



## OXFORDSHIRE & NORTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE COUNTIES ASA

SWIMMING SECRETARY REPORT & CHAMPIONSHIP CONSIDERATIONS – May 2021

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Swim England has produced a guide to help clubs and promoters deliver safe competitions, which I have reviewed. I subsequently joined (as did many of the ONB clubs) the regional briefing on “Returning to Competition” on the 26th of April. The meeting covered the following topics; Plans for an end-of-season Region Competition, Plans for the restart of Meet Licensing, Instructions for clubs who intend to apply for a meet license.

The meeting was recorded, so for those who missed it, you should access it via the South East regional website here: [Microsoft PowerPoint - 2021-04-26 SESE Return to Swimming.pptx \(southeastswimming.org\)](#)

Under normal circumstance, at the May ONB Counties ASA meeting, I would refer to the Counties Championship and Age Group Competitions debrief; however, for obvious reasons, this is not the case.

I have reviewed the 2020 debriefing minutes, and as a reminder, the following was agreed upon.

### VOLUNTEER ROLE ALLOCATION

- Recommendations - We will once again review the process for allocating volunteers for the 2021 Championships before the release of the accepted entries to see if the proposal is viable and gives sufficient volunteer coverage. The concern is that this will be time-consuming and delay the process. Aside from this, over the next couple of months, we will consider reducing the number of volunteer roles, balancing the smooth running of the championships with the availability of volunteers. We will also investigate if the official's management software can be adapted and used to manage the volunteers.

### SOCIAL MEDIA

- Recommendations- The social media guidance to be reviewed ahead of the 2021 championships (all be it the basic principle to remain unchanged) to ensure it's more evident in the programme, on signage and referred to during announcements.

### SWIMMING PROGRAMME

- Recommendations – The multi-classification para-swimming programme extended, and entry criteria brought into line with WPS recommended competition entry criteria. Para multi classifications entry will be merged into the main championships in the same way as the present, and swimmers will be positioned in heats based on their entry time.

### POINTS BASED AWARDS

- Recommendations – It has been suggested that a points-based system could be used to reward swimmers across both genders and all age groups.

Assuming we apply FINA points and that Hytek can facilitate the process, this could be applied. If awards were to be issued, this would require 18 to 20 new trophies/awards.

Besides the above, I have written to crucial volunteers; AOE Operators /Administrator, Volunteers & Officials Coordinator, Welfare Officer, Volunteers Manager etc., to establish support levels for 2022 and await responses.

We will need to use the 2022 Championships as induction for new volunteers as I expect churn after the Championships. I believe we will need two new administrators and a new AOE Operator whilst I haven't had confirmation.

**2022 PROPOSED DATE:**

Championships dates:

Saturday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Venue TBC (Proposed to be Oxford Leys)  
1500m Freestyle & Boy Age Group Relays 10-1-12 & 13-14

Saturday 15<sup>th</sup> January – Venue TBC (Proposed to be Oxford Leys)  
800m Freestyle & Girls Age Group Relays 10-11-12 & 13-14

Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> January – Venue TBC (Proposed to be Aqua Vale)  
400m events

5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> & 12<sup>th</sup>/13<sup>th</sup> February – Venue TBC (Proposed to be Aqua Vale)  
Main Championships

**PROPOSED QUALIFYING PERIOD:**

17<sup>th</sup> May 2021 to 5<sup>th</sup> December 2021 (all events, including long distances), X level racing times on Rankings will be accepted and **ratified** Long Distance time trials times 400, 800 & 1500s (criteria yet to be released).

**PROPOSED QUALIFYING TIME:**

No (guaranteed)accepted upper limit, therefore no guaranteed acceptances.

**PROPOSED ENTRIES:**

Closing date for entries 6<sup>th</sup> December 2021

**PROPOSED ENTRY FEES:**

No change, unless pool hire cost increases

**PROPOSED PROGRAMME:**

No change other than the inclusion of an extended para programme

**PROPOSED AWARDS:**

Inclusion of age group and championship awards; top male and female

**MERCHANDISE:**

Under review

**EQUIPMENT:**

Purchase of a presentation podium backdrop circa £300+ £400.

**GENERAL COMMENTS:**

The condition of the Championships trophies is deteriorating, and some badly need either replacing or repair.

A new Trophy Secretary is needed ahead of the 2022 Championships to manage the trophies and order, sort the medals, etc.

Finally, modifications to the 2022 Championships may become necessary due to the Covid-19 pandemic, allowing time for limited consultation. I envisage this to be limited to, entry qualifying period, social distancing measures and any other changes required by Swim England.

The above is subject to license approval.

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Oxford & North Buckinghamshire Counties ASA