

Notes of East District Forum Meeting

Zoom 17th Feb 2022

Present: Duncan McKinnell: President/ 3 Life Members/ 1 Visitor Alan Reid East RSDM/ and 25 attendees from the following Clubs:

Livingston & District Dolphins, Inverleith ASC, Carnegie ASC, Heart of Midlothian, Portobello ASC, Aquanauts, Trojan ASC, Warrender Baths Club, Fife Artistic Swimming Club, Edinburgh Artistic SC, InCAS, Scorpion Swim Team.



2. Apologies: Duncan Fraser, Caroline McGrory, Ritchie Metcalfe, Alistair Shields, Helen McGeorge, Ed O'Brien, Alanna Morrison, Joe Walker, Nathan Kennedy

1	Welcome to members (D McKinnell)	<p>Before the meeting started Helen Murray (HM) asked if anybody had seen the BBC news from ASV saying that many of the swimmers /coaches came over very well and it was being represented by quite a few Nations further afield.</p> <p>Duncan McKinnell (President) Welcomed all to the ED Forum, special congratulations to Jo Maguire and her ED swim committee for providing so many opportunities for swimmers from the District, and to say a huge thanks to the regions in their support of the District by providing long distance events. 1st round of EDAGs at MWC, Glenrothes, 2nd round this weekend at Bathgate, with the 3rd and final round at the RCP to come on 26th 27th March. The time trial on 30th January was also a success with imaginative use of various areas to marshal swimmers, thereby maximising participation within the Covid constraints swimmers, officials and volunteers. We understand and sympathise with parents who want to see their children compete. To date we have had to prioritise swimmers over spectators but are hopeful that we will be able to have spectators back in due course.</p>	Action by
3	Declarations of Interest	Duncan McKinnell, President of ED, is also a trustee of EISM.	
4	AGM actions from 20 th May 21	<p>We went through the minutes page by page with all delegates seeing the screen via share screen</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • James Heatly performed his dives with distinction at World Champs allowing progress to Birmingham for the XXII Commonwealth Games. • Rebate to ED Clubs was well received. • Electric cars: response is as we indicated, same conditions as for petrol cars. • Tribune platform: SS to be invoiced • Awards: any not issued in 2020 should be engraved with COVID 19. 	HM /JL DC

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • May be an opportunity to give out some Trophies at the EISM • AGM in May for approval of these minutes • Face to Face versus virtual meetings was discussed following TD's poll indicating that most delegates would prefer a face-to-face AGM along with mainly virtual members meetings. 	EISM
5	Items of business:		
a	Secretaries report: in addition to report, highlight that (T Dane)	31 st March is deadline to get in your Club's constitution and Executive members.	
b	Finance: report attached, again highlighting the fact that SC were (J Laird)	Good news about how Jo and her swim committee have been maximising the number of swimmers entered, therefore putting the district on a stronger position financially compared with the budget.	
c	Update from Board and Council/ Scottish swimming	Board: SS Corporate plan. To look at an alternative date, as their intended meeting had to be postponed. Council is meeting next week. Membership trends are significantly down on pre Covid numbers but not as bad as initially predicted	
d	Regional Reports		
	• Borders (SL/D Payne)	Update to report Submitted: None	
	• Fife (A Laird)	Update to report submitted: None	
	• Lothian (S Liddle)	Update to report submitted: Highlighting the following: Children's gala was well received by all with lots of noisy swimmers. Thanks to Colin Kennedy for presenting the John Gunning Award. The first long distance meet was run on 12 th February. Thanks to all officials who supported this event.	
e	Discipline Reports		
	• Swimming (J Maguire)	Update to report submitted: Round 1 of Age Groups was held and round 2 is this coming weekend. The Open does not sit well within the present calendar (June) so there needs to be a coaches' meeting to find another more suitable date. The Open was historically one of the Grand Prix (LC) events. Lots of trophies for this event- see what needs to be swum and possibly put on a condensed programme. Laurel Bailey happy to help JM search through the trophies.	JM and her committee
	• Water Polo (R Metcalfe)	Report submitted: No update	
	• Masters	(SL) Update: canvassed a few master's swimmers who all definitely want the November ED	Register

