

ASA SOUTH WEST REGION

President Ms S. Dors

Minutes of the Masters Subcommittee meeting held on Sunday 5th March 2017 at the Holiday Inn Taunton 10:30am

Those present;

Robert Margetts (RM)	ASA SW Regional Chairman
Chris Tremellen (CT)	ASA SW Region Secretary
Rosemary Johnson (RJ)	Somerset Masters Rep
Catherine Ralph (CR)	Cornwall Masters Rep
Brian Armstrong (BA)	Gloucestershire Masters Rep
Mark Robertson (MR)	Wiltshire Masters Rep
Karen Yendole (KY)	Dorset Masters Rep
Sue Haigh (SH)	Devon and SW Region Masters Rep
Sue Dors (SD)	ASA SW Region President
Sharon Lock (SL)	ASA Masters Swimming Officer

1. No apologies
2. SH welcomed everybody and invited RM to chair the meeting which he accepted.
3. The minutes of the previous meeting were looked at but as the last meeting was in 2014 there were no matters arising & nothing to be acted upon.
4.
 - i. SL spoke to the meeting. Firstly flagging up the problem of communication and telling county reps that the email addresses for the masters who are members of clubs in County can be obtained from the ASA. Although these are only the members who have filled in their OMS membership on the masters website and tick the box which allows their details to be shared. SL urged the county reps to remind their masters swimmers about the online Masters website and to make sure that masters who are listed on the website keep the ASA informed (by phone) of any changes to their email address.
 - ii. There was discussion about the two systems used for recording results for the masters compared to the age group swimmers. These are two separate databases. This year Masters will have to have achieved qualifying times which must be recorded on the Masters database in order that they can enter the SC Nationals in Sheffield in October.
 - iii. Masters are also trying to develop a presence in open water swimming "An open water project" is being developed.
5.
 - i. There was discussion on the Inter County event this year in light of the inclusion of South Wales into the Regional Event. The event will take place on the 19th November at Millfield.

SL confirmed that all swimmers who compete in a county team in the Inter County event will have to be level 2 category swimmers. However temporary membership, which can only be used for one competition costs £15 going down to £10 if the region forfeits their £5!

- ii. There was discussion around what Masters swimmers want from their Regional Event and the results of KY's survey was discussed.
 - a. There were many different opinions put forward and the decision that this year the event will be held as short-course event was made ... the venue is hoped to be Hutton Moor in WSM, as Millfield is due to close on 1st July for replacing the liner and may not be usable for the Masters event on 24th September. The event will take place from 11 AM to 4 PM it was decided to leave the program as is.
 - b. It was suggested that the event needed to be advertised more widely and that this year it could be advertised as an event in which the swimmers will have the opportunity to make qualifying times for the SC Nationals in October.
6. SH reported that the Masters regional development day would take place on June 11 at Mount Kelly School in the new 50m pool. As soon as details are finalised a flyer and application form will be sent out to County reps in order that they can advertise it widely throughout the counties.
7. The regional decathlon winner is Simon Veale with a score of 6238 which placed him fifth nationally. Kalon and Levin Veale also placed in top 10 nationally in the decathlon. Totnes Swimming Club placed second in the men's team section of the decathlon and Gloucester Masters placed third in their women's team section.
8. County Representative reports

Wiltshire MR

There are many very good Masters swimmers in the county but getting them to complete is sometimes very difficult.

Somerset RJ

Somerset and Gloucestershire joined forces for their championships but numbers competing were still quite low.

Millfield School have started a club for Masters. This is in term time only. They are also advertising swimming lessons and stroke improvement for adult swimmers.

Gloucestershire BA

At the moment Gloucester masters offers the best opportunities for Masters training in the county.

However a new Club is being formed in Bristol which is an amalgamation of City of Bristol, Bishopworth and Bristol Central. The new City of Bristol club will be primarily based around the Hengrove facility and there are several training slots being made available to Masters swimmers. BA asked if the British Masters could be held in Bristol's new 50 meter pool. SL encouraged the pool managers to bid for the event.

BA also reported that the recent launch event confirming Bristol as a European City of Sport for 2017 was not attended by any swimming clubs or ASA representatives as the invitation was not passed on to the local swimming community by Alan Greene, who also did not attend the event. This sort of thing reflects poorly on the county and the region and SD would be investigating the matter further.

Cornwall CR

County interclub gala was held at Bodmin on 7th May 2016. Active recruitment from Feb of 2016 resulted in a good turnout for this gala with nearly 250 swims – producing some profit to the county. CR proposed combining the event with Devon at the CCASA swimming meeting on 6th Sept 2016 and this was supported.

Cornwall achieved a full team of 35 swimmers for the Inter County gala and came a respectable 20th Nationally, which was a considerable improvement on results from 2015. The growing interest from the senior (18+) swimmers both male and female is encouraging.

In Cornwall the interest for masters swimming is definitely increasing. Finding pool time to train is difficult and most sessions in which masters train seem to be either not coached or unofficially coached. There are exceptions to this with a very enthusiastic coach at Caradon. Enthusing younger masters swimmers and senior swimmers has been successful in cascading interest in other Cornish clubs and CR was optimistic they could increase their masters representation at local, regional and National events.

Devon SH

The Devon County Masters Championships went ahead but were not well supported. Cornwall and Devon are in negotiations about swimming their County Championships together.

This year Devon County ASA paid for a Development afternoon for it's masters swimmers (a yoga/stretching session followed by pool training.) This was enjoyed and appreciated by the masters who attended and it is hoped that this will be an annual event.

The Devon County team were more competitive this year at the Inter-County event in Dorchester and were successful in winning the Regional shield and coming 5th nationally.

Congratulations to Simon Veale for winning the regional Decathlon Cup, placing 5th nationally and to Kalon and Levin Veale for both placing in the decathlon top 10. Also congratulations to Totnes who placed second in the men's team section.

Dorset KY

Dorset has 9 clubs catering for masters within whole club and two masters only clubs.

5 clubs catering for open water

Dorset masters comp went ahead in Feb 2016. There were 230 swims from 60 swimmers from 8 clubs taking part.

In the Inter County event Dorset held on to it's 2015 position of 7th.

9. AOB

SL reported that the national conference next year maybe just for county and regional reps. Counties would be asked to pay the travel and accommodation.

SH asked if it was possible to have a generic email address as SW ASA Masters Rep. CT to look into this.

SD commented that from a spectator point of view the Inter County event was very enjoyable.