

SUSSEX COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

MINUTES OF GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE held on Saturday 10th August 2013 Wednesday 2013 at 12.15pm. at the Lanham Hotel, Eastbourne.

PRESENT: Mr P McCallum (Chairman), Audrey Taylor, Chris Hobbs, Deedee Pickering, Ray Barber.

APOLOGIES:

Item No.		Action
01/13	The background paper (copy attached below) was accepted as a true reflection of the constitution, background and remits of the G.P. Committee and would form the basis for review of the current Rules, their appropriateness and compliance.	
02/13	Following a review of various differing copies of the Rules and A.C.M minutes an agreement was reached as to the correct current rules of the Association and that as priority Ray Barber should produce a copy for consideration and final approval of the G.P. Com and for the Chairman to arrange for it to be produced on the Associations web sites, both current and draft web site. No further alterations, other than typo errors, should be made unless brought before A.C.M and approved at such meeting in accordance with the rules.	RB
03/13	Several rules were found to require minor changes which could be brought to the next ACM for approval together with any other changes recommended by the GP Com and approved by Man. Com, together with any other changes proposed as a result of a full review and report by the GP Com.	
04/13	It was recommended that the Man. Committee should amend the Standing Orders to include and apply to all Technical Committee meetings with immediate effect. Chairman to propose at next Man. Com meeting.	
05/13	Concern was expressed that there appeared to be a lack of scrutiny of the actions of some Committees and this would be considered further and recommendations made if felt necessary	
06/13	Each member of this committee will consider the current rules and the background paper and bring to the next meeting any ideas or proposals for any change in the Rules or Standing Order they feel appropriate for full discussion at the next meeting.	

DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS:

The meeting closed at 2.50pm

Signed

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GENERAL PURPOSES COMMITTEE

At the 2013 A.C.M the Chairman reported the GP Committee had not met during the past year (2011/12) and the previous year (2010/11) and the new Management Committee would appoint members to GP Com at the meeting following the A.C.M.

Members appointed Audrey Taylor, Chris Hobbs, Deedee Pickering, Ray Barber
Chair Chairman of Association Peter McCullaum

Committees Election Constitution - Powers

1) The General Purposes Committee, which shall consist of 4 members appointed by the Management Committee. It shall consider all affiliation and membership issues; annually review the Associations Rules and Standing Orders, consider and make decisions on any matter referred by Council or the Management Committee and shall meet as required. When an emergency is involved the Committee shall have the power to act. The next meeting of the Management Committee shall ratify such action. Quorum3.

BACKGROUND

The failure of the GP Com to meet over the past few years has meant that the County s rules had not been reviewed. The Man. Com had failed to call for any reports from the GP Com. on the rules and appears to have relied on the Development Officer to recommend changes to the rules for at last 2 or 3 years. The proposed changes to the rules were brought to the A.C.M s for approval; however, it is clear from the documentary evidence available that the Man. Com had not followed the rules (12b) in that the proposed rules changes were not in the hands of The Hon. Secretary by the due date. At the A.C.M. changes to rules were adopted without a count, of those of voting for adoption, being carried out to confirm and record that there was a majority of two thirds of those present and qualified to vote. There does not, or did not appear, that a concise record or minute was made of the rules changes as passed. In fact, it appears that the part of the A.C.M. dealing with the rule changes was carried out without due diligence. As there was no County Handbook published last year the only place to find a copy of the rules was on the County Web site, unfortunately the rules on the web site were several years out of date. Chairman accepted that there had been failures by the Management Committee in respect of the production of an up to date copy of the rules and that this would be addressed by the new Management Committee.

At the last A.C.M. the Chairman reported that only the members referred to on the Agenda paper had been nominated for the positions of Offices and Office holders, and on request confirmed only 1 nomination paper and been returned and then changed it to 3 papers received from Clubs. The Chairman was not able to confirm when the nomination papers were received. However, as the nominations forms were not sent out to Club Secretaries until 7th May, it was not possible for Clubs to return them, complying with the County Rule 12.b, that the nomination be in the hands of the County Hon. Sec not later than the 1st May. The Chairman did say that nominations were received from members of the Management Committee.

It appears from the last A.C.M. and the rules that there is no one member or group of members appointed or responsible to scrutiny the compliance of Officers, office holders or

Committees with the County Rules or the County Develop Plan. The rules, are at present, silent on compliance and rely the Chair, President, Hon Secretary, Hon Discipline Secretaries and Development Hon. Secretary to act with due diligence to comply with the Objects of the County Association and its Rules.

It is light of the above that it is incumbent on the G.P. Comm. to consider the issues raised and their effect as regards the rules, review the Associations Rules, make recommendations for amendments or deletions to the Rules as considered necessary and to review Standing orders. Report findings and make recommendation to the Management Committee.