

# OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ASA

President: Mr Ian Powell

COUNTIES DE-BRIEF MEETING held at Bicester on Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> April 2007

Present: R.Forster,P.Shaw, T.Ward, J.Wilford, S.Wrenn, K.Greener, K.Brooks(Maxwell), J.Smith(Maxwell),D.Nolte(Bicester),G.Buck(CMK),R.Barton(Aylesbury),A.Powell (Bletchley),K.Hoffmann(Kidlington),S-A Clavaud(Witney),Mrs King(Witney), S.Ruddell(COSC).

Apologies: E.House , S.McNeil(Abingdon),C.Pankhurst(Bicester),M.Harrop(Wantage).

1. Venues :- It was proposed that the venues would remain the same for 2008. The Distance events will be held at Stantonbury and both Main weekends will be held at Aqua Vale, Aylesbury. PS had discussed the situation at Cowley with the COSC Vice Chairman , Fixtures Secretary and Open Meet Organiser and they had stated that they would not be in a position to host a main weekend at TC in 2008. PS had spoken to the Pool Management at TC and they were not aware of when the proposed refurbishment of TC was to take place.

2. Dates:- It was proposed that the dates for 2008 would be:

17 February	1500/800	Stantonbury
24 February	400's	Stantonbury
8/9 March	Main	Aylesbury
15/16 March	Main	Aylesbury

Age at 16<sup>th</sup> March would apply to all events.

The closing date for entries was provisionally proposed as 28<sup>th</sup> January 2008

The dates are earlier due to Easter falling on 22/23 March 2008.

3. Entries :- It was agreed that all entries would be electronic in 2008 and that would be stipulated in the Promoters Conditions. Also all swimmers will be required to have attained either the competitive Start award or preliminary start.

4. Problems: It was agreed that the major problem was the acceptance of too many entries into this year's championships. Firstly for 2008 there will be Accepted & Considered Times for 9 year olds. Secondly there will be a reduction to 10% of 'A' Grade for considered times. Thirdly there will be a prescribed time period for each session which will be provisionally:

AM 2.5 hours warm up at 8am session commencing at 9.10 am ( 12 Finish with pres.)

PM 2.0 hours warm up at 12.50 session commencing at 2 pm (4.15 )

Finals 1.75 hours warm up at 5 pm session commencing at 5.45 pm

The finals session should be completed by 7.30 pm ( 8pm on both skins nights)

Rejection of entries (if necessary) to fit into these time periods will be made equally across Age Groups.

The programme will be rearranged so that the two longer skins evenings will be the two Saturdays.

The new software was a problem, particularly on the first morning. It ran far better on sub-subsequent days and RF assured the meeting that the glitches will not re-occur in 2008.

5. 50 Free: The 50 free , due to the large entry , had to be moved to the afternoon sessions to address health & safety concerns.(Numbers on poolside) Because the entry accepted will be smaller next year it was agreed that it will revert to its normal am position in the programme.
6. Programme:- It was agreed that overall the Championships were very exciting and successful for the swimmers (KB). Concern though was expressed about the two 'heavy' days for swimmers. This obviously had been compounded by losing the 5<sup>th</sup> day and having to fit the 200 IM and Age Group relays into the two main weekends. The programme will be looked at carefully by the Swimming sub committee with a view to 1) Having the 100 IM as one event on the 'lighter' day , 2) Age Group relays for each age band on separate days not in the same session , 3) Looking at the combination of event with the 200 IM i.e 200 Fly with 200 Breast not with 200 IM , 4) Medley skins on both Saturdays therefore 200 IM's will be on the two Saturdays.
7. Bagcats:- The lateness of the presentations has been addressed already though RB asked if the 9 year olds could be presented earlier as they are not affected by the finals. RF agreed that it would be possible to present 9 year olds at end of Sunday afternoon. It was also agreed that the sequence of presentation on the final Sunday evening could be Top Club , Bagcats and then Championships from that evening's finals.
- KG asked about the breakdown of Bagcat points by event. It was noted that it was possible previously with Sport Systems and should be possible now. RF & SW to investigate.
- It was agreed that the 1500/800 times should be converted to Bagcat points and be available as they are Bagcat scoring events for the older age groups. RF to action.
8. Awards:- It was agreed that the trophies were good this year and the organisation and control of them by KG was excellent. It was noted that the expansion of the awards had led to an expenditure of £9000+. PS commented that with a projected profit of £3000 for 2007 Champs it is likely that with a reduced entry in 2008 there would not be a surplus next year and that had to be understood and accepted by the Executive in the context of some very heavy expenditure on the horizon in 2007 – 2010.
9. Administration :- It was announced by RF that certain administration posts at the Champs will be appointed by the Executive to allow continuity in the most critical positions. It was commented that the downside of trying to include as many clubs as possible in helping at the Champs was that some volunteers appeared at the last minute and were 'untrained' . Some clubs struggled to find enough volunteers.
10. Programmes:- It was agreed that the full size programme was an improvement on the traditional smaller one. Agreed that more programmes were required for spectators.
11. Swim Down :- Though considered very desirable by all it was agreed that it is unfortunate that we do not have this facility at the County Champs. Discussed at length how it could be operated at the end of the session. No solution.
12. Press reports: It was noted that no reports from the County appeared.
13. Cardless Meet:- DN asked about 'cardless' meet running. RF commented that the cards are considered good discipline for the kids. Also meet could be run in manual mode with the cards if computer system failed.
14. Results by Club:- DN asked if it was possible to produce a set of results by club. Particularly helpful for up-dating Club Ranking Lists. RF can provide this for each club in future.

#### 15. Miscellaneous

- a) Age Group presentations for 1500/800 Events. No , these are Championship events only.
- b) Qualifying event for 200m events and longer in mid December. No , Time Trials are accepted for 200m events and longer events. (As per the Entry Form and the Promoters Conditions)
- c) County Inter-Club Event. Considered a nice idea but the coaches present felt the calendar was too crowded already. Needs further thought (PS).
- d) Relays on a Saturday before the Distance Events. Would the swimmers travel for just a relay. Have just moved away from a further day of Champs at the request of coaches and officials.
- e) Water – possibly provide larger water receptacles as there were problems with pool side water distribution.
- f) Swim the 50m freestyle heats at the Distance events with finals at Main Champs. No , it wont be a problem in 2008.

All the above will be discussed at the County Executive Meeting on Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> May.