



## **End of Year Financial Report 2025-26**

Mike Riggall, Treasurer

11 May 2026

## Contents

Contents .....	2
Summary .....	3
Balance sheet and accounts for April 2025 – March 2026.....	4
Notes to the Accounts.....	8
Non-Current Assets.....	8
Administration Support Grants .....	8
Development Meet.....	8
Age Group and Youth Championships.....	9
Artistic Swimming.....	10
Masters' Development Meet .....	10
National County Team Championships (NCTC) .....	11
The John Bolton.....	12
Teaching and Coaching Bursaries .....	13
Development Grants .....	15
County Development Pathway.....	15
Affiliation Fees .....	17
Liabilities Carried Forward .....	17
Debtors .....	18
Notes for Financial Year 2026-27 .....	18
Swim England Governance Review .....	18
Fees and Charges .....	18
National County Team Championships.....	19
Affiliation Fees .....	19
Fees and Charges .....	19
2026/27 Development Programme .....	20

### **Summary**

This report shows the financial position of Somerset ASA comprising the balance sheet and income and expenditure for the financial year ending 31 March 2026.

Overall, the finances show retained earnings of £2,709.06 on the year's activities which represents a figure of 4% of overall turnover. A number of financial challenges created pressure on the accounts this year, including the announcement of the loss of the Swim England accommodation subsidy for attending the National County Team Championships and the introduction of charges for car parking stewards at Millfield School, however there was no requirement to draw on reserves.

The accounts have been scrutinised by the independent assessor for auditing purposes in accordance with financial rules. The signed set of accounts has been circulated along with this report for presentation at the AGM.

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

### Balance sheet and accounts for April 2025 – March 2026

The financial position for year ending 31 March 2026 is shown in the following tables:

	INCOME			EXPENDITURE	
	2025.26	2024.25		2025.26	2024.25
Somerset Affiliation Fees	5,309.95	5,805.15	Inter County (NCTC) Sheffield	7,504.68	6,513.11
Championships and Age Groups	42,306.13	43,445.64	Development Meet	7,337.44	6,705.59
Development Meet	9,874.00	10,608.00	Age Groups & Championships	24,155.31	23,536.76
Inter-Counties (NCTC)	850.00	1,540.00	Swim England Membership	73.85	43.50
Artistic Swimming Event Income	0.00	0.00	Water Polo	390.00	1,146.00
Masters Income	1,932.00	0.00	Artistic Swimming	9.95	0.00
Interest	821.64	718.94	Open Water	0.00	0.00
Erroneous income	0.00	1,028.05	Masters	3,369.79	24.00
Write ons	36.00	0.00	Admin Support	1,110.00	1,417.00
Other income	199.08	46.01	Financial Charges	354.64	268.23
			Gratuities	0.00	0.00
			Insurance	203.42	178.22
			Office Supplies	0.00	13.00
			Marketing and Branding	688.11	0.00
			Technology	983.94	1,462.24
			AGM	410.10	235.89
			Travel Expenses	0.00	0.00
			Cost of Goods Sold	9.22	503.08
			Storage unit costs	1,381.50	1,139.42
			Depreciation of assets	384.43	382.12
			Postage and Telephony	0.00	0.00
			Reversed transactions	0.00	1,004.00
			Other expenditure	7.58	378.80
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>61,328.80</b>	<b>63,191.79</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>48,373.96</b>	<b>44,950.96</b>

#### DEVELOPMENT

County Pathway	8,948.08	6,450.00	County Pathway	13,132.14	6,944.66
The John Bolton Event	1,620.00	1,844.00	Bursary Funding	2,200.00	2,100.00
SE SW Region Bursaries	1,550.00	900.00	Volunteers	0.00	0.00
Young Volunteers Bursary			Young Volunteers	2,212.50	0.00
Contributions	712.50	0.00	The John Bolton Event	2,901.32	2,731.71
SE SW Region Development	0.00	0.00	Grants - Artistic Swimming	0.00	0.00
			Grants - Swimming	1,875.48	1,497.50
			Grants - Water Polo	350.00	3,640.67
			Grants - Masters	0.00	0.00
			Grants - Open Water	0.00	0.00
			Officials	404.92	268.51
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,830.58</b>	<b>9,194.00</b>	<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23,076.36</b>	<b>17,183.05</b>

