



July 2015

Dear Secretary,

Re: Regional Affiliation Fees 2016

I wish to inform you that the Regional Management Board, at its meeting held on 09 July 2015, agreed that the Regional affiliation fees for 2016 should be as follows:

- Category 1 member - £4.00
- Category 2 member - £5.00
- Category 3 member - £0.00

The minimum payment per club (including leagues, schools and other affiliated organisations) would remain at £25.

The Board did not take its decision to increase the fees lightly. While the Region has consistently underspent against budget in recent years, and, indeed, has healthy bank balances, the cost of providing the range of activities and services goes up each year.

In the past year for instance, the Region stepped in to support the South East England Diving Scheme (SEEDS) based in Southampton when for whatever reason, the ASA decided, initially, against offering funding for the project. The Region funds a swimming team to an overseas competition, and supports a warm weather camp for synchro-swimmers aspiring to join the national squads. It supports members of national squads in diving and water polo to attend training camps outside the region. The Region provides bursaries for those seeking teaching or coaching qualifications in aquatic disciplines. Last year, the Region doubled the number of Regional Club Development Officers, when Kristie Jarrett was hired to join Helen Mack in the field of targeted support to clubs.

All of this is over and above the base level offerings of high level competitions in all disciplines.

All of these activities and exercises come with a cost. If all the bids for funding made to the Board had been accepted, the Board would have had to set a budget showing a £127,000 deficit for the year 2015/16. The Board believed it would be wrong to do so, if for no other reason that such spending would be unsustainable. It, therefore, pared things back to a deficit budget of £87,000, but recognised that this could only be achieved if affiliation fees were increased for 2016.



Against that background, the Board decided to increase the fees for category 1 and 2 members by £1 each, the first increase since 2011. No fee is levied for Category 3 members. These fees compare very favourably to those charged in other regions. And, at £5 for the year, the affiliation fee for category 2 members is less than a single event entry for many competitions.

Please note that the ASA will continue to collect all fees i.e. those set by the ASA, Region and Sub-Regions (if appropriate).

You should receive notification of the ASA fees for 2016 directly from the ASA but for your information please note that the ASA Board has set the membership fees for 2016 as follows:

- Category 1 member - £8.70
- Category 2 member - £25.50
- Category 3 member - £5.00
- Student member - £5.00

Also, should your Sub-Region decide to levy Sub-Regional affiliation fees for 2016, you should be informed of this directly by your Sub-Region.

If you have any further questions or queries, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours Sincerely

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cc: Regional Discipline Group Managers