

ASA East Region

Swimming Officials Group (SOG)



Minutes of a meeting held at the Chippenham Village Hall on
Saturday 25th September 2010

Present:	Mr David Metcalf	Swimming Officials Manager
	Mr Chris Galer	ER Board Member
	Mr Stephen Baldrance	Bedfordshire ASA
	Mr Bob Clarke	Cambridgeshire ASA-substitute
	Mrs Marilyn Hughes	Hertfordshire ASA
	Mrs Kay McGuire	Essex ASA
	Mr Tony Smith	Norfolk ASA
	Mr Don Neate	Suffolk ASA
	Mr Paul Kendall	Open Water
	Not represented	Disability

Also in attendance non-voting

Mr David Robinson	Masters Swimming Committee
Mr Geoffrey Simpson	Cambridgeshire ASA-substitute

Apologies:	Mr Bob Outtram	Specialist (Disability and IT)
	Mrs Ann Smith	Cambridgeshire ASA

		Action
10/16	Swimming Officials Group – New Terms of Reference (ToR) DM informed the meeting that the terms of reference for all committees had been reworked in March 2010 by the Region for consistency, but, in essence have not changed much for the SOG. It is proposed that all committees will be more representative of its membership, with the opportunity for each county to have a representative. DR made a presentation to the committee on behalf of the Masters Committee informing members that since the new format, he was not able to attend as a voting member as before. He would like to attend as a voting member or as an independent member/specialist. A discussion took place and it was agreed to ask the ER Board that the Masters Committee should have a voting place on the SOG by amending the ToR. It was accepted that they did not qualify as a specialist group.	DM
10/17	The minutes of the meeting 6 th February 2010 had been previously circulated and accepted as a record of the meeting	

10/17 There were no matters arising that were not already on the agenda

10/18 **National Swimming Officials Group Update (NSOG)**

DM circulated draft minutes of the meeting 12-09-2010 and reported on the discussions that took place.

Points of note:-

- FINA have stated on their website that swimsuits do not have to have the FINA approved logo on them for BL 3 & 4 providing they meet the shape requirement. Further info on the FINA website.
- The NSOG discussed the merits of the ASA Guidance and agreed to remove the majority of the information when the handbook is re-printed. The following guidelines to be retained and or amended. SW1, 3,11 & 13
- **County Officials** - Reports had been received that several Counties referenced qualifications as "County Qualified". It was noted that no such qualification exists. Officials are either British Swimming qualified or not. It is permissible for officials to work at a higher level than their qualification in some levels of licensed meet and club competitions. For example an experienced official qualified as judge level 2S may assume the duties of the Referee at a meet licensed at a level 4.
- **Regional Championships** – officials duties and rotation should reflect that of the national championships
- **Young Officials** - There is no Young Officials Development Officer. Provision of the young timekeeper's packs is continuing however, polo shirts are no longer provided.
- **Contemporary Issues:** This course has been in existence for 3 years and requires some updating. Changes have been made to the Code of Ethics and Child Protection training.

10/19 **County updates – Officials training**

DM reminded everyone of the system that operates well in the ER through a SPOC (Single Point of Contact) and then to each County SPOC for Officials. Lists of officials in training were circulated and it was noted that some counties still had officials apparently in training from 2007 & 2008 that had not completed a poolside assessment.

DM

An up to date electronic list will be circulated to the counties by DM for drop offs to be identified. Discussions took place also concerning the merits of Timekeeper training and outstanding training issues.

It was agreed that the contact lists on the ER website for SOG members would have hyperlinked regional email addresses to the individuals private email address.

10/20 **ER Performance Figures**

Details of the SOG KPI's were circulated for the period 1st April – 30th June. The national committee now no longer wish details of TK's to be included.

10/21	<p>Referee Training</p> <p>Trainees 2011 – A news item to be created on the ER website highlighting the last day for entries is now 31/12/2010.</p> <p>Trainees 2010 – It was reported that a number of candidates had dropped out, far higher than in previous years. Some candidates found it hard going and the training was far different to the current judge training they experienced. DM had expressed the regions concerns at the National SOG, this is reported in the NSOG minutes as below, as other areas had similar experiences :-</p> <p><i>“It was suggested that those candidates wishing to undertake Referee training should only do so upon recommendation. Many candidates lacked experience and had not appreciated the intensity of the course, thus resulting in a high dropout rate. It was further suggested that the course fee should be increased to reflect the amount of work and level of commitment required. These points to be forwarded to the British Swimming Officials Group for discussion”</i></p> <p>Referee Refresher Course – It had been a success with 31 referees from all counties attending on the 8th May 2010. It was felt by those who attended that a similar course for officials who are not referees, but regularly act as such, would also benefit from such a course (J2 & JL2S). It was agreed that this was a good idea and it was suggested that suitable persons should be nominated via the county reps. This would also to include those referees that could not make this year’s course.</p>	Action DM DM/CG/DR
10/22	<p>Officials Courses 2011</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval for contemporary issues training which will be via the counties, as it was agreed officials were more likely to attend, if held locally.• ER to run two Disability courses, 1 by the SOG, the other via the Disability Committee.• FINA Rules updates to continue, it was recognised that the presentation needs updating now, as the rule changes have been in being since 1st Jan.• Refresher course for those acting as referees at Chippenham VH.• Open Water – Local appreciation/ introduction course for Regional Officials• Referee Training – 4 central training days as per 2010	DM/CG/DR/PK All County Reps
10/23	<p>SOG Development Plan 2011-12</p> <p>The current version was circulated and following a revision of the plan, it was agreed that next years would be similar to the current one. DM to amend and tweak this year’s appropriately and present to the ER Board for approval</p>	DM
10/24	<p>Licensing Of Officials</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The meeting was reminded that since 1st September 2010 for all Level 1 & 2 meets, which also included County Championships, that all judges must be licensed.• Renewals that are due in Spring 2011 will be sent out automatically by the IOS, this will included details of mandatory CPD’s that officials have recorded as attending (Contemp. Issues & FINA Rules updates). DM to write to all officials that qualify for the Region to pay for the renewal fee, as per the agreed protocol.• New licence applications are sent out by DM with the pass certificates	DM

- The new application form for Officials with a qualification older than 1 year was circulated.

10/25

Winter Championships 2011

Invitations have gone out, currently with sufficient numbers to run the gala.

10/26

AOB

MH asked for clarification on qualification levels of officials working at a level 4 licensed gala. It was agreed by all that the current Open Meet Licensing Guidelines (rev 13), state that all officials must be registered members of the ASA. The minimum qualification of JL2S being held by the official acting as referee. Therefore only the referee has to be min JL2S, the others, only ASA members.

KM asked for clarification of the pass mark parameter for timekeeper assessments, as some examiners had stated it was 0.1 secs. It was clarified as being equal time to +/- (.00 to .30). This is recorded on the reverse of the BS Timekeeper Practical Poolside Assessment sheet.

10/27

Recommendation to the Regional Board

Request for the ER SOG ToR to be amended to include ER Masters Committee representative as a voting member of the committee.

10/28

Date of the next meeting

12th February 2011 – Venue, new ER Office.