

Minutes subject to approval at the next BS Board Meeting on 27 January 2007

**British Swimming Officials Group**

Minutes of the meeting held on Wednesday 29th November 2006 commencing at 10.00am  
At the Hilton Metropole, NEC, Birmingham

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<b>Present:</b>	Chris Bostock	TSC, Chairman
	Neil Booth	ASA
	Bill Murdoch	SASA
	Penny John-Pearse	WASA
	Cath Price	WASA
	Jenny Gray	Facilitator (Items1-3)
	Jane Davies	TSC Administrator

**1 Referee Course Trainers Course.**

- 1.1 This has been arranged for the weekend of 6/7th January 2007 at the Ramada Jarvis Hotel, Loughborough. Scotland, Wales and all English Regions had received preliminary notification. Early responses suggested that some of the English regions would welcome the allocation of additional places at their own cost. It was agreed that subject to the hotel being able to provide additional accommodation this would be permitted up to a maximum of 46 attendees.  
Subject to accommodation Jane Davies to advise Regions of any additional places and allocate as appropriate.
- 1.2 The group were mindful of the cost of the training and the necessity of ensuring that those who attend for the training would commit to delivering the course for a minimum of 2 years. Attendees to be advised to bring a laptop computer if possible as this will facilitate the practical application of delivering the course in the future. In addition Chris Bostock agreed to provide some computers for use over the weekend.
- 1.3 The group agreed the format of the weekend. This to include a focus on presentation skills, how to deliver a PowerPoint presentation, the Referee Course syllabus, and what is expected in the setting up and running of a course.
- 1.4 It was suggested that all attendees be requested to "post" queries, questions and concerns on a board during the course of the weekend. All "postings" not answered during the course of the weekend to be answered during the final session.

**2. Referee Course**

- 2.1 It was agreed that applications would be handled centrally. Candidates to be allocated according to their locality although it was accepted that dependent upon the number of candidates it might be necessary to suggest candidates attend other courses.  
It was agreed that following the close of applications all home countries and regions would be advised of the regional location of all courses together with a list of all participating candidates. It was suggested that the optimum size for a course is 6-8 candidates. There is no minimum required number.

- 2.2 The examination fee had been agreed as £7.50 payable to British Swimming.
- 2.3 Candidates must be 18 years old as at the 30<sup>th</sup> November in the year of the examination and must have qualified as a Judge prior to submitting their application. The current closing date for applications set as 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007.  
Those officials who have passed the ASA theory examination for starter will be required to show competence as a starter.
- 2.4 Course Leaders will be responsible for organising the venue and equipment required. British Swimming will provide the syllabus and course material on CD with any additional resources supplied through the local office.
- 2.5 It was agreed that mentors required to assist in the practical training of candidates could be identified from any referees who wished to be involved in the scheme. It may be helpful for the course trainer to provide the candidates with a list of such individuals.
- 3 **Other Qualifications**
- 3.1 Members were reminded of the need to produce a schematic by 31<sup>st</sup> December 2006.
- 3.2 It was agreed that a document should be written as an information leaflet to advise all officials of the forthcoming changes. This document to be included on the website, circulated to Scotland, Wales and the ASA Regions for wider dissemination as soon as possible.
4. **International Nominations.**
- 4.1 The chairman outlined the long-term strategy to ensure that British Swimming is well-represented at all major events in the future. It was reported that Officials attending the FINA seminar in 2006 had been well received.
- 4.2 Manchester 2008: It was agreed that all Referees on lists 13 and 14 would be invited to submit an application. The recommendation of a Starter to be finalised in the near future.
- 4.3 Olympic Games, Beijing 2008: 2 Officials had been identified for nomination and it was agreed that both applicants should be promoted during 2007.
- 4.4 Allocations to the British Championships and other International events were agreed.
5. **Pre-FINA Appointments.**
- 5.1 Assessment forms had been completed for those Referees and Starters identified for assessment during 2007. Following discussion and in support of the long-term strategy it was agreed to recommend the following be appointed to the Pre-FINA Referee list for 2007/2008:- Alison Finlayson, Tom Mills, Richard Roberts, Jacque Sandbach, Kate Ward, Ian Whitehead.
- 5.2 The following Starters to be appointed to the Pre-FINA list for 2007/2008:- Jim Buchan, Robin Butterfield, Richard Moorhouse.
6. **Licensing of Officials.**
- 6.1 It was reported that the agreed paper needed to be revised to reflect the changes in qualifications. When complete this would be posted on the British Swimming website.
7. **Date of Next Meeting**
- 7.1 As required.