

MINUTES OF: <b>North Queensland Swimming Association Inc – General Meeting</b>			
<b>Date:</b> Sunday 24 May 2009	<b>Time:</b> 12.05	<b>Chair:</b> Theresa Manning	<b>Venue:</b> Bowen Pool
<p><b>Present: Committee</b> –Judy Hicks (Secretary), Louise Baker (Treasurer), Theresa Manning (Vice-President), Alan Johnston (Tech Comm Chair),  <b>Delegates</b> – Neil &amp; Marlene Barrett (Gardens), Matt Kent &amp; Robert Lee (Bowen), Yolanda Hansen &amp; Kim McConnachie (Ayr), Darren Alsemgeest (T'ville Tourist), Annette Stripeikis &amp; Michelle O'Grady (Whitsunday), Pat Wright &amp; Lee Day (Mackay), Martin McGahan &amp; Ann Bass (T'ville Marlins)  <b>Observers</b> – Karen Donnell</p>			
<p><b>Apologies:</b> Marini, Townsville Brothers, Hughenden, Charters Towers, Herbert River, Pioneer, Cardwell Swimming Clubs, Alan White (President)</p>			

Item No.	Discussion Item	Details	Actions/Outcomes
1.	All Reports	As per the AGM	
2.	General Business		
a.	Swimmers 7 & under Policy	<p>SQ advised the following via email to all clubs on 22/05/09:  A few years ago Swimming Queensland adopted a policy that children aged 7 years &amp; under must not be disqualified under any circumstances. This was to ensure that they are able to enjoy their introduction to club swimming in an environment where the emphasis is solely on participation and learning new skills.  That policy is now being extended to include the type of recognition these children receive at swim meets. Consistent with SQ's no-disqualification policy for 7 &amp; unders, the SQ Board has decided that at all swim meets sanctioned by SQ &amp; published in the annual competition calendar, children in this age group must be recognised for participation only, and that the recognition or reward given by the host club/association must be the same for each child. This decision will take effect from 1 July 2009.  That means these children shall not be awarded an official placing and, consequently, will not be eligible for placegetter rewards.  The form of recognition for participation will be left to the discretion of the host club/association – i.e. a medal, ribbon, certificate etc. Please note that SQ provides attractive participation ribbons free of charge to clubs holding swim meets if they request them. Simply contact SQ by email at <a href="mailto:admin.qld@swimming.org.au">admin.qld@swimming.org.au</a>  Clubs are also encouraged to adopt the same approach at their club championships, for which free participation ribbons are also available. – Kevin Hasemann CEO Swimming Queensland</p> <p>Further discussion with SQ revealed the regions can broaden this policy further if they wish.</p>	<p>After some discussion this policy will be broadened for all clubs in our region to include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ All Nomination fees for swimmers 7 years &amp; under will be free of charge.</li> <li>○ 1 only participation award per swimmer per meet is to be given.</li> </ul> <p>Further consequences to this policy include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Records for this age group will now be invalid</li> <li>○ Club records cannot be continued if they are currently in place.</li> <li>○ NQ Records currently read 8 years &amp; under and will be changed to read 8 years.</li> </ul>
b.	Program Sales, Entrance Fees, Nomination Fees and Awards for Meets	<p>Concern was raised that far too many meets are being held with the priority being the club's fundraising event. Clubs that consider holding a meet should do so with the benefit of the meet to the swimmers in mind not how much profit can be made. Clubs should be finding ways to minimize expenses to patrons to encourage more participation. It is widely considered that a good majority of patrons have already paid for nominations and possibly travel and accommodation before they attend the meet. The costs involved for patrons to attend a meet are starting to out price the average family. Clubs need to be more resourceful when attempting to obtain income rather than</p>	<p>NQSA will be introducing the NQ Club Manual which will deal with some of these issues.  The manual will be the main focus at the forum for club administration.</p>

