

Swimming Leadership Group

Minutes of the meeting held on 20th January 2021

Draft minutes subject to approval at the next meeting

Present:	Tom Baster	Chairperson
	Barry Saunders	Competitions Lead
	John Hidle	Licensing Lead
	Jeroen Peters	Masters Working Group Chair
	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

Min No:	
1.	Minutes and Action log 17th December 2020
1.1	Action log was updated
1.2	Carry over from previous actions – EB to raise information sharing question with legal team (Relates to Minute 3.5 in 201217 Minutes final doc)
2.	Masters Working Group – Draft TOR
2.1	Document circulated prior to the meeting incorporated all comments and feedback from the previous meeting and the working group set up to support JP. Group agreed that there are only a couple on minor issues, it is more in need of tidying up.
2.2	Under 3.1c change wording from 'ad hoc'. These members do not have a vote but provide specific expertise or experience where the group feel it may be lacking. Strike out 'such as illness of regular members'
2.3	Amend 3.2 to read 'The posts in 3.1 a & b shall be openly advertised and open to all Swim England members aged 18 or over.'
2.4	Document contains two definitions of a quorum, 5.1 & 5.4, with a committee of six a quorum of four is sensible. Decision to remove 'There must be at least one meeting annually, in person or live online, to which all regional representatives are invited.' from point 5.1
2.5	Annex 1.2 Change 'Masters chair' to MWG Chair for consistency
2.6	Amendment to 3.6 - It will not be a member of Swim England Operations who will provide administration it will be a member of the Sports Development Directorate.

2.7	4.1.iii Conflict between this clause and SLG's terms of reference. JP's role as masters chair is governed by SLG terms of reference, cannot have two different rules for one person's term of office – remove point 4.1.iii it does not need to be referenced in here.
2.8	Annex 2.1 - wording of this point needs addressing
2.9	4.6 There is an overlap to the SLG TOR in relation to the removal of the Masters Chair. Position is governed by SLG TOR and therefore cannot be done in consultation with Masters' representatives. JH does not see an issue with this point as they do not have to necessarily take notice of what they say.
2.10	The SLG agreed that following the above amendments they are happy for this document to go to the SOC for consideration. <i>Action: JP to amend document as per 2.2 - 2.9 and send to TB.</i> <i>Action: TB to send to SOC</i>
3.	Officials / Licensing Query
3.1	Question from region to reduce the number of officials that are on the pool deck at a gala on the proviso that there may not be the officials available to perform those roles given the changes that have occurred to the sport over lockdown. This came from one regions coaches' forum that raised it with the chair of that region who then requested it was raised at the SOC or SLG. Given the current situation with regards to the pandemic, national lockdown and when the return to competition will be the group feel this question is something to be considered but only when the time is right. <i>Action: Group to provide an answer to the SOC. TB and MD to respond once they receive the question from SOC.</i>
4.	Swimming Talent Update
4.1	Level x Plus workshops – trying to utilise the 16,000 swimmers and 94,000 swims that have been registered to engage with as many people as possible in stroke and age group specific workshops. Content is currently being written. Support needed internally in terms of the administration and promotion of the workshops. Two hour workshop split based on age group and stroke. Rough breakdown is 30 mins on each technical, tactical, physical and inspirational with elite swimmers). George Wood, sport Development Director, taking this to SLT meeting on 21st Jan for signed off.
4.2	The possibility of some face to face interaction with some programme athletes in February has now been cancelled.
4.3	Connecting with coaches' series is still ongoing on a monthly basis, getting between 50-100 coaches at any one time.
4.4	Coach Advisors – impact report currently being written, due for completion by the end of the month. Once complete this will be circulated to the regions
4.5	Confidential

