

Swim England Swimming Leadership Group

Minutes of the meeting held 17th November 2022

Present:	Tom Baster	Chairperson
	Barry Saunders	Competitions Lead
	David Metcalf	Technical Officials Lead (substitute)
	Jeroen Peters	Masters Working Group Chair
	John Hidle	Licensing Lead
	Ian Mackenzie	Specialist Member (League Swimming)
	Joan Wheeler	SOC Liaison
	Grant Robins	Head of Swimming Talent
	Martin Lees	Para Swimming Manager
	Claire Coleman	Head of Development
	Helen Akers	Group Administrator

Guests: Jon Glenn Director of Learn to Swim and Workforce

Apologies: Ekaterina Boyd Head of Events
Mark Davies Technical Officials Lead

Min No:
22/61

Welcome

TB welcomed JW to the group.

22/62

Action Log

The log was reviewed:

22/4 – Ongoing
22/17 – Complete
22/27.c/d/e – Ongoing
22/37 – Agenda item
22/41 – Ongoing
22/44 – Complete
22/45 – Complete
22/51 – Complete
22/58 – Complete
220922/2.1 – Ongoing
220922/3 – Complete
220922/5.2 – Complete
220922/6&7 – Complete

22/63

Minimum Pool Depths

The paper regarding minimum depths was previously partly approved by the Group (22/48.h) with other areas being revisited as requested. An updated paper was circulated prior to the meeting and the potential outcomes discussed.

The Group accepted the proposal.

Action – JG to submit paper to SOC for approval.

(JG left the meeting)

22/64

SOC Update

JW advised that recruitment for the vacant SOC post would commence shortly.

22/65

Talent Team Update

22/65.a A written update was circulated prior to the meeting.

22/65.b One region did not have finals in their recent Winter Championships. A number of reasons for this were suggested but it appears to be a trend. The expectations around competition delivery are not covered by the current Regional Agreements and some time has passed since the original delivery of the pathway expectations.

There is also a need for a full post-event review of the Swim England Winter Championships to ensure all requirements are being met.

Action – BS and GR to produce one document which lays out all competition expectations.

22/65.c British Swimming are looking to make some changes to the Summer Championships with regard to the 50m events in the Female 13/14yrs and the Male 14/15 years age groups. Once this is confirmed, the SLG will need to review the impact on the Swim England Summer Meet and any necessary changes to the event conditions.

22/66

Para-Swimming

22/66.a A written update was circulated prior to the meeting.

22/66.b British Swimming are considering a change to the 2023 calendar which could mean that there is no key performance meet in the first phase of the 2023/24 season. As part of the review of the Swim England Winter Championships, consideration is to be given to including multi-classification or para events.

22/67

Development Team Update

A paper recommending an amendment to the period wear element of the swimwear guidance was circulated prior to the meeting.

The Group accepted the proposal.

Action – CC to update and reissue the guidance to all parties.

22/68

Competition Planning

A paper was circulated prior to the meeting highlighted some perceived issues with the British Swimming Development Programme for officials and the standard of officiating that resulted. It also raised the issue of succession planning for event management roles.

There was further discussion around the way that training is delivered at all levels.

Action – TB to approach the Chair of the BSSOG with the thoughts of the group

22/69

Meet Licensing

Following the Regional meeting, a paper proposing a process for third party organisations not affiliated to Swim England to be able to obtain a meet licence.

The proposal:

1. Meet Organisers running an event under Permit shall be able to apply for a Meet Licence in the usual way, provided they meet all the Licensing Criteria appropriate to the Level being applied for. In considering the application the Region should pay particular attention as to how the qualified and Licensed Officials are to be appointed.
2. Increase the cost of a Permit to £100. The Region has the choice to waive all or part of that fee should it so wish.

The Group accepted the proposal

Action – JH to communicate to all Regional Licensing Officers and update paperwork

22/70

Masters

22/70.a

The Swim England National Masters Championships was extremely well attended, with many British, European and World Records being set. Events for para-athletes were introduced but only a small number of classified swimmers took part – between 1 and 6 per event, classifications S8 to S14, in the 19 to 42 years age groups. A detailed evaluation of the points process has not yet been done but credit must be given to the designers of Sportsystems for incorporating it into their latest release.

There were overruns in all sessions due to equipment failures and issues with the event set up (race interval and seeding).

Going forward, all key roles and responsibilities for the event are to be documented to assist with succession planning.

22/70.b

Communication had been received from the West Midland Region in response to an email sent with regard to the Masters Inter Counties event. This prompted a discussion around the status and organization of the event as a whole.

Action – Masters Working Group to review the event conditions and submit to the next SLG meeting.

22/71 Officials

- 22/71.a The Chair of the SOG is aware of the paper submitted regarding the Development programme and will support the Swim England position.
- 22/71.b The FINA Rule changes agreed at the last Congress have not yet been formally published.
- 22/71.c Referee Course Leader training is still to be held.

22/72 Leagues

Leagues are taking place around the country but the availability of sufficient trained officials remains an issue in some areas.

22/73 Any Other Business

- 22/73.a A request by the Talent team to introduce a Coaching Lead role to the Group was circulated prior to the meeting. Following discussion around the rationale the Group accepted the proposal.

Action – CC to submit the proposal to the SOC for approval.

- 22/73.b BS raised a query around item 4 of the MWG minutes of 29th September 2022. It was reiterated that the MWG is a sub-group of the SLG, which in turn reports to the SOC, and that all communication should be via this hierarchy.

Action - JW to discuss with JP.

22/74 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be 19th January 2023 – 6:30pm on Zoom.