Income vs Expenditure

£2,709.06

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

### Assets

Asset Type	Category	Class	Total	Carrying Value
Equipment	Underwater speaker (AS)		1	151.67
	Event printer		1	83.58
	Sumup card reader #1		1	44.24
	Sumup card reader #2		1	47.40
	Dell Laptop		1	332.67
	GoPro Camera		1	152.17
Trophies	Details in trophy inventory		84	5,500.00
<b>Assets Total</b>				<b>6,311.73</b>

### Inventory

Item Type	Category	Class	Total	Value
Medals	Development Meet	Gold	41	65.83
		Silver	61	98.24
		Bronze	96	153.38
	Legacy Medals	Gold	80	306.77
		Silver	32	133.95
		Bronze	23	96.17
	Championships	Gold	53	105.10
		Silver	76	151.67
		Bronze	92	181.70
	Podium	Gold	9	24.95
		Silver	12	33.43
		Bronze	19	53.56
	Plaques		5	73.72
	Masters Development Meet		334	1,146.42
TJB Participation		14	62.35	
Towels	Stock		1	18.74
CDP	Swim Caps		182	798.60
	Staff Polo Shirts		7	155.18
NCTC	Swim Caps		100	468.00
Officials	T-Shirts		77	1,155.00
	Clipboards		30	180.00
Volunteers	T-Shirts		13	296.40
Masters	Hats		25	114.00
	Polo shirts		2	35.00
<b>Inventory Total</b>				<b>5,908.15</b>

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>12,219.88</b>
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## Register of non-current Assets

Code	Asset	Purchased	Ref	Supplier	Cost	Life	Method	Charge	Carrying Value	Year end	Location
1001	Underwater speaker (AS)	08/12/2022	22179	Thomann GmbH	455.00	5	Straight Line	30.33	424.67	31/03/2023	Taunton Deane Artistic Swimming Club
								91.00	333.67	31/03/2024	
								91.00	242.67	31/03/2025	
								91.00	<b>151.67</b>	<b>31/03/2026</b>	
2001	Event printer	22/12/2022	22182	Vitesse Plc	238.80	5	Straight Line	11.94	226.86	31/03/2023	Competition Secretary
								47.76	179.10	31/03/2024	
								47.76	131.34	31/03/2025	
								47.76	<b>83.58</b>	<b>31/03/2026</b>	
6001	Sumup card reader #1	31/07/2023	23096	Sumup Payments Ltd	94.80	5	Straight Line	12.64	82.16	31/03/2024	Volunteer Co-ordinator
								18.96	63.20	31/03/2025	
								18.96	<b>44.24</b>	<b>31/03/2026</b>	
6002	Sumup card reader #2	22/09/2023	23209	Sumup Payments Ltd	94.80	5	Straight Line	9.48	85.32	31/03/2024	Volunteer Co-ordinator
								18.96	66.36	31/03/2025	
								18.96	<b>47.40</b>	<b>31/03/2026</b>	
2002	Dell Laptop	29/11/2024	24294	Dell Technologies	499.00	4	Straight Line	41.58	457.42	31/03/2025	Competition Secretary
								124.75	<b>332.67</b>	<b>31/03/2026</b>	
4001	GoPro Camera	13/02/2025	24462	Xpress Int Ltd (via Amazon)	249.00	3	Straight Line	13.83	235.17	31/03/2025	CDP Co-ordinator
								83.00	<b>152.17</b>	<b>31/03/2026</b>	

**BALANCE SHEET for the Year 1st. April 2025 - 31st March 2026**

HSBC Business Account (Reserves)	53,879.95	HSBC Business Account (Reserves)	54,701.59
HSBC Community Account	14,682.57	HSBC Community Account	14,206.76
PayPal Account	0.00	PayPal Account	43.61
Assets Net Book Value	9,186.83	Assets Net Book Value	12,219.88
Cash in hand	100.00	Cash in Hand	100.00
Accounts receivable	4,632.65	Accounts receivable	4,761.70
Less Accrued Liabilities	1,011.45	Less Accrued Liabilities & Deferred Income	1,853.93
<b>Brought Forwards from 2024 / 2025</b>	<b>81,470.55</b>	<b>Carried forward to 2026 / 2027</b>	<b>84,179.61</b>
Total Income 2025 / 2026	74,159.38	Total Expenditure 2025 / 2026	71,450.32
	<u>155,629.93</u>		<u>155,629.93</u>