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		<p>constantly sourcing it from the swimmers we are all trying to benefit.</p> <p>Main areas of concern are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Program Sales – clubs should be limiting the price of programs to a minimum. Free copying is available from your local member of parliament (you may need to supply the paper). This service should be available from all MP's. The T'ville Council Library located in Kirwan has free copying available (500 copies per month) clubs just need to apply at the Library for a special card.</li> <li>○ Nomination fees for events – clubs that hold A&amp;B meets which is where medals are awarded for 'A' swimmers and ribbons for 'B' swimmers as per the NQSA recommendation need to consider that the fee charged should reflect the award given.</li> <li>○ Entrance Fees – Some clubs are combining Entrance, Program and Raffle into the one fee of around \$10. Please note this is not acceptable and the inclusion of Raffle tickets is a form of gambling and all patrons <u>must</u> be given a choice whether to purchase a ticket.</li> <li>○ Awards at Meets – the area of concern here is the lack of emphasis put on swimmers attaining an UPGRADE. The A&amp;B meets were designed with the junior/new swimmers in mind with a tier award system to assist swimmers/coaches to set achievable goals. 'B' swimmers should be receiving ribbons, upgrade swimmers – special medals (that are different to 'A' swimmers) 'A' swimmers – medals. Age aggregate champions should only be awarded in 'A' division (if at all). There should be no points awarded in the 'B' division. Clubs need to consider that only around 16 age aggregates are awarded at meets from the 100-200 competitors that attend, so it is not a drawcard for patrons to attend.</li> </ul>	
c.	Development Activites	<p>All regions have been given a minimum list of development activities for swimmers. NQ activities are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ 2 JX Clinics – 1 Mackay 1 Townsville</li> <li>○ JX Gold Camp – for JX Gold Swimmers 11-13 years</li> <li>○ 2 JX Teams to attend a 1 day meet.</li> <li>○ Select Regional Relay teams to compete at State Championships</li> </ul> <p>NQ will also introduce development activities for clubs. Forums will be held for the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Training for the use of Team and Meet Manager software programs</li> <li>○ Training for club administration</li> <li>○ Training for protocols &amp; procedures at meets.</li> </ul> <p>NQ Technical Sub Committee will hold training for officials at the club's request. Please note that all clubs will be expected to have 5 core accredited officials within their club to assist in the running of their club nights and with meets within the region. The 5 core officials are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Starter</li> <li>○ Marshall</li> <li>○ Check Starter</li> <li>○ Chief Timekeeper</li> <li>○ Recorder</li> </ul> <p>At a date yet to be set there will Technical Officials training regarding SWD swimmers (disabled</p>	<p>Clubs will be notified when the final details for the all activities have been organised.</p> <p>Team &amp; Meet Manager software training. (4-6 hours) Clubs who wish to have training please contact Judy Hicks. Judy is willing to do small groups of around 6-10 people. Clubs will need to bring laptop with the programs and club data installed. <a href="mailto:judy.hicks6@bigpond.com">judy.hicks6@bigpond.com</a></p> <p>All enquiries regarding Technical Officials training please contact Alan Johnston. <a href="mailto:alanjohnston2005@yahoo.com.au">alanjohnston2005@yahoo.com.au</a></p>

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		swimmers) Mr John Keppie for SQ will be in attendance.	
d.	NQ Equipment	<p>List of equipment available to clubs for use at meets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Semi Automatic Timing</li> <li>○ 6 x 3 pop up tent – 1 only</li> <li>○ 3 x 3 pop up tent – 2 only</li> <li>○ Lap counters – 8 sets</li> <li>○ Marshalling Board – 1 only</li> </ul> <p>Please note a fee will be charged for the timing equipment (which includes at least 1 operator) however all other equipment is free of charge.</p>	Clubs need to book equipment for the meet by contacting Judy Hicks.
e.	Affiliation Forms for 2009/10	<p>Affiliation forms for the coming season will soon be sent from Swimming Qld. Please ensure that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Form is completed correctly and <b><u>IN FULL</u></b>. Please include email addresses and contact phone numbers.</li> <li>○ Form is sent direct to SQ by the 30<sup>th</sup> September to avoid the late fee.</li> </ul>	
		MEETING CLOSED @ 1.40PM	