

Swimming Leadership Group

22nd September 2022

Venue: Zoom

Time: 18:30 – 20:30

Attendees:

Barry Saunders (BS)

John Hewitt (JHe)

Tom Baster (TB)

Ian Mackenzie (IM)

Claire Coleman (CC)

Katya Boyd (KB)

Jeroen Peters (JP)

John Hidle (JH)

Mark Davis (MD)

Richard Blackshaw (RB)

Apologies: Jon Glen

AGENDA

1. Action Log

The log was reviewed and any comments made were noted in the action log. Actions that have been completed were closed and listed as such.

Actions still ongoing are:

22/4

22/7. c

22/7. d

22/7. e

22/37

22/41

22/44

22/45

22/51.c

22/58.b

2. SOC Update

2.1 TOR Review

CC updated the group around the process of updating the TOR. Pack with the leadership group TOR were circulated. JP asked a question around terms of office which was answered by CC. CC proposed an action that the governance of the group is reviewed which was agreed by the chair.

2.2 SOC update

JHe updated the group around the agenda items discussed at the SOC meeting.

3. **Talent Update inc Para Swimming**

RB updated the group around the pathway and performance squads. Athletes have been selected but this has not been publicly announced yet. The Swim England coach membership has been released. Several roles within the team have been out for recruitment.

BS mentioned that there are 16 swimmers, in only two regions, who have competed but are waiting for classification. BS asked why there is a delay which RB agreed that there is an issue and proposed that this is actioned.

Action – details of the waiting list for classification will be circulated to the group.

4. **Development Updates**

4.1 Supervision Ratios

CC updated the group around the progress made with the review of the supervision ratio. A paper was given to the group around the plan moving forward. CC highlighted that this policy is a multidiscipline policy and therefore need to be safe for all disciplines.

TB raised the issue that as the requirements stand, if one swimmer from one club attends a competition, a minimum of two supervisors (made up of either a coach or team manager or any combination of that) would need to attend. TB highlighted that few clubs would be willing to offer two supervisors for one athlete.

CC highlighted that this is guidance but this policy is being formed to ensure that clubs don't send large groups of athletes with one supervisor.

BS mentioned that in some cases, if an athlete is injured and the sole supervisor for a group of athletes has to support the injured athlete, this then leaves the rest of the group unsupervised.

4.2 Club Health Tracker

CC updated the changes to the Club Health Tracker. This is a two year rolling project.

5. **Competition Planning**

5.1 Challenges at competitions – what should we be doing to support clubs?

TB proposed an open invitation members of the groups visit clubs in different counties to identify and understand the issues that clubs are currently dealing with. This would take place in January and February.

5.2 Entry systems – what can we do to support volunteers?

TB highlighted that the online entry system for competitions is not owned by Swim England or British Swimming. A paper will be written proposing that a paid for system owned by Swim England. This paper will be sent on to SOC.

5.3 National Winter Meet

Conditions, QTs and Draft Schedule have been published, with entries due to open on 2 November, closing 22 November (with no late entries available this year due to the proximity of the closing date to the competition date).

6. **Masters**

6.1 Update on Group activity

CC requested copies of group minutes should be circulated with all future minutes.

Action – JP to ensure minutes are provided to group administrator when agenda items are requested.

6.2 Update on Masters Competitions

Number of swimmers entered is up on previous events although number of swims is reduced. This is due to a flat fee per event with no administration fee.

There are few para swimmers entered but this could be down to the upcoming classification day due to take place on 25th September. However, there is interest in competing.

7. **Officials**

7.1 Update on Group activity

The requirement to attend level 1 or level 2 has been reviewed and as a result there is no longer a requirement to attend meets at this level to qualify as a J 1.

Officials clothing – there is no requirement to wear a certain colour at level 3 or 4 but by level 1 & 2 the expectation is that officials will wear white unless otherwise specified by the promoter.

7.2 Afro friendly swim cap

TB mentioned that FINA has changed their policy around the use of caps. Swim England's rule remains that this can still be used in all competitions in England at any level.

Action – Building on the masters action, MD to ensure minutes are provided to the group administrator when agenda items are requested

8. **Licensing**

8.1 Update

JH mentioned that most meets are working well currently. There are still a couple issues around groups applying for licensing to hold meets and competitions without them being affiliated with Swim England.

JH asked the group what we do with unaffiliated organisations and groups wanting to hold meets without affiliation with Swim England.

9. **Date of Next Meeting and 2023 meetings**

Date of Next Meeting -17th November – 6:30 – 8:30

2023 Meetings - 12th January, 16th March, 18th May, 18th July, 14th September, 16th November.