**SOMERSET AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION**  
**INDEPENDENT EXAMINER'S REPORT**

*I have examined the account books, bank statements and vouchers presented to me and certify that the Income and Expenditure Account and Balance Sheet are in accordance with the documents presented.*

Signed:.......... 10 May 2026  
**Andrew Williamson, Independent Examiner**

## Notes to the Accounts

### Non-Current Assets

There were no significant changes to the non-current assets owned by the organisation. These assets are detailed in the Register of non-current assets in the previous section.

### Administration Support Grants

In previous years, Somerset ASA has made administration support grants available to key officers in recompense for expenses incurred whilst undertaking duties and running events such as the County Championships. For 2025-26 the following administration support grants were made:

Officer	Grant (£)
President	115
Chair (April to December)	259
Chair (January to March)	86
Competition Secretary	460
Officials Secretary	115
Independent financial adviser	75
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,110</b>

An omission not spotted prior to the accounts being audited is the omission of payment to the volunteer co-ordinator; this will be remedied in the 26/27 accounts.

### Development Meet

Income and expenditure relating to the Development Meet in October are shown in the table below.

#### Profit & Loss: Development Meet

##### Revenues

Entry Fees	
Development Meet	£7,872.00
Gate Receipts	
Development Meet	£1,615.00
Poolside Accreditations	
Development Meet	£387.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>£9,874.00</b>

##### Expenses

Development Meet	
Car Park Stewards	£240.00

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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Catering	£903.00
Event Timing	£740.00
Facilities Hire	£3,877.50
Medals	£737.76
Officials & Volunteers	£628.76
Other Expenses	£154.42
PA System	
Refunds	£56.00
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£7,337.44</b>
<b>Net income for Period</b>	<b>£2,536.56</b>

### Age Group and Youth Championships

The County Championships continues to represent the largest source of income to the organisation and provides the catalyst for other activities such as the development programme. The fantastic work undertaken by Kelly and her team should be recognised and acknowledged by all within the county.

### Profit & Loss: Championships (including County Relays and IM)

#### Revenues

Entry Fees	
Champs and Age Groups	£30,024.20
County Relays & IM	£4,102.00
Gate Receipts	
Champs and Age Groups	£5,221.00
County Relays	£1,000.00
Licensed Merchandise	
County Championships	£1,598.93
County Relays	
Non-Appearance Fines	
Champs and Age Groups	£100.00
Poolside Accreditations	
County Championships	
County Relays and IM	£260.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>£42,306.13</b>

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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### Expenses

Champs and Age Groups	
Catering	£2,786.00
Event Timing	£1,850.00
Facilities Hire	£10,245.60
Medals	£2,924.34
Officials & Volunteers	£1,825.84
Other Expenses	£162.01
Radios	£110.00
Refunds	£57.60
Towels	£373.20
Trophies	
County Relays	
Catering	£396.00
Event Timing	£370.00
Facilities Hire	£1,980.00
Medals	£605.66
Officials & Volunteers	£450.40
Other Expenses	
PA System	
Refunds	
Towels	£18.66

**Total Expenses** **£24,155.31**

**Net income for Period** **£18,150.82**

For the Relay and IM day of the County Championships in October, separate charges for poolside accreditation for coaches and team managers were collected via PayPal. For the main events in January and February, accreditation costs of £0.20 were built into the race entry fee.

### Artistic Swimming

There was no financial activity relating to Artistic Swimming throughout the financial year with the exception of the engraving of a trophy. Whilst the county championships took place, no financial activity was recorded on the SASA bank account.

### Masters' Development Meet

Somerset ASA conducted the inaugural masters' open meet in June. Run at a loss, the profit and loss figures are shown in the table on the following page.

