

# Swimming Leadership Group

Minutes of the meeting held 1 July 2021

## Draft minutes subject to approval via email

**Present:**

Tom Baster	Chairperson
Barry Saunders	Competitions Lead
John Hidle	Licensing Lead
Ian Mackenzie	Specialist Member (League Swimming)
Mark Davies	Technical Officials Lead
Alex Harrison	SOC Liaison
Claire Coleman	Head of Development
Grant Robins	Head of Swimming Talent
Ekaterina Boyd	Head of Events

Apologies

Jeroen Peters	Masters Working Group Chair
Martin Lees	Para Swimming

<b>Min No:</b>	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Action Log</b>
	The Action log was updated with several items rolling forward to the next meeting.
<b>2.</b>	<b>Level X</b>
2.1	Currently there has been over 20,000 individual swims. The processing team are managing the level of results being submitted.
2.2	There was discussion around the needs for series 3 of Level X. It was acknowledged that Level x was a solution for an unprecedented challenge and that the workforce committed to managing the competition is large. This raised questions around the capacity to continue the competition as the sport returns to full activity.
2.3	It was agreed that Level X would end at the conclusion of the current series.  <i>Action: At the right time such as the end of August, EB to confirm that there will be no further series whilst acknowledging the success of the format during 2020 and 2021.</i>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Festival of Swimming</b>
3.1	The plans for the competition are advancing well in all regions. Each region has taken the opportunity to deliver the competition in a format that was achievable.
3.2	JH raised a query around the use of the British Swimming Logo having seen local designs using the logo. EB clarified that the use of the logo would activate the TYR contract and would restrict the purchasing ability of the regions.  <i>Action: EB to ensure all regions are aware that the British Swimming logo cannot be used.</i>

<b>4.</b>	<b>Leagues</b>
4.1	The group considered the draft wording of a statement relating to leagues and whether they can operate. It was agreed that this would need to be revisited on the 12th July
<b>5.</b>	<b>Competition Planning</b>
5.1	EB confirmed that the financial paper submitted to the Swim England Board had been approved and that it was now the role of the Group to determine what if any competitions should go ahead. This decision should be based on what was reasonable and feasible.
5.2	In relation to County Teams championship, it was acknowledged that there was a 50/50 split across the counties around taking part in such an event. It was agreed to rest this competition for 2021 and that it would take its usual place on 2022.  <i>Action: EB to publish to the community that the County Team Championship will be rested.</i>
5.3	In relation to the Masters Championship it was agreed that this competition would take place in its proposed window of 29-31 October. It was acknowledged that the format may need to be reviewed based on restrictions likely to be in place at the time of the competition.  <i>Action: EB to publish to the community that the Masters championship will take place</i>
5.4	In relation to the National winter meet, it was agreed that this meet will run 3-5 December in Sheffield. It was acknowledged that para swimming would need to be adopted in to the programming. The competition would need to be managed in a way that accommodates as many swimmers as possible and as safely as possible  <i>Action : BS &amp; EB to begin planning process for the winter Meet</i> <i>Action: GR / MKL to support the inclusion of para to the programming</i> <i>Action: EB to publish decisions regarding the Winter Meet.</i>
5.5	In relation to the proposed Open Water festival, EB clarified that having spoken to other key partners it was agreed that there was insufficient time to create a successful event and that this would be the intention for 2022.
<b>6.</b>	<b>Swimming Talent Update inc Selection Policy</b>
6.1	GR invited questions on the paper circulated to the group. BS sought clarification on the numbers to be selected – 30 or 34. GR clarified that the variation in numbers allowed for discretionary places to accommodate those who were not selected for a British Swimming meet. However the timings didn't quite align so this caused a variation in the numbers.
6.2	GR clarified that based on a very busy competition calendar, there was an ambition to give athletes a level of security around selection. Ahead of the Commonwealth games.

6.3	GR acknowledged a concern around the precarious nature of the para swimming qualifying times. GR and the Para Team continue to work with British Swimming to ensure the times are accurate.
6.4	The group was satisfied that the Policy covered a number of considerations and endorsed it for release.  <i>Action: GR to publish the selection policy</i>
<b>7.</b>	<b>Masters</b>
7.1	JP was not in attendance at the meeting so the majority of Masters matters were rolled over to the next meeting.
7.2	The Group raised a question around the progress of recruiting the working group. This was raised with reference to the Masters championship and the need for support around delivery of that event. CC was not aware of recruitment starting.  <i>Action: CC to contact JP to agree the timeline for advertising role on the working group.</i>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Officials</b>
8.1	MD updated that the timekeeper information had been published
8.2	BS raised the question of referee's exams which have not been held since lockdown commenced. The group expressed a desire for an exam to be held as soon as possible. CC explained that HA was now back in the business on her normal hours and that this was one of the items of work on her priority list.  <i>Action: MD to raise with BSOG the need for the exam to take place.</i>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Next meeting</b>
9.1	A short meeting may take place between 12 – 19 July depending on the outcome of announcements.
9.2	The next full meeting will take place on the 2 September with the meeting schedule for the 23 September being cancelled.