

Berks and South Bucks ASA Swimming Committee

Minutes of a meeting on 30 May 2013

Present:

Rob Moore (RM)

Stuart Fillingham (SF)

Gary Shields (GS)

Sue Green* (SG)

Apologies received from

Nigel Brand*

Roger Penfold*

Jonathan Mills

Helen Whittle

* denotes ex-officio members

1 Consideration times for 2014 championships

RM recapped that the current consideration times (CTs) have evolved over many years and have not been subject to a comprehensive review. Also, the 2013 Championships feedback had indicated that not only should the times be reviewed, but they should be adjusted to result in a 10-20% reduction in entries to keep the quality up and put the running of the championships under less pressure. SF had kindly agreed to review the times following the April meeting.

SF gave a presentation on his review exercise. It consisted of 3 stages

- a. A comparison of our CTs against the "A" grade tables for 2009-2012 (the most recent available).
- b. A comparison of our CTs against those of a selection of 10 other counties (including all our neighbouring counties)
- c. A comparison of the events offered with other counties and SER.

Based on this process SF proposed we make the following changes

- d. Where our CTs were slower than the graded tables, we align our times to the tables (our 15/16 age group is the median of the 15 & 16 age groups)
- e. Where our times were slowly than the approximate average of the other counties we align our times to that average.
- f. We align our events offered to other counties and SER. This means the following events will not be offered
 - 100m events for 10 year olds (the 100IM will continue to be available)
 - any events over 200m for 9 and 10 year olds

This is in addition to our previous decision not to offer

- 100IM to swimmers over 14
- 100m events to 9 year olds (the 100IM will continue to be available)
(this is a licensing requirement)

SF explained that this was expected to achieve a 14% reduction in entries. The review had included an exercise to assess if the proposals affected any sex or age group disproportionately. This was not the case.

Assuming the entry fee remained the same (£5.25 per entry), the change would reduce revenue by circa £2,500. It was agreed that the main aim of the Championships was not to maximise revenue, and it was also agreed that an increase in the entry fee was not appropriate in the current economic environment.

The committee approved SF's proposals. It was agreed that SF would seek comments from Matt Heathcock and that RM/SF would outline the proposals at the 6 June Exec. They would then be published.

Actions

- SF to seek comments from Matt Heathcock
- RM/SF to outline at next exec
- RM to publish

2 Other changes for the 2014 Championships

The following were agreed

- the 100m IM event would no longer be a championship event, but the Junior championship would be awarded (to the fastest 14 & under swimmer)
- the date for relay team age groups would remain as currently
- relay lead off times would be accepted for entry
- split time from longer events would not be accepted for entry (in lines with SER)

Actions

- RM to update Championship and Age Group Conditions, and entry document.

3 2013 Development meet

It was agreed that we would use the CTs determined above as the upper limit times. It was also agreed that we would offer the same event as at the Championships, ie 9 and 10 year olds would not be able to enter 100m events (except the 100IM).

4 AOB

- The next meeting was set for Monday 9 September at 7:30pm at GS's office

RJ Moore
May 2013