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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### Profit & Loss: Masters' Development Meet

#### Revenues

Entry Fees

Masters Development £1,932.00

Meet

**Total Revenue £1,932.00**

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#### Expenses

Masters Development Meet

Catering £295.40

Event Timing £380.00

Facilities Hire £1,980.00

Medals £277.83

Officials & Volunteers

Other Expenditure £285.46

Refunds

Trophies

**Total Expenses £3,218.69**

**Net loss for Period £1,286.69**

The loss for the event was anticipated and was accepted by the management committee as a means of getting the event established in the calendar.

### National County Team Championships (NCTC)

The NCTC in Sheffield is deemed to be a blue-ribbon event as it showcases the swimming talent in Somerset. The support received from Millfield School and its coaches is recognised and valued as well as that of Rachel Aldington, and that of Kelly Podbury as chief organiser and Team Manager.

Midway through the financial year, Swim England removed the £1,000 accommodation subsidy that has historically been offered to travelling counties. The loss of the subsidy was less significant than the timing of the announcement which was made once the budgets had been set and entry fees for key SASA events established.

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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### Profit & Loss: NCTC

#### Revenues

Entry Fees	
NCTC	£850.00
Contributions	
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>£850.00</b>

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#### Expenses

Inter-County	
Accreditations	£12.00
Equipment	£1,106.39
Insurance	£243.14
Refunds	
Subsistence	£4,373.35
Travel	£1,769.80
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>£7,504.68</b>

**Net loss for Period** **£6,654.68**

The athlete contribution towards the 2025-26 NCTC event was established at the AGM at £25.

### The John Bolton

This event marks the tremendous work that John Bolton did for SASA before his untimely death in 2024. The financial reports for the two events are combined in the report shown below:

### Profit & Loss: The John Bolton

#### Revenues

Entry Fees	
The John Bolton	£1,520.00
Gate Receipts	
The John Bolton	
Poolside	
Accreditations	
John Bolton	£100.00
<b>Total Revenue</b>	<b>£1,620.00</b>

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## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

### Expenses

The John Bolton	
Catering	£305.50
Event Timing	£740.00
Facilities Hire	£1,181.80
Medals	£477.22
Officials	£196.80
Other Expenses	
PA System	
Refunds	

**Total Expenses** **£2,901.32**

**Net loss for Period** **£1,281.32**

The race entry fee for the John Bolton was established at the AGM at £10.

### Teaching and Coaching Bursaries

Claims for 19 bursaries were reimbursed through the year. A breakdown of the values of the bursaries by clubs and disciplines is shown in the table below:

Club	Bursaries	Value
<b>Burnham-on-Sea</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>150</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	1	150
<b>Clevedon</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>700</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	2	300
Swimming Coach	2	400
<b>Keynsham</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>600</b>
Swimming Coach	3	600
<b>Millfield</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>650</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	3	450
Swimming Coach	1	200
<b>Street</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>150</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	1	150
<b>Taunton Deane</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>200</b>
Swimming Coach	1	200
<b>Team Bath AS</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>200</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	2	200
<b>Wells</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>150</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	1	150
<b>Weston-super-Mare</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>150</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	1	150
<b>Wincanton</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>150</b>
Assistant Swimming Coach	1	150
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>3,100</b>

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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The bursary scheme is a regional initiative with matched funding provided by Swim England South West and SASA. Of the £3,100 paid in bursary funding, £1,550 is shown as having been reclaimed from the region. The annual contribution from the region is capped at £1,500 and it therefore appears that we were able to recover a value higher than the cap. This is explained by the differences in the accounting periods. The regional bursary scheme runs from January to December whereas the SASA financial year runs April to March. Some income which appears in the accounts has been accrued to 2026/27.

As a reminder, each club was eligible to claim up to a maximum of three bursaries *per discipline* within the club comprising:

- £100 for an assistant level qualification (previously known as level 1), and/or
- £200 for a teacher or coach qualification (previously known as level 2)
- An additional £50 for all bursaries for young volunteers

Ten of the bursaries in the table were awarded to young volunteers as part of the County Development Programme (q.v.). Where a qualifying young volunteer was awarded a bursary, this did not count towards the total number of applications per club for the year and SASA bore the full cost of the bursary. This explains why Clevedon and Millfield received four bursaries in the year.

Whilst the number of bursary claims has increased this year, most clubs continue not to claim bursary funding, and it is this fact that contributed to the underspend within the year. The anticipated level of claims will be considered when setting the budget for 2026/27 with a view to increasing spending available on other activities.

