.

Jennifer Ewen

North District Open Water Convenor

FINA PRESS RELEASE

Following the position expressed by open water swimmers and respective coaches, the Bureau decided to maintain the Open Water swimwear equipment rules unchanged until the conclusion of the Rio 2016 Olympic Games. During this competition, FINA, together with the Rio 2016 Organising Committee will take all necessary measures to ensure the maximum possible levels of security and safety for all athletes in the men's and women's 10km races. Starting on September 2016, the following rules will apply for Open Water events, concerning low temperature of the water:

- The lowest possible temperature of the water should remain at 16°C
- Between 16°C and 18°C, wetsuits + bathing cap are mandatory
- Between 18°C and 20°C, wetsuits are optional
- Over 20°C, wetsuits are not allowed.