	Elite Athlete Return to Training – Not to be widely publicised but GR has been able to add athletes from the performance squad and junior squads to this list. Now around 150 swimmers on the EARTT lists. One challenge to this is that there are not currently enough facilities open to cater for all these athletes geographically. It is a British Swimming initiative and has to be signed off by them by order of DCMS but GR looking to get 4/5 venues open behind this banner. Due to the sensitivity of this it will not be promoted by Swim England, it has also been stressed to the swimmers involved not to post on social media.
4.6	Performance Squad Selection article. Need to careful around the wording of future articles on the website. <i>Action: GR to speak with Ian Whadcoat</i>
4.7	CWG update – 34 places for swimming and 12 for para agreed, in negotiation as to how many staff places. Building looks to be on track but there will not be a swim down pool until the very last minute. Opportunity to do a test event, ideally British Championships in April. Potential to run a regional meet once the swim down pool is in as a test event.
4.8	Para update – continuing to deliver an online programme for the rest of the season. Swimmers have dropped off the talent programme and classification waiting list particularly since the start of the most recent national lockdown. Increased anxiety among S14 swimmers, talent programme trying to mitigate the potential drop offs as much as possible. 2-3 red flags on the talent programme currently.
4.9	Para swimming coach development programme – 29 coaches on this programme, two workshops delivered in January, three more planned before the end of March.
5.	Return to Competition update
5.1	Current belief that the British Championships are going ahead in London in April. Document previously written is with medical people, currently no indication that domestic competition is imminent.
5.2	Confidential With regards to British Championships there are various plans to reduce the numbers of people in the building if necessary. This can range from a large number of swimmers down to 75 swimmers. There is a possibility depending on the situation that the Olympic trials could be run as a DCMS elite meet which will be limited to 70-80 swimmers which could be accommodated on the deck at the London aquatics centre. There are currently too many unknowns to be able to say when there will be a return to competition. British Championships should not be used as a yard stick for the return to competition.
5.3	Regional Championships – Group acknowledge that based on the current lockdown, the outlook is bleak and very dependent on Government decisions about lifting the lockdown / opening of facilities. GR suggested allowing some licenced meets in April and May, County Championships could then take place in June/July window then turn the Summer Meet into a regional nationals. Potential problems with

	<p>this concept centred on the events breaking even on the basis they would be dependent on the ability to generate revenue from ticket sales.</p> <p>It was suggested that it is still too early to tell which option to take. Once there is an indication that the situation is improving options can be discussed.</p> <p><i>Action: Agenda item for next meeting.</i></p>
6.	Level X update
6.1	<p>EB presented an update - 430 clubs took part in Level X with over 16,200 swimmers posting over 94,000 swims in total. Leader boards published on Friday (15th Jan) for each individual event. Each participant received a bespoke email confirming their time, position and if they were medallists they were directed to the Swim England website where they could purchase their medal.</p> <p>Decision has been made to recognise the achievements of the 8's, 9's and 10's with an opportunity to purchase a medal for those that medalled in those age groups despite Level X leader board race conditions stating that those age groups are not eligible. Those who did not medal will get a participation certificate. This decision was made by JN and GW.</p> <p>Times posted by the pilot clubs were not featured in leader boards as they were outside the official launch date (23rd October). The decision has been made that Swim England will also recognise those participants that medalled in the pilots with a commemorative medal. The leader boards will not be reissued.</p>
6.2	<p>Learnings from series 1 will be taken forward to series 2.</p> <p>Series 2 was supposed to launch from January 4th. Some clubs did manage to post times before the National lockdown was imposed but series 2 is suspended.</p> <p>Points for consideration and discussion:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • When pools re open should there be a lag time between this date and recommencing series 2? • All events will run for the duration but what should that duration be? <p>Current thinking is that it should run for the entirety of the remainder of the season (1st August or 22nd July when Schools break up).</p> <p><i>Action: Add to agenda for next meeting</i></p>
7.	Confirm time and date of next meeting Confirm dates of 2021 quarterly meetings
7.1	DONM: 25th February 6pm
7.2	<i>Action: TB to look at some possible dates for quarterly meetings and circulate</i>

	AOB: MWG TOR will need to be ready by February 2nd to be submitted to SOC
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