



ASA East Region
Minutes of the Masters Committee Meeting
18th January 2017

Present	Sharon Perry (SP)	East Masters Manager
	Gerry Metcalf (GM)	East Board member
	Paul Clarke (PC)	Bedfordshire
	Martyn Fresher (MF)	Cambridgeshire
	Graham Huggett (GH)	Hertfordshire
	Sally Lelean (SL)	Norfolk
	David Robinson (DR)	Suffolk substitute
	Amy Bryant (AB)	Regional Development Officer

18/01 Apologies

Doug Clarke, Essex

16/02 Declarations of conflict of interest

There were no declarations of Conflicts of Interest for this meeting.

16/03 Previous minutes

The minutes were accepted as an accurate record and approved.

16/04 Matters arising

Additional items to discuss related to the National Masters conference
The appointment of David Robinson as a specialist on the Masters committee was discussed.
All present agreed with this, AB and SP to review the TOC (terms of committee) to verify procedure

16/05 Communication

Handover: SP has now taken over fully as Masters Manager for East region.

2017 Plan to improve communication with regional masters: SP presented some information related to CAT 2 membership figures in the East (860), as well as attendance by regional swimmers at region based meets (average 135). The figures suggested a large number of registered swimmers are not attending meets.

Discussion around master's clubs and swimmers in the region brought up the following items of note:

GH reported 24 master's clubs in Hertfordshire

Most reps attend their county exec meeting but do not run master's specific meetings

PC sends out a Beds newsletter to all contacts he has in Bedfordshire

There was a national census a couple of years ago, looking into master's membership – AB to review

Masters Mailing list: AB has established a master's email contact list for the East. Currently the number of masters on that list stands at 80.

SP and AB asked all reps to email masters in their counties to request they sign up for the mailing list to improve master's specific communication in the East. AB to supply link to all



Newsletter: AB helped SP to produce a newsletter for regional masters. This is planned to be distributed via the mailing list. A copy of the first newsletter published was made available for all.

SP/AB aim to distribute quarterly.

SP to promote masters list and newsletter at event in the region

Social Media: No plans to have master's specific social media at this point – AB will promote master's information and events via the east swimming sites.

16/06

County Reports

Bedfordshire

The number of Masters and Seniors (18 and over) has shown a slight increase over last year:

79 competing swimmers out of a total of about 144 registered swimmers.

The main clubs with Masters and Seniors swimmers are Beaver Masters Bedford 8 (6), Bugleweed 15 (13), Flitwick 18 (11), Modernian 5 (5), Putteridge 29 (30), South Beds Masters 40 (31) and Team Luton 31 (25). Growth at Flitwick may be related to the new 8-lane 25M pool there.

A low number of Bedfordshire swimmers attended East Region champs because of the clash of dates with the Midland Region Meet at Leamington. Pat Reynolds (Beaver Masters 65-69) broke ER records in the 400 Freestyle in 6.14.33 and 200 Backstroke in 3.13.65.

Bedfordshire run their own decathlon: Liz Woolner (Flitwick SC) leads the women & Dave Cartledge (Modernian SC) leads the men with a very high point score.

In 2016 Beds Masters have set: 60 Short Course, 43 Long Course and 13 Relay records. Beds swimmers have also broken many East Region records and some British records.

Three newsletters have been sent out this year. Masters are responding to these well and keep supplying information for the subsequent issues.

John Bellis attended the third National Masters Conference held in November.

Norfolk

Quite a few records broken at east region, a good warm up for Sheffield Nationals were more records were broken

Successful intercounties, winning the regional heat again.

Norfolk master's champs (open and closed) will be long course again. Booked for Saturday 13th may. Relays included and full programme, except 800 and 1500m.

Long course events still populate with Crawley long course (SE LC Champs) already closed!

Cambridgeshire

Pleased to hang on to second in the Intercounty regional heat.

Always a challenge getting a team together for Cambridgeshire as such a small county, with a low number of master's clubs. Always a struggle, starting now!

Hertfordshire

5/24 clubs represented at Nationals which was lower than usual. However, they won 4 golds 5 silvers, 4 bronzes

Chris Dunn, won the maximum 3 golds at Europeans, breaking records as well.

Hertfordshire will run a closed county champs on 17th June 2017.

Unable to get a team together for the regional leg of the intercounty this year. May have been affected by several factors, including the early county qualifying windows which takes swimmers and officials away.



- 16/07 Budget**
- On track for this financial year.
No significant change planned for 2017/18 except the addition of Regional Decathlon competition.
Newmarket rental costs were much higher this year as they have changed the charging structure. This should be reflected in estimates for the current budget.
SP and AB to review budget, to be drafted for the end of January 2017.
- 16/08 Masters Development Day**
- Proposed to hold an open water camp.
Optimal 24th -25th June – AB should discuss with the open water committee about closing date for the regional (masters) open water competition and see if this could be extended to follow the camp.
Note Great East Swim is being held on 17th June, British Masters Champs on 16th-18th June
AB will approach a couple of candidates for the coaching element.
AB will also look at options regarding venues around the East. There appear to be several potential venues including Box End, Stanborough Lakes, Milton County park, Alton water and Grafham lakes.
SP/AB to discuss other topics that could be covered at the event and how to publicise.
- 16/09 Decathlon competition 2017**
- SP proposed to start a decathlon competition in the East region. This would adhere to the rules of the national competition and utilise the database of results.
The competition would run from 1st January 2017, with the end date under discussion. Options included to close the East competition after the Nationals, to allow a prize giving at the East round of the intercounties.
Prizes to be awarded for top three men and women, plus top three men's and women's teams.
Budget estimated at £100 to cover prizes and administration costs.
- SP to confirm with national competition organiser(s) that they could issue a set of results after the master's nationals and before the intercounty round.
SP to write rules and distribute for approval
- 16/10 Intercounty competition**
- Attended by 4 out of 6 counties with Essex and Hertfordshire unable to supply teams. Won by Norfolk, followed by Cambridgeshire and close behind, Bedfordshire and Suffolk.
SP reiterated that the date of this competition was set by the national master's committee. It will be held on 12th November this year. Newmarket has been booked for 2017.
GH raised the issue with the earlier county qualifying events and that may have contributed to some swimmers not being available.
Both SL and MF commented that they need to keep in regular contact with potential team swimmers, to make sure they are aware of the event. SL often telephones swimmers to check their availability.
Both SL and MF are regularly at events in the region, which might help.
PC has help from John Bellis to organise the Bedfordshire team. He is often at meets with his own club, which might help.
SP helped to organise the Suffolk team at this year. It was very difficult and missing swimmers from some age groups. It was done a very short notice, which probably contributed to the difficulties.
Utilise the newsletter and communications from the east to make swimmers aware of this meet.
To discuss closer to the next meeting and update before the next intercounties.
- 16/11 East region Masters Competition**
- To be held at Newmarket on 1st October 2017. Moved to a Sunday as the Leisure centre no longer offer all day Saturday bookings.
Closing date for entries – agreed 11th September 2017



No planned change to entry costs.
Competition conditions to remain unchanged
Consensus in the committee to change the order of individual events but not relay events

16/12

update and reissue for agreement.
SP and DR to meet to discuss the organisation and planning of entries as the competition is scheduled before the next meeting.

Next meeting

The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 18th October at the Regional office in Kentford.

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