

Aquae Sulis Network Club Questions

Summary Document

	1. Club Level	2. Accommodation of swimmers	3. Involvement going forward	4. Committee	5. Elected committee member	6. Financial support
Bradford on Avon	Would like the club to be a performance club as it was originally developed with strict entry and exit requirements that are transparent.	Yes	Boa ASC has many swimmers involved in the programme over all three squads. We would like to increase the understanding between the club and AS. This would lead to help with coaching if required at coaching events organised by AS. Hopefully would also lead to a better understanding between the club and AS with home club events such as the Wiltshire leagues.	A separate Network committee with 2 representatives with meetings being held quarterly would be less onerous and the preferable route we would like.	For a volunteer to be involved on 2 committees potentially holding 2 roles this would need careful consideration as like most clubs there is a decrease in volunteers at club level. We also think that this role may be only held by an Exec committee member at BOA ASC so that there is continual feedback to the club.	In principle, but this is reserved until we have seen all the financial models and know the amount we would be paying and this should be on a pro rata approach. Needs to be a fair contribution from all the clubs in the Network
Bath Dolphin	Performance	N/A	Network Club	Separate committee	No	No – needs to be self-sustaining
Chippenham ASC	Aquae Sulis should return to a Performance Only club, based on strict entry criteria. It is appreciated that this may make financial viability an issue.	CASC is able to fully accommodate returning swimmers but believe a clear Exit Strategy should be in place, to ensure returning swimmers are not demoralised.	The level of future involvement would be dependent on the structure of Aquae Sulis, which has yet to be determined.	CASC do not believe an integrated committee would be the best way forward.	CASC would not be able to provide a regular Committee Member, but would welcome the opportunity to put forward views for discussion at such meetings.	Any financial support would be dependent on the final structure and financial model of Aquae Sulis.
Keynsham SC	at KASC we can offer a maximum of 7 hours for our talented swimmers. We have a track record of developing good County swimmers (2 nd in the medal table at this years Championships)., We have and would like to continue to offer our swimmers	YES we will be able to do this, however, as detailed above this structure will not work for KASC. Also we do not believe a 44 swimmer Performance Squad, is financially viable without a big backer	KASC has a track record of supporting its partner Clubs, with many members volunteering to take Committee posts. We are committed to supported an ASPSC that works for the swimmers at KASC.	YES we believe there should be, say, 3 Network Club voting positions on a newly constituted ASPSC Committee. The posts should be filled by people who have the full support of the Network Clubs. OR you could have a voting place on the Committee for	Yes - we are committed to supported an ASPSC that works for the swimmers at KASC.	NO as we do not believe (for the reasons stated above) that a pure Performance structure at ASPSC would work for KASC

	<p>more hours when they are strong County swimmers who our Had Coach believes are near to achieving Regional times. If ASPSC's first Squad offers 16 hours this will not work for KASC. Our swimmers will not be able to make the leap from 7 to 16 hours. There has to be a "bridging Squad" offering, say, 10/11 hours per week.</p>			<p>each Network Club that has, say, an agreed number of active participants be they swimmers, Committee members or Officials. The Management Committee should be none constitutional (i.e. no voting rights) and run the Club day-to-day with delegated accountabilities from the main Committee. The Head Coach should hold regular (at least 4 times per year) Network Head Coaches meetings.</p>		
Melksham ASC	Performance	Yes	We could assist with perhaps fundraising events	Integrated	<i>Possibly – depends on the level of commitment required and if it is proportional to the size of the club</i>	<i>Possibly on a pro rata basis depending on the number of swimmers the club has</i>
Warminster	<p>We feel Aquae Sulis should be a hub for the top swimmers within a club to be able to attend more training and develop past what they can achieve in a 25m pool with limited time and space. To answer the question Aquae Sulis should be a performance club, with requirements to get into the club, such as county times or something along that line.</p>	Yes	<p>At Warminster we train around the same time as you currently do so are unable to help with coaching cover, we also are in the process of getting the club back on track after the sudden passing of our Club secretary/Treasurer last year whom was an oracle in all aspects (my grandmother) So we are not in a position to help out but I know the parents who have swimmer currently in club are able to help of assist if need's be.</p>	A separate committee should be available for the network clubs	If one is available and able to help yes but the question is are they available	<p>No, we have our own club to worry about paying our own fees for our training time as well as all other expenditures we feel it unfair that a new swimmers membership/monthly fee go towards a different club which they may never get to train with or benefit from.</p>
Frome	We would like to see a Regional/National level programme geared	We would be able to accommodate swimmers back into our programme.	We would like to see total integration in Aquae Sulis as the Network is key to	Integrated	Yes	As stated above we would not expect a pure performance programme