In addition to those already paid, bursary applications to the value of £250 were accepted and are currently in progress. These will be shown in the 2026/27 accounts when they are claimed.

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

### Development Grants

Spending activity through the year on development grants is summarised in the following table:

Date	Ref	Club	Description	Payment
<b>Competitive Swimming</b>				
04/08/2025	25137	Burnham-on-Sea SC	Small items grant - Four Seasons Galas underwrite	£355.48
02/02/2026	25580	Wells Swimming Club	Small items grant - Stroke rate monitors	£620.00
29/03/2026	25707	Wells Swimming Club	Small items grant - Payment in lieu of bursary funding	£400.00
31/03/2026	25709	Bridgwater ASC	Small items grant - Secondary strobe	£500.00
<b>Total For Competitive Swimming</b>				<b>£1,875.48</b>
<b>Water Polo</b>				
14/10/2025	25348	Frome Swimming Club	Small items grant - SASA combined water polo team	£350.00
<b>Total For Water Polo</b>				<b>£350.00</b>
<b>Grand Total</b>				<b>£2,225.48</b>

Management Committee approved support for the Four Seasons galas and from 2026/27 this will appear in the base revenue budget and not be supported through ongoing grants.

### County Development Pathway

The county should recognise the work undertaken by Rachel Aldington, Pat Leaman and Isabel Blight without whose hard work the programme would not have materialised. Swim England is closely monitoring the programme which goes far beyond that required of a county development pathway.

Financial reporting for the pathway programme is complicated as the programme is aligned to the swimming year (September – July) rather than the financial year (April to March). The full cost of the 2025-26 Development Programme cannot therefore be shown until July 2026. The figures in the P&L tables below comprise elements of the 2024-25 CDP as well as the 2025-26 programme.

As a new initiative, the programme offered an opportunity for ten young volunteers to complete the Swim England Assistant Coaching qualification course, subsidised through the regional bursary programme. All ten volunteers successfully completed their course.

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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### Profit & Loss: County Development Pathway

#### Revenues

Entry Fees		
Pathway 24-25		£266.00
Pathway 25-26		£7,969.58
Young Volunteers		
L1 Coaching Course		£712.50
<b>Total Revenue</b>		<b>£8,948.08</b>

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#### Expenses

Development		
Pathway 24-25		
Coaches	£1,613.84	
Facilitation	£323.24	
Facilities	£886.38	
Pathway 25-26		
Clerical	£36.44	
Coaches	£6,758.34	
Facilities	£3,205.00	
Kit	£296.40	
Refreshments	£12.50	
<b>Total Expenses</b>		<b>£13,132.14</b>

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Net loss for Period		£4,184.06
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There are several notes to the accounts relating to the county development programme:

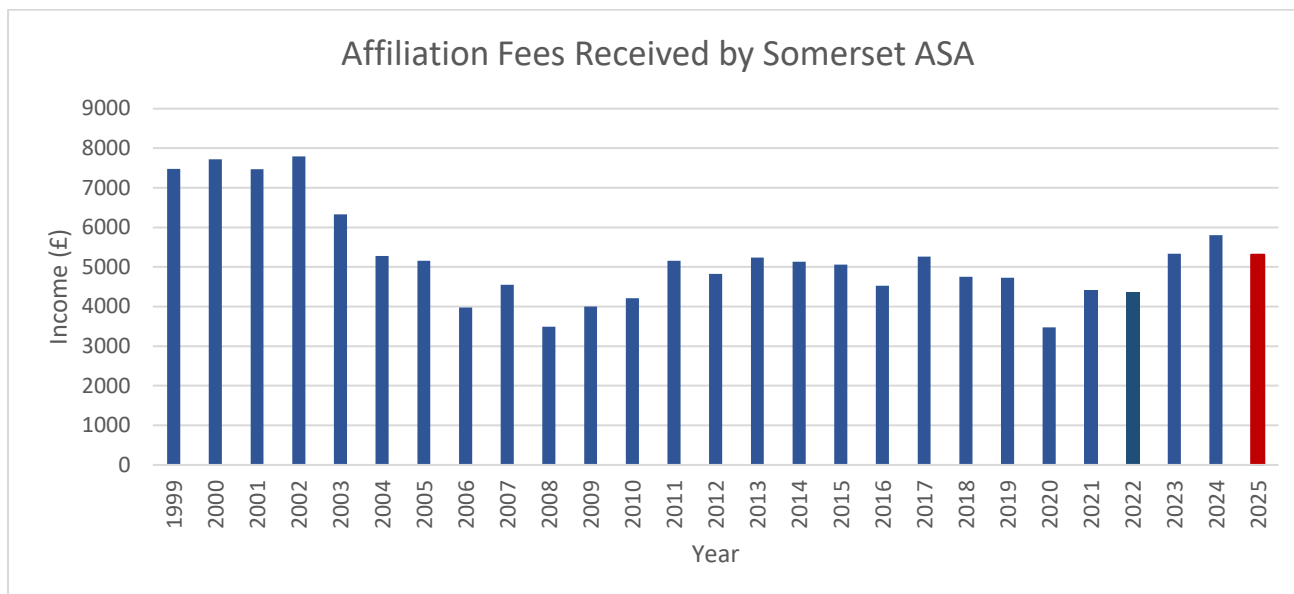
- The athlete contribution for the 2025-26 county development programme was established at the AGM in May 2025 at £108, payable in three terms of £36 each term.
- Some coaching costs for the 2025-26 programme are not shown in the accounts as these will not be invoiced until later in 2026 for services delivered in the 2026-27 financial year.

