

Swim England Swimming Leadership Group

Minutes of the meeting held 16th March 2023

Present:

Tom Baster	Chairperson
Joan Wheeler	SOC Liaison
Barry Saunders	Competitions Lead
John Hidle	Licensing Lead
Ian Mackenzie	Specialist Member (League Swimming)
Kevin Brooks	Coaching Lead
Richard Blackshaw	Interim Head of Swimming Talent
Claire Coleman	Head of Development
Ekaterina Boyd	Head of Events
Helen Akers	Group Administrator

Apologies:

Martin Lees	Para Swimming Manager
Mark Davies	Technical Officials Lead
Euan Dale	Coaching Lead

Min No:

23/14

Apologies

Apologies were noted.

23/15

Action Log

23/15.a

The log was reviewed:

22/4 – The process is ongoing but there has been no further requests for input from the group. Complete.

22/27.c/e – Ongoing

22/41 – No changes for 2023. Future changes to fall under the remit of the working group (23/7.a). Complete.

220922/2.1 – New ToRs now circulated to the group. Complete.

22/65.b – Ongoing

22/70 – Ongoing

22/73.b – Ongoing

23/7.a – an initial meeting to discuss a specific event had been held, general working group to be formed.

23/10 – focus of work has been WA Update, more general subject matter still to be trialled.

23.15.b

TB had undertaken a number of visits to County Championships and analysed the results of a further number. The visits were positive and generated subsequent discussion. There appear to be a number of factors that affect the local provision of the event but the focus must be on offering the opportunity for the athlete to have a quality swim. Findings will be fed back to the Regional/County meeting for further discussion – **Action: TB to take to meeting**

- 23/16 SOC Update**
The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting, there were no questions from the group.
- 23/17 Talent Team Update**
RB shared an update of recent activity in swimming and para-swimming with the meeting.
- 23/18 Development Team Update**
- 23/18.a **Low Level Competition**
The document is being updated due to changes in membership terminology but the group agreed that in relation to swimming it was still fit for purpose in its current format.
- 23/18.b **Masters Inter Counties Competition**
This event was previously granted a temporary exemption to the requirement for Club Compete membership to see if this had an impact on the numbers taking part. A decision on whether to extend this exemption was deferred in the absence of JP. **Action – CC to provide analysis of 2022 participation to next meeting**
- 23/19 Competition Planning**
- 23/19.a **Swim England Winter Championships**
A paper was circulated prior to the meeting and BS recorded his thanks to those involved. There was further discussion around some of the points raised, namely Junior ages, qualifying times and the event dates for 2023. There will potentially be some knock-on effects for the Regional Short Course Championships, which will be discussed at the Regional/County meeting – **Action: TB to take to meeting**
- Action – EB to publish provisional event dates**
- Action - RB to consult with ML as to whether there is still a desire to include para-swimmers in this event**
- 23/19.b **Open Water National Events**
National Age Groups – the event conditions have been amended to take account of the new WA Rules on wetsuits.
Masters – there has been no confirmation of the date to be used or any event conditions provided.
- 23/20 Masters**
The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting.
- 23/21 Officials**
- 23/21.a The minutes were circulated prior to the meeting
- 23/21.b HA updated the group on the rollout of the WA Rules Updates and the communication gap that this had identified with regard to advising other groups, such as coaches.
- 23/22 Meet Licensing**
- Secondary Strobes**
The group confirmed that the current wording in relation to the provision of secondary strobes at licensed meets reflected the agreed position.

23/23

Leagues

Provision of officials remains an issue, as do swimmer numbers for sole gender relays. Consideration needs to be given to league requirements for the provision of secondary strobes.

23/24

Any Other Business

The first qualifier list for the Summer National events has been published. It is the intention that the events offered by British Swimming and Swim England will align in 2024

23/25

Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting will be 25th May 2023 – 6:30pm on Zoom.

It was agreed that the group would then move to 5 meetings per annum with the scope for additional meetings if and when required.