

## **SW EXECUTIVE MINUTES 11.1.09, Brean 4pm**

**Present:** Sarah Binding, Carolyn Devereux, Kay Ellington, Mike Euridge, Joan Jackman, Robin Leeworthy, Michael May, Tony Merrett, Ricky Molyneux, Chris O'Hagan, Mark Pocock, Nigel Saunders, Beverley Spragg, Maureen Wheatley.

**Apologies:** Sara Gibbons, Deb Hows, Joy Payne, Derek Potter

**Minutes of the last meeting 14.9.08 were read and approved.**

### **Chairman's report:**

Mike welcomed Carolyn Devereux, our new regional administrator. He then read out an e-mail from Derek, which explained that he is now semi-retired. Derek will carry on running the website for two months until English gymnastics change the server after this time Carolyn Devereux will take it over. Everyone wanted to thank Derek for all his work for the SW in the past 15 years.

### **Honorary Awards nominations**

The possibility of Nikki Thorne gaining an honorary coach award was discussed. Nikki was coach to the junior world champions in the 11-16 age group and silver medallists in the 12-19 age group at the same competition. The award states it should be a senior competition, but it was felt that we should still write and state Nikkis's case.

### **Daphne Dickens Rosebowl**

After a little discussion, it was agreed that this should be presented to Imogen Cairns (The Academy), in view of her many achievements peaking with her selection for the Olympic Games in Beijing.

### **Regional administrator**

Carolyn will work from home or Gemini on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays. She has yet to receive her mobile phone, but her contact details will be published as soon as she has received them. She will be working closely with Chris O'Hagan, helping with Gym Mark admin and will be gradually taking on some of Mark and Robin's administrative work load.

### **England**

England was not declared fit for purpose and at present will be known as BG England but this will be discussed further at a Board meeting. There should be more money forthcoming from England in the future. They have been awarded 14.2 million over the next 3 years, but this cannot start to be spent until after April and at present we are not aware what we may be able to apply for. For example if it is possible to set up another regional club coach most we would be interested.

### **Regional Coaching Co-ordinator**

Mark suggested that all courses are set 3 months in advance of the start and then the closing date is 1 month before the start. This needs to be adhered to because at the moment there are problems and many courses are being cancelled. We need to get coaches and clubs more organised rather than leaving their applications to the last moment.

In the future all regions will be expected to pay in the region of £300 for each tutor or assessor, to attend training. Mark will see whether it is possible to apply for an Awards for all grant to help towards the cost of this. New UKCC level 2 tutor training will start in April, followed by Assessor training. New Tutor training starts in June.

### **Welfare Officer**

An issue involving possible poaching arose a few months ago. This was discussed in generality and agreed that the club affected should have written a formal letter to the other club at the time. Too much time has passed and there is hearsay involved but the chairman will contact the club involved.

### **Development Officer**

Chris is now full time. Her line manager is Catrin Devenold. However, for her to fulfil her contract, she needs some county Development Officers to be in post. PESSCL is going well and Next Step has now started. The PS badge award scheme starter pack has been sent out to clubs. Key Steps trampoline is also out.

## **Regional Club and Coach posts**

Rhythmic , we contribute to approximately 1 ½ hours a week of Sarah's time. The majority of her job revolves around elite coaching.

Acrobatics: although this is supposed to be part time, it feels more like a full time job. Much of Tony's job is supposed to be coaching but the majority of time is spent mentoring other coaches, however, this beginning to pay dividends across the region, especially in Dorset.95% of his time is spent coaching or mentoring.

Men's artistic: This post is only just up and running. Steven has attended one regional squad training and will run another next week. The elite gymnasts in the SW have also met with him 1x in Exeter and once in Bristol. He has just started a Devon squad for 24 boys from 6 different clubs. This will meet 6 times a year.

## **Discipline reports**

We are thriving across every discipline.

**Acrobatics** 11-16 World Champions Mixed pairs Kamen Mitchell and Shanie-Redd Thorne (King Edmunds)

12-19 World silver medallists 12-19 Women's pairs Maiken Thorne and Mollie Grehan (King Edmunds)  
British Tournament 5 gold and 4 silver medals won, Two judges are taking brevet exams

**Rhythmic** Senior British champion Francesca Fox (C.of Bath Rhythmic), U12 British champion also from the region

Two gymnasts competed in the European Championships and are now in Australia for the Australian Youth Olympics. SW won the inter regional team event for the second year in a row. Sarah binding and Deb Hows will be taking their brevet judging exam next week making it a first for the SW

**Women's artistic:** The Academy are flying high winning the Bill Slater team championships as well as having national champions in the Voluntary level 4 (9 years) and level 2 (11 years) categories. Stacey Godden of Bristol Hawks became national challenge cup Senior Champion. % judges should hold brevets after the new courses and exams.

**Men's artistic :** After his high finish in the British Championships, 12 year old Jay Thomson (Exeter) was selected to represent GB in Hungary where he became overall champion, winning 5 medals in total. James May is retaking his brevet exam

**Aerobics:** Debbie Saunders was nominated for the unsung hero award in this area. The national squad is using Weston Aerobics for training. Nigel Saunders will be taking his brevet exam in Portugal.

**Trampolining:** The English championships took place for the first time,, but the rules seemed to be made up as the competition went along. The team came 4<sup>th</sup>.The cost of sending the team to the competition means that they are now running very short of money as a discipline. There is £1948 in the bank but bills need to be paid to the tune of £2500. Trampolining is rapidly outgrowing any competition venue in the Sw. They need a minimum of 8 trampolines and 1 double min tramp. They had 368 competitors in the last competition.

**GMPD .** GB had a very successful trip to Gran Canaria. The team included several SW gymnasts and personnel.

**Cheerleading:** One level 1 Young leaders award for girls aged 14+ has been held in Plymouth, another should take place on 19<sup>th</sup> February. These courses cost £35 at present. Level 2 courses cost £95 and one will take place for teachers and coaches on 21<sup>st</sup> February in Southampton. Once awards become UKCC the cost will go up, but the advantage is that this will become the recognised cheerleading discipline in time.

## **County Reports**

Devon : new squad training sessions for 30 girls and 24 boys from 6 Devon clubs started today. 22 young coaches also attended

Somerset; It was agreed that Somerset schools would meet with Somerset schools. Only two clubs were represented at the meeting. To open up membership , clubs needed to pay £10 to affiliate and get the information about competitions, newsletter etc.. To date only Splitz gymnastics has joined.

## **Any other business**

Level 1 courses: To date it is mostly trampoline courses that have been run. It was felt that the log books were repetitious and complicated.. Day 1 of the course was also a problem. Examining Level 1 courses is hardly worth an examiners time. It is a long day for only 5 or 6 candidates and travel and expenses are no longer covered by BG. Ricky Molyneux has been appointed onto the national panel as the external verifier for our region.

SW Conference: Christine , wishes to hold a conference later in the year. Day 1 would have topics of generic interest whilst day 2 would be more sports specific. Money will come from the PESSCL pot.

**Date of next meeting: 19<sup>th</sup> April, Exeter Gym Club 2pm**