### Affiliation Fees

SASA received £5,309.95 in affiliation fees from Swim England in the financial year. As a reminder, the current affiliation fees are set as follows:

- Club Train: £1.35
- Club Compete: £1.75
- Club Support £0.00

The level of affiliation fees received since 1999/2000 is shown in the chart below.



The income received from Swim England membership was £1 per member for all categories between 1999 and 31 December 2023 which made understanding the number of members registered with Somerset clubs easy to understand. The different rates applied to the different categories of membership since January 2024 however means that this is no longer possible from the financial reports alone. The chart shown previously however provides an accurate comparison of income received from affiliation fees over the past 26 years.

Historically SASA has recognised these fees as being due at the end of March in the year in which the renewal process commenced. Whilst this allows the income to be compared directly to that of previous years, the accounting process is not technically correct and will be corrected in the future.

### Liabilities Carried Forward

Transactions to the value of £1,853.93 have been accrued to 2026-27 and are shown in the accounts as *Accrued Liabilities and Deferred Income*. These comprise activities such as:

- CDP coaching services which have been delivered in 2025-26 but have not yet been invoiced
- CDP Facilities charges which have been incurred in 2025-26 but have not yet been invoiced

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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- Income received for CDP services in term 3 that will be delivered in 2026-27

These invoices are expected to be received in the first quarter of 2026-27.

### Debtors

Shown on the accounts under *Accounts Receivable* are the debts owed to the organisation at the end of the financial year. These charges amount to £4,761.70 and comprise:

- £4,359.70 which is the balance of the Swim England membership affiliation fees collected in the membership renewal process. Whilst the income is recognised in the 2025-26 accounts, it does not hit the bank account until after the year end and therefore must be accrued and shown as an asset on the balance sheet.
- £400 which represents the Swim England South West contribution to bursaries that has been paid by SASA in 2025-26. The problem here is that SE SWR operates a financial year ending 31 December and requires all bursaries to be reclaimed in one operation at the end of the year, whereas the SASA financial year ends 31 March.
- £2 in underpayments from the County Development Programme.

## Notes for Financial Year 2026-27

### Swim England Governance Review

Swim England is currently conducting a governance review of the regional and county structures across the country. The outcome of this review may change how counties are run and funded and therefore the proposals laid out in this section may be subject to change.

### Fees and Charges

Facilities hire charges at Millfield School have risen as shown in the following table:

Item	Current Cost	New Cost
Entire Complex for full day	£1,980 (08:00 – 20:00)	£1,990 (08:00 – 18:00)
Cost per additional hour		£250
Meet supplement fee	-	16% of facility cost
Car parking stewards (per day)	-	(300 – 400 attendees) £250 (400 – 600 attendees) £375 (600 – 750 attendees) £500
Full complex per hour (CDP)	£360	£250
Single tank (8 x 25m lanes) per hour		£150
Balcony (per hour) when full complex is not booked		£35

The table overleaf provides a simplified comparison for a typical all-day booking such as for the county championships:

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## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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Item	2025	2026
Complex Hire	1,980	1,990
Meet supplement fee		318
Car park stewards		500
<b>Total</b>	<b>£1,980</b>	<b>£2,808</b>

This comparison assumes that swimming can be completed in the reduced booking time of ten hours. Each additional hour of swimming beyond the ten will increase the booking fee by £250 per day.