		<p>Masters event to run as normal. It is one of their favourite meets. Register to be drawn up of all Clubs with those who have a Masters' section or other master's training and then put on the web. WBC also happy to help AR and SL to draw this up. Aquanauts and Midlothian also volunteered that they have masters' sections within their Clubs. British Masters link is "live" to their National Champs.</p>	SL /AR
	• Artistic Swimming (L Bloomer)	Report Submitted. Update The 2 ED clubs are planning to put on a novice competition in May: Covid dependant	
	• Diving (K D'Mellow)	Report Submitted: No update	
	• Open Water (L Rodger)	<p>Update: ED Open to be held at Lochore on 28th May. 4th June conflicts with other SNOW events: possibly to be held on 4th July. Electronic timing to be bought as an investment by SS and available to Districts. Online process for OW events, certainly at level 4 Is it possible to apply for a Grant for timing equipment?</p>	OW committee to ask Colleen Blair at SS
f	STOC (A Shields)	<p>Report Submitted. Discussion over the lack of opportunities for officiating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EDAG applications should be in asap so can get their officiating roles completed. • One referee sitting their exam in May, others in November 2022 	
g	Website (T Dane)	Report Submitted: wishing to promote any success stories being done at Club level. Once TD hears about it, he will promote it via Facebook, Twitter & Instagram	ALL
h	Archiving	<p>Report submitted from 100 years ago (Jan 1922): Do we have an Archive and Retention Policy? This will provide consistency in record retention, as we do have a good system in place. To be further discussed with Exec.</p>	Exec/ CK/DC
6	Items for Discussion	SASA ED modernisation & Clubs working together	
a	District Priorities 2022 - 24	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communications: not used HIVE for district affairs as TD puts out info to ALL club Secretaries, ED website (esp. Blog), for all communications. It's up to us to use it well and to keep the website up to date and current. Accurate and generic emails are best, however it can occasionally go into Junk. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Agreed that a District Hive group is not required. We will continue to maintain our high standards of dissemination of information: if something new comes along which is better, then we'll try it out. 	

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Forums: Forums are for sharing information and have generally been well supported when run virtually during Covid. This meeting is the lowest number we have had since the virtual meetings started. Many coaches are coaching in the evenings. What discussion topics will engage the attendees? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Agreed to continue with mainly virtual members meeting but that the AGM should be face to face. • Coaches' meetings hosted by the Swimming Convenor will continue with one in the afternoon and one in the evening to cover part time and full-time coaching staff. • Regions: Learn to swim link is important. The Regions and Aquatic Forums are working well with each other providing that support. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Regions and Aquatic Forums should continue to work as they are doing. Aquatic forums are essential as they maintain the local connection between clubs, facility managers and Learn to Swim. • Recruit, Develop and Support Volunteers: SS and Districts are supporting many initiatives for those aged between 14 - 24 year old : Young Ambassadors/ Young Technical Officials/ Young Events coordinators/Young Leaders. There was much discussion over this. Does it represent good value as SS & District pay into these initiatives? Is there clarity of volunteer roles? Covid implications as parents not allowed into Pool, therefore recruitment of new volunteers has been poor. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ District Management to review approach to volunteering at District level. ○ Perhaps start with small jobs, with personal touch being preferred. • Support and Improve Programme of Swimming Competition: Much work has been done nationally on the new Competition Framework. Thanks to Jo Maguire for representing the District on this. Midlothian thanked S Liddle for the hundreds of hours of work which she puts in to help the Clubs, Meets and the District. This was seconded by all. League info is now out to all Clubs, being run within Regions (For those non elite swimmers.) 	
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