

# Artistic Swimming Leadership Group

30<sup>th</sup> January 2023 – Venue – Zoom 6:30-8:30pm

Attendees:

1. Maria Ramos - Chair
2. Louise Ross - Coaching Lead
3. Sarah Clarke - Athlete Reward and Recognition Lead (joined during item 2)
4. Hannah Secher - Workforce Lead
5. Ian Atkinson - Competition lead
6. Keith Munday - Sport Operations Committee Leadership Group Liaison
7. Karen Thorpe - Artistic Swimming Manager
8. Claire Coleman - Head of Development
9. Gareth Picken – Sport Development Administrator

Min No:	
1.	<b>Chairs Welcome and Action Log</b>
	<p>MR opened the meeting and worked through the action log from the last meeting.</p> <p><b>Action 5 – to bring in education leads as stakeholders into the development of supervision ratios. CC to speak to Lisa White.</b></p> <p><b>Action - GP to send through the action log alongside the minutes.</b></p>
2.	<b>Talent update</b>
	<p>January has been a hard month amongst all athletes. Most routines are ready for the year ahead. All the juniors and youth teams are in place.</p> <p>The ranking system for the world championships is in place but countries who want to be ranked have to enter the world cup. There are financial concerns around entering competitions especially with some swimmers off continent.</p> <p>MR mentioned that there is a piece of work around making sure that we are inclusive as a discipline. KT added that this should be a topic for this year's conference.</p> <p><b>Action - GP to start the detailing topics for this year's conference.</b></p> <p>SC joined the call at 19:00.</p>
3.	<b>New World Aquatics Rules Roll Out Status</b>
	<p>SR sent out the development plan to the group prior to the meeting. MR outlined the development plan and which areas of work were next to complete.</p> <p>Some relevant documents for clubs have started to be uploaded onto the website outlining the changes to the World Aquatics rules. The videographer has taking a series of videos which are in the development phase and will ultimately aid clubs with implementing the new grades.</p>

	<p>16<sup>th</sup> February - there is a series of three webinars around any clubs wanting to compete at NAG's to introduce the coach card.</p> <p>KM mentioned on a separate meeting, one club's chair felt that they were missing information relevant to Artistic Swimming from the leadership group.</p> <p>CC mentioned that key information goes into the club newsletter as well as through the regional emailer.</p> <p>MR cited that as there is a large number of emails which go out to clubs and members from Swim England, it can be really hard to understand which are important emails and which are just marketing.</p> <p><b>Action – CC to feed back to Marketing on the number of emails</b></p> <p>CC updated the group that the development plan is being passed from Sarah Robinson to Sarah Barrow who has become the club growth lead within the SE development team</p>
4.	<p><b>International Events, including Judge Appointments</b></p> <p>HS updated the group that all competition emails went out to all judges.</p> <p>Ali Pratt has been selected to go to Canada and the European Championships which is part of the European Olympics. HS has been selected as a judge at the European Championships as well.</p> <p>The super final location has not been released yet.</p>
5.	<p><b>National Events (senior appointment approvals)</b></p> <p>HS updated the group that Fiona Millington is the chief recorder for NAG's. The recorders for the rest of the season are yet to be agreed. The referee for NAG's and National Championships is yet to be agreed.</p> <p>MR suggested that Ali Pratt should be the technical controller with SC refereeing National Championships and HS refereeing NAG's.</p> <p><b>Action - HS to talk with Ali to establish who is the official referee for NAG's.</b></p> <p>KM asked whether there are any plans for any training or seminars which will be taking place during the event. There is a captive audience within the event.</p> <p>KT answered that this would put additional pressure on officials and judges, especially given the time constraints.</p>
6.	<p><b>Discussion about Pool Depth</b></p> <p>MR circulated an email from a club in the East Midlands Region whose facilities are being rebuilt to a 2-meter depth. With current SE requirements, there are a number of pools which wouldn't meet the requirements. MR spoke with George Wood (Director of Sport Development) who advised that this should be discussed with the leadership group.</p>

	<p>KT mentioned that the issue lies with coach education and specifically making sure that a swimmer's arm must be above their head as they enter the water.</p> <p>KM asked whether it is the swimmer's education that should be a priority. SC answered that it is coach who educates the swimmers as is the nature of the discipline and therefore it is the coach's responsibility.</p> <p>IA highlighted that the guidance is really important but with the current pressures on facilities, there won't many facilities willing or able to have deeper pools.</p> <p>MR proposed that the group thinks about the impact of the rule changes in both competitions and training and potentially formulating a paper that can go to the Health and Safety board for discussion.</p>
7.	<p><b>Update from SOC</b></p>
	<p>KM updated the group about England Swims diversity and inclusion study which was conducted last year).</p> <p><a href="https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/england-swims-research-findings/">https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/england-swims-research-findings/</a></p> <p>The SOC discussed the Swim England strategy and specifically the aim to increase inclusion and diversity. This section was agreed in December and will hopefully be rolled out in the near future.</p>
8.	<p><b>AOB and DONM</b></p>
	<p>Portsmouth Victoria SC - this club submitted a question about the qualification for NAG'S on the basis that their Grading day was not more than 20 days before the date of the conversation. The Group agreed that this should be changed in the conditions and all clubs informed</p> <p>Action: MR to update conditions and the Events Team</p> <p>KT received an email from Out Swim who are running a masters' international event in June for the International Gay and Lesbian Association asking for any support that SE can provide.</p> <p>MR highlighted that this is event is happening during week and therefore it would be difficult for any of the group to be able to attend.</p> <p>DONM – Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> March – face to face meeting – GL1, Gloucester.</p>