



**Amateur Swimming Association/English Schools Swimming Association  
Briefing to Senior Competition Managers**



**Priorities for Competition Managers**

- Delivery of Aqua Skills festivals at KS 2 for boys and girls. Aqua Skills includes swimming, diving (flip n fun), synchro (aqua fun) and water polo (mini polo).
- Delivery of a minimum of one festival per year at SSP level
- Focus should be on providing new and fun opportunities with the majority being non-club swimmers.
- Training and new opportunities should be provided for young leaders to help deliver the festivals.

**Agreed Youth Sport Trust targets**

2008/09            100 SSPs will organise a multi aquatic festival  
 2009/10            225 SSPs will organise a multi aquatic festival  
 2010/11            450 SSPs will organise a multi aquatic festival

**Agreed priority counties**

Buckinghamshire, Hampshire, Norfolk, Suffolk, Sussex, **XXXXXXXXXX**  
**SW, EM, WM, NW, NE, London**

**An overview of the framework**

<b>AQUATICS COMPETITION FRAMEWORK</b>				
Where next?	ASA club	ASA club ASA club champs ESSA primary schools	ASA club ASA county age group & regional champs ESSA divisional trials	ASA club ASA county age group & regional champs ESSA divisional trials
Development stage	FUNDamentals	Aqua Skills	Aqua Skills	Swim Fit Waterpolo Multi aquatic
Skills & Activities	Multi discipline Skill based	Multi discipline Multi stroke Multi distance	Multi discipline League activity	
	KS1 4 – 7 years	KS2 7 – 11 years	KS3 11 – 13 years	KS4 14 – 16 years

**Who is involved?**

The English Schools Swimming Association (ESSA) and the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) have completed a full review of aquatics school competition and in response a competition framework has been produced.

The ESSA have responsibility for competitive school swimming at international, national level, regional/divisional level and within some counties. There is also a strong school waterpolo structure from county to national level.

The ASA have a responsibility to support Competition Managers, through their regional and national structure, to increase school competition at SSP level and below. In some counties there are Partnership Swimming Development Officers who will be able to provide further advice and guidance.

### **National contact**

Yvette Heywood, Schools Competition Development Manager, ASA  
E-mail: [yvette.heywood@swimming.org](mailto:yvette.heywood@swimming.org), Tel: 07795 171505

### **Regional contact**

South East.	Natalie Cunningham.	<a href="mailto:natalie.cunningham@swimming.org">natalie.cunningham@swimming.org</a>
South West.	Kelly Gaffney.	<a href="mailto:kelly.gaffney@swimming.org">kelly.gaffney@swimming.org</a>
West Midlands.	Debbie Dean.	<a href="mailto:Debbie.dean@swimming.org">Debbie.dean@swimming.org</a>
East Midlands.	Rachel Washington.	<a href="mailto:Rachel.Washington@Swimming.org">Rachel.Washington@Swimming.org</a>
East	Roy Emmerston	<a href="mailto:royston.emmerson@swimming.org">royston.emmerson@swimming.org</a>
North East/Yorkshire	Craig Nicholson	<a href="mailto:craig.nicholson@swimming.org">craig.nicholson@swimming.org</a>
North West	Nik Turnbull	<a href="mailto:nik.turnbull@swimming.org">nik.turnbull@swimming.org</a>

### **Supporting resources**

A range of resources are available for Competition Managers and teachers/coaches

- ⇒ Aqua Skills toolkit including guidance information on flip n fun, mini polo and aqua fun
- ⇒ Case studies and sample festivals with recommended activities
- ⇒ CPD courses for diving, synchro and mini polo

Full details can be found at [www.britishswimming.org](http://www.britishswimming.org) under teachers & coaches/ school swimming

The ASA is currently rewriting the Aqua Skills toolkit to include further information about how to organise a festival and give examples and DVD showing how a festival should be structured and delivered. This will be available in September 2008.

The ASA is currently redeveloping the Swimfit for Schools online programme, which will be relaunched in September 2008.

### **Young Leaders Awards**

The ASA would like to see schools running either a Young Aquatic Organiser Award or Club Timekeeper course before every festival to enable young leaders take part.

A brand new award called the Young Aquatic Organiser has been created for young leaders aged 14 to 19 who are interested in developing their knowledge and skills to organise fun, safe and effective events or help out in the running of their club. The course is 10 hours long and includes a theory session, a practical session and a club placement.

Alternatively the ASA Club Timekeeper has been recently updated with a new student handbook designed for school aged children. This course is 3 hours long and provides an ideal introduction to becoming an official and helping out at school and club competitions. The minimum recommended age is 14.