

# Swimming Leadership Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2021

## Draft minutes subject to approval via email

**Present:**

Tom Baster	Chairperson
John Hidle	Licensing Lead
Jeroen Peters	Masters Working Group Chair
Ian Mackenzie	Specialist Member (League Swimming)
Mark Davies	Technical Officials Lead
Claire Coleman	Head of Development
Ekaterina Boyd	Head of Events
Martin Leeds	Para Swimming Manager

**Apologies:**

Grant Robins	Head of Swimming Talent
Barry Saunders	Competitions Lead
Alex Harrison	SOC Liaison

Min No:	
<b>1.</b>	<b>Swim England Competitions</b>
1.1	<p>EB has drafted a SE Board Paper in partnership with George Wood around the potential to host competitions for the remainder of 2021. The paper focuses on the competitions being financially viable. JH raised a process question around consideration of the paper by SOC</p> <p><b>Action 1: EB to ensure that paper is available for SOC agreement</b></p> <p><b>Action 2: EB to consult with counties to establish interest in a county competition</b></p>
1.2	<p>TB updated on plans for an Open Water Festival. This would not be a traditional sport competition but would focus on the growing participation in outdoor swimming. EB is leading the group planning this event.</p> <p><b>Action 3: EB to provide update at next SLG</b></p>
1.3	<p>ML raised a question about the scheduling and inclusion of para swimming in the events planned for the remainder of 2021 and it was agreed that this would be possible if BS (Competitions Lead) was given sufficient notice and support around scheduling.</p> <p><b>Action 4: ML to agree with GR the inclusion of para in to the scheduling</b></p> <p><b>Action 5: ML to work with BS to ensure he has access to all relevant data.</b></p>

<b>2.</b>	<b>Level X Update</b>
2.1	<p>EB outlined that Level X Series 2 was slow to start. By the w/e 27<sup>th</sup> May, 7000 unique swims has been submitted to Rankings and by w/e 4<sup>th</sup> June, it's likely this number will be closer to 9000 swims.</p> <p>TB raised a question around the use of Masters results particularly if the Masters Competition goes ahead in the Autumn.</p> <p><b>Action 6 – EB and JP to confirm the Masters Level X results can be accessed and used for qualification requirements.</b></p>
<b>3.</b>	<b>British Swimming Festival of Racing</b>
3.1	<p>TB and EB confirmed that all 8 regions were now committed to delivery of a competition despite significant challenges such as departures of swimming managers and unavailability of venues.</p> <p><b>Action 7: EB to ensure the matrix of dates is published as soon as possible.</b></p>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Para Swimming</b>
4.1	<p>ML presented a paper with a proposed restructuring of Swim England competition pathway aimed at maximising classification opportunities. The revised calendar would commence from September 2022. ML confirmed that classifiers would be available in the windows designated in the calendar which has been agreed by the Classification Working Group. ML also outlined the desire to provide competition targets throughout the season to support the development of para swimmers. A final consultation meeting with the Regional Officers is planned for the 9<sup>th</sup> June.</p> <p><b>Action 8: ML to work with MD and Helen Akers to create a complimentary officials training plan to support the revised calendar.</b></p> <p><b>Action 9: ML to submit the paper to SOC with the support of SLG</b></p> <p><b>Action 10: Following all required governance steps, the revised structure should be communicated to the community.</b></p>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Licensing</b>
5.1	<p>JH updated on the progress of licensing. It was noted that the processing time is slower than previous years however the system is coping and the delays are not causing an issue. It was noted that some licensing officers had introduced additional requirements to the process. However this had been addressed and will be continually addressed on a case by case basis.</p>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Masters</b>
6.1	<p>JP noted that the Swim England Masters Championship was included in the proposal for events to the end of 2021 which will be a welcomed competition opportunity for the Masters community. There was some discussion about the intercounty Masters competition and whether it is a viable completion for 2021.</p>

	<b>Action 11: JP to canvas all counties to establish if they would be able to run a competition in their normal venue and if they have the desire to run an event on 2021.</b>
6.2	<p>EB updated on the progress of the web from to submit events to the calendar. This is currently with the web team but will include the same caveat as the licensing form. All meets will be added, those without a risk assessment will be marked as 'provisional'. The responsibility of the event organisers to complete a risk assessment needs to be emphasized</p> <p><b>Action 11: EB / JP to formulate communication for the Masters community to embed the event calendar and the risk assessments principles.</b></p>
<b>7.</b>	<b>League Competition</b>
7.1	<p>TB outlined a recent example of a competition taking place that would have been contrary to the current stage of the Swimming Road Map and highlighted that it raised an important consideration around league competitions. IM outlined his recent experiences of event organisation on behalf of a league and noted the difficulties he had encountered in seeking to create a covid safe event. It was agreed that a directive was required as soon as possible to clarify the position in relation to league and relay events. This could also have an impact on the Masters Inter County Competition.</p> <p><b>Action 12 : IM to draft a statement to be shared with the group for agreement.</b></p> <p><b>Action 13: Following agreement of the statement, communication to be sent to all leagues and associations</b></p>
<b>8.</b>	<b>Return to Water 2.0</b>
8.1	<p>CC explained the concept of Return to Water 2.0 to the group and the importance of the survey to understanding the challenges faced by clubs particularly in relation to access to water.</p> <p><b>Action 14 : JP to circulate the survey link to Masters contacts to increase number of respondents</b></p>
<b>9.</b>	<b>Officials</b>
9.1	<p>MD outlined a proposal from the SOG following a review of the charge associated with the delivery of Timekeeper. This was needed following the introduction of the Online Timekeepers course as part of Level X. It was agrees that the cost of the face to face course would be £5 a head with a minimum of £25.</p> <p><b>Action 15: Helen Akers to circulate to all Region, County and Swimming Emalier contacts.</b></p> <p><b>Action 16: Item to be included in the Club Newsletter</b></p>
<b>10.</b>	<b>Date of next meeting</b>
	1st July at 7pm

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