The fee for car park stewards will also vary depending on the number of attendees throughout the day. Typically for county championships, the likely attendance falls within the highest bracket when considering athletes, coaches and spectators.

The facilities fees shown above are fixed until mid-February 2028, meaning that we can plan for the 2028 Somerset County Championships.

The likely outcome is that the cost of facilities charges for hosting the Somersets in 2027 and 2028 will show **an increase over 2026 costs of around £4,500**. There will also be a similar, proportional increase in hosting costs for the Development Meet. Race entry fees for these events will therefore likely need to increase to offset these additional costs.

### National County Team Championships

The accommodation subsidy previously provided by Swim England and removed in 2026 will not be reinstated which immediately creates pressure of £1,000 on the budget. We can also expect a significant increase in transport costs next year as a result of the current rise in fuel prices.

### Affiliation Fees

It is proposed to increase the county affiliation fee slightly to help balance the budget.

- Club train: £1.50 per member, representing an increase of £0.15
- Club compete: £2.00 per member, representing an increase of £0.25
- Club support: no fee

### Fees and Charges

It is proposed to set fees and charges for 2026-27 as follows:

- The race entry fee for the Age Group and Youth Championships, starting with the Relays and IM day in October 2026, to increase from £7 to £8.20 which includes a £0.20 poolside accreditation charge of £0.20.
- The race entry fee for the development meet in October 2026 will increase from £4 to £5 which includes a poolside accreditation charge of £0.20.
- The race entry fee for the John Bolton long distance event will increase from £10 to £10.20, to include a poolside accreditation charge of £0.20
- The financial contribution from athletes joining the county development programme in September 2026 will remain at £36 per term.

## End of Year Financial Report, 2025-26

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- The contribution from athletes representing Somerset in the National County Team Championships will be held at £25.

Whilst any increase in race entry fees is regrettable, the costs of entering SASA events remains much lower than typical entry fees for open meets across the region.

### 2026/27 Development Programme

The development programme will continue to comprise support for teacher and coach training, small items grants and officials licensing and development.

- Clubs may make up to three applications *per discipline* (swimming, artistic swimming, open water swimming and water polo) for bursary funding to the value of £100 for a level 1 qualification and £200 for a level 2 qualification. (In this context, the discipline of *swimming* includes masters swimming)
- Bursary applications must be made by clubs in advance of the course starting. Retrospective applications will be rejected.
- The bursary will be paid to the club on receipt of a copy of the certificate awarded following completion of the course. It is the club's responsibility to claim the payment.
- Applications from Young Volunteers (YV) are not subject to the same three application limit as described above. Additionally, such applications increase the level of bursary by £50 such that a level 1 course receives a bursary of £150 and a level 2 course of £250. This arrangement sits outside of the regional bursary scheme and is funded solely by Somerset ASA. Such applications must be made through a YV's registered club.
- No support will be provided for Level 3 courses. In reaching this decision, there is no intention to diminish the value that Level 3 qualified coaches bring to the sport, however the priority for Somerset ASA at this time is to support clubs in increasing the numbers of Level 1 and Level 2 qualified teachers and coaches.
- For the twelve-month period April 2026 – March 2027, applications may only be made from clubs with SwimMark Club Affiliation. We await the outcome of the replacement SwimMark framework to understand how this may affect bursary applications going forwards.
- Small items grant funding of £3k will be available however this may be increased during the year should the take up of teaching and coaching bursaries be low.
- The cost of licences for all Somerset officials will be fully paid.

The bursary scheme has been underspent for the past three years indicating that it is not fulfilling clubs' needs. Clubs are therefore urged to submit ideas to the management committee as to how development funding from SASA can better meet these needs. Please see the following section for details of the new budget setting timeline and consultation process.