

2013 ONB County Championships De-Brief Meeting held at Bicester Community College on Tuesday 7th May

Present: P.Shaw , I.Powell , H.Patrick , J.Wilford , A.Minihan , W.Patrick , & reps from Bletchley , City of Oxford , Didcot Barramundi , Maxwell , Newport Pagnell , Thame , Witney and 4Shires Swimming Clubs.

Apologies: K.Phillips , J.Murphy , A.Brewer , A.Willis , G.Kelly (Didcot Barramundi)

In most correspondents views 2013 was "the best Counties ever " and as far as several swimmers commented they felt "cared about ". As well as those gratifying thoughts it was a very fast Counties (from a swimming point of view !) with nearly a hundred MBT's and 17 County Records. There were some very well organised Clubs and some disorganised Clubs who we hope will get themselves sorted by next year.

1. Proposed Dates and Venues for 2014

Sunday 9/2/14	1500/800/Boys AG Relays	Bletchley
Sunday 16/2/14	400's / Girls AG Relays	Aylesbury
8-9/3/14	Main Champs 1 st weekend	Aylesbury
15-16/3/14	Main Champs 2 nd weekend	Aylesbury

PS reported that though there is an indication on the BS/ASA Calendar that there will be an International Open Meet in March 2014 as per 2013 , the Country Commonwealth Selection Policies indicate a British Championships in late March which if correct would mean there will not be an additional Meet clashing with our Champs as there was on the first weekend of our Main Champs this year.

- a) Ruth Bones (Maxwell) wondered if there was an alternative to Bletchley for the 1500/800 events as the pool is shallow and the swimmers can not achieve their best times. It would be preferable to use Aqua Vale as it is the fastest pool available but we can not get a further full day there, which would be required to run the Boys Age Group Relays as well as the 1500/800 , hence us using Bletchley.

. Option :- Drop the Boys and Girls Age Group Relays completely and have an afternoon for the 1500/800 on one Sunday and an afternoon and early evening for the 400's both at Aqua Vale, which may be acceptable to the Centre

- b) Ian Smith (City of Oxford) requested that we looked at staging the 1500/800's at a 50m Pool to allow NQT's to be achieved. Though this is not considered practicable by the Organisers and would definitely mean the end of Age Group Relays, IP will investigate the situation.

2. Programme

As 2013

3. Qualifying Period

From 3rd May 2013

4. Qualifying Times

As 2013

5. QT Checks

Subsequent to the De-Brief these have been run and there are 6 swims/entry times that appear to be suspicious on initial viewing. These will be looked at more carefully, and if considered necessary, Clubs will be contacted for an explanation.

6. Age on Day

Will be last day of Champs as proposed above (16th March 2014) though it should be noted that Bagcats, LTAD & Age on Day is currently (still) under review by the ASA .

7. Entry Fees

Probably can remain the same but charges from new operator at Aqua Vale not yet known

8. Disability

Retain additional events that were added in 2013 so as is for 2014.

9. Financials

Provisionally the Champs made a profit of £7900 on £30500 income

10. Trophies/Medals

Several very positive comments about the standard of the trophies.

11. Adherence to Meet entry conditions with specific reference to the non provision of completed Individual Entry Forms

Two Clubs decided that they didn't need to send in Individual Entry Forms . In the case of one Club it caused IP considerable extra work . Though it is clearly stated that individual entry forms MUST be provided IP considers it necessary to include a Promoter's Condition stating that if Individual Entry Forms do not accompany full payment within 7 days of the Closing Date (electronic entries having been provided by the closing date) then the WHOLE of that Club's entries will be rejected for the whole Championships. There are many instances before and during the Championships when there has to be reference to the Entry Forms to prove a situation either way. They are therefore critical so please ensure that your Open Meet Entry Co-ordinator understands this simple rule.

12. Volunteer commitment from smaller clubs

Various statistics regarding the ratio of volunteer participation from each Club to swimmer entries was provided and an interesting discussion ensued.

13. Meet Best Times

Two MBT's were equalled this year and we have not yet been able to get the HyTek system to produce both times on the print-out. IP to contact HyTek in USA.

AOB

14. Andy Willis was unable to attend due to coaching commitments but commented in an email that the marble trophies were popular , asked whether Assistant Coaches are allowed to park in the Officials car park (NO) , complained that young swimmers were not getting a fair opportunity to warm up prior to the Finals due to older girls warming up for Relays and could therefore could the warm ups be split down to 15 mins as per morning warm ups. PS/IP to look at though it was generally considered that the larger clubs hijacked individual lanes for their Clubs regardless of age considerations. AW also wondered if the qualifying period could be extended back to the previous year's Champs (NO).
15. It was asked whether commemorative T-Shirts could be provided in 2014 as they were in 2012. It was explained that they were a loss maker in 2012 as the bigger Clubs didn't take up on it. It was agreed that the cost could be nearer £10 than the £6 charged in 2012 which could make it viable. It was commented that smaller sizes would be required if we resurrect for 2014.
16. Heather Patrick asked about a back drop for the podium and this will be looked at though it was agreed that there is no obvious solution at the moment.

Meeting closed at 8.25pm

These Minutes will be discussed and verified at the next Executive Meeting on Tuesday 21st May at Bicester Community College 'Café' commencing at 7pm.