	<p>towards performance swimming, but understanding that a true Performance Model is unlikely to be financially viable. We would like clearly defined entrance criteria at a minimum of Regional Level.</p>	<p>We would like to see a clear two-way system where the club supports Aquae Sulis by promoting Regional/National swimmers and Aquae Sulis supports the club by helping to develop swimmers to Regional Level and providing support for those who move back to the club should they no longer be eligible for Aquae Sulis or decide that it is not for them.</p>	<p>the success of Aquae Sulis if it is to adopt a Regional/National level programme. As a club we can only realistically take swimmers so far up the ladder and cannot offer the programme necessary to achieve multiple Regional and National Qualification. We need Aquae Sulis to provide the next step for those swimmers to help them achieve their potential.</p>			<p>as defined in the British Swimming model and as such we would not be able to directly financially support a Performance Model, but for a model providing the pathway for Regional and National swimmers we would commit to promote and attend Development Camps, Workshops and Meets run by Aquae Sulis and would help with fundraising for the club.</p>
Trowbridge	<p>TASC believes AS should be aimed at Performance level. Clearly at the same time it has to be financially sustainable. In our answer to Question 7, we believe the sustainable position is approximately 85 swimmers. TASC feels very strongly these '85' swimmers should be selected on talent and potential, as identified by the AS Head Coach and by the Head Coach of the relevant Network Club. Places should not be offered to swimmers because they do not have enough pool time or coaching staff at their home club, unless the AS Head Coach recognises that with a better pool time a certain swimmer genuinely has potential. If AS is not focused purely</p>	<p>Yes, TASC is able to do that as the numbers concerned are relatively small. Depending on the exact circumstances TASC may be able to support other clubs if they get into difficulties with this, e.g. sharing sessions, as has been done in the past.</p>	<p>In essence much the same as now. IE a member of the Network Committee and one of our members on the AS Committee if we can find a volunteer.</p>	<p>TASC would prefer the two committees stay as they are now. The one key difference TASC request is that the Network Committee is the only one empowered to make the major decisions listed already in the AS Constitution. For example, it must be the Network Committee that ultimately decides the recruitment or release of the Head Coach.</p>	<p>Yes, subject to finding a volunteer.</p>	<p>No, TASC is not willing to provide financial support. We believe that it will first of all be a complicated process, having to be pro-rata to the numbers of swimmers per network club. But also we believe that AS has to be self-funding and sustainable in order to offer a stable platform to build elite athletes.</p>

	on the top swimmers, then its whole existence is undermined and the genuine top Performance swimmers we have in our network clubs are not going to get the performance coaching they deserve.					
Norton Radstock	Junior Performance, competitive skills embedded with the potential to achieve regional times.	Yes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As one of the twelve original Network Clubs the Committee wishes to continue offering this pathway for our swimmers. • Attendance at meetings as required. • Requests for officials to support open meets will continue to be circulated. • Requests for coaching cover to be circulated. • Committee willing to be consulted if support required to share their comprehensive knowledge regarding club operational matters, impartial advice or the need to form a subcommittee to handle internal disputes. 	No NRSC is a small club, the demands on our volunteer workforce are such that we cannot commit to the day to day committee business. The Network Meetings and Coaches Meetings provide a forum for swim related matters to be openly discussed and items voted upon, NRSC would like these to continue.	No, please refer to 3 and 4 above.	NRSC are not in a position to contribute financially. The club operates a balanced budget, fund raising, grants and bursaries contribute towards any additional expenditure. When BANES withdrew funding clubs were advised ASPSC fees would cover pool hire and income from open meets, development camps and fund raising would be sufficient to cover coaching expenditure.

Additional notes

- We would like to see, over the next 3/4 months - the Constitution re drafted to reflect the important role of the Network Clubs, a restructuring of the Committee and a clear narrative and financial plan for the next 4 years (using the disciplines of SWIM 21)

- ***Any commitments should be proportional to the size of the network club. It would seem unfair to expect the same commitment (in terms of time and finance) from a small club like ours when there are several much bigger clubs in the area who will have a wider pool of resources.***
- We discussed this letter at our committee on Wednesday 24th Feb. I had one idea to help boost income for Aquae Sulis. Give the option for each club in turn to use some pool time. So we could come with our own swimmers and use a section of time used at the moment by Aquae Sulis. A week on week rolling option. So week one is open to Warminster week two for Frome ect. A point were we could bring our own swimmers and have our own coach's. If you decide to do a performance only squad the development session on a Sunday would be open to use, for example. Charge each club £50 per week for 12 network clubs that £600 per 12 weeks income over a 48 week period £2400 or charge more. If each club use it once every 12 weeks £100 per time is not a massive impact on the club but the income for yourself would be £4800 at £100 per session.
- We have attached your budget and added an option 3, which presents a more sustainable model with a Regional/National squad of 70, keeping the Elite group at 25, which is at the level of the British Swimming model, but increasing the second squad to 45 and running this as a lead into the Elite group so with slightly higher lane numbers.
- TASC has looked at the financial model provided alongside this questionnaire and we appreciate the openness. We estimate in this model that if you increase the swimmers to approximately 85, and you perhaps push for slightly more efficient pool hire, you already reach 'break-even' point. Therefore, TASC believes that AS should be an elite performance club offering place to the top 85 (or whatever final sustainable number is). These top 85 are chosen purely on their talent and potential as identified by the AS Head Coach and by the Head Coach of the relevant Network Club. They should not be chosen because they do not have enough pool time or coaching staff at their home club, unless the AS Head Coach recognises that with a better pool time a certain swimmer genuinely has potential.
- Development Camps quarterly if Development sessions cease, (our coaches may be able to offer support).
- Network Funding is provided by Somerset ASA, not sure if this is matched by Wiltshire ASA, if not this avenue of funding should be pursued considering the number of Wiltshire affiliated clubs.