

Diving Leadership Group Meeting

Tuesday 3rd October 2023

12:15 – 13:30 via Zoom

Attendees:

Lottie Thompson – Chair (LT)

Connie Ford – Swim England Diving Talent (CF)

Alex Harrison – Sport Operations Committee Leadership Group Liaison (AH)

Sarah Barrow – Technical Officials Lead (SBw)

Helen Weeks – Swim England Sport Governance & Welfare Manager (HW)

Ekaterina Boyd – Swim England Head of Events (EB)

Gareth Picken – Swim England Sport Development Team Administrator (GP)

Apologies:

Sam Buck – Coaching Lead (SBk)

1.	Welcome, Quorum, Apologies
	LT welcomed the group to the meeting and highlighted that apologies had been received from SBk. As a quorum was present, LT opened the meeting.
2.	Review of Action Log
	LT went through the action log. Noting the actions that had been closed since the previous meeting and the updates provided. The group discussed the actions which remained open.
3	SOC Update
	<p>AH updated the group that he was unable to attend the last SOC meeting, however he has since caught up with the discussed items. AH mentioned that one of the items discussed at the last meeting was around the process for volunteers and club members who are either involved or have entered competitions during a period where their club has been suspended.</p> <p>HW further updated the group that it was agreed that for individuals attributed to clubs who have been suspended through non-compliance, there will be a 28 day grace period during which individuals will still be able to volunteer and compete for their club. After this period, either the club will be compliant or lapsed fully.</p>

	<p>It was agreed that no normal club activity (training) could take place during the 28 day period.</p> <p>If, however, the individual is the result of the suspension they will not be able to attend any competitions until this has been rectified.</p> <p>HW further explained that through the Heart of Aquatics, there is a commitment to strengthen the safeguarding practices for clubs run by third parties (schools, councils and operators). This is being rolled out in four phases; schools, operators and councils and university clubs. HW and the Head of Safeguarding will be meeting with a range of clubs to agree the standards that a club must adhere to which will be shared with the leadership groups and then SOC for final sign off. The first phase has been agreed and schools have been informed. Phase two and three will be done together and this will impact diving clubs due to their partnerships with operators or councils. HW will keep the group informed.</p>
4.	<p>Development Team Update</p>
	<p>HW updated the group that phase two of the Club Health Tracker is due to be opened at the end of October.</p> <p>In addition, Swim England's new safeguarding and welfare policies will be coming into effect as of January 2024 which will require all coaches and teachers to have both an up to date safeguarding certificate and DBS check, without which they will not be allowed poolside.</p> <p>SBw asked whether 16 year olds would be required to do the safeguarding course when they complete their coaching course.</p> <p>HW answered that yes, from the 1st January 2024 anyone 16 years old or above would be required to do safeguarding training. A DBS is required from the age of 16 currently and won't be changing.</p> <p>CF asked whether there would be consistency between the home nations in respect to safeguarding and welfare expectations.</p> <p>HW replied that Kevin Suckling (Swim England Head of Safeguarding and Welfare) is in regular contact with the other home nations to establish a consistent level of safeguarding compliancy across as well as British Swimming.</p>
5.	<p>Trophy Policy</p>
	<p>Ahead of the meeting, a proposed policy was circulated to the group. EB further outlined the policy explaining that since 2017 all swimming trophies which have been awarded, have been replicas rather than the original trophies. There is now a hope that this can be rolled out amongst all disciplines. The rationale behind this change is because the original trophies are considered antiques, are uninsured and are prone to loss and damage. In future competitions, divers/clubs would still be awarded a trophy and their</p>

	<p>name added to the virtual trophy cabinet which can be found on the Swim England website.</p> <p>LT asked what the replica trophies are going to be.</p> <p>EB replied that they would be a generic trophy that would be awarded to the winning divers/clubs and would be something tangible for them to take home for the duration of a year.</p> <p>The group unanimously agree with the proposed change.</p> <p>EB left the meeting at 12:45.</p>
6.	<p>Talent Development Officer Update</p>
	<p>CF has met with human resource to discuss the appointment of a Talent and Inclusion Officer which is going to go out to advert on Friday 13th October and will close after Talent Games.</p> <p>CF updated the group that they have just had Team Z camp at Sandwell Aquatics Centre which was very successful. Between the 25th and 28th, there is going to be a combined camp between DISE, Team Y and Team J taking place at Sandwell. In regards to Talent Games, CF has received a good number of volunteers who are willing to help out at the games, however there are still roles to fill.</p> <p>CF is also looking to potential opportunities for junior divers to gain international experience after it was decided not to attend Camo due to the cost travel and participating.</p> <p>AH left the meeting at 13:00</p>
7.	<p>DLG Lead Reports</p>
	<p>SBw updated the group that the last J1 course that was run had 15 attendees with 14 participants who have passed. This is the last J1 course of 2023.</p> <p>The next J2 course is due to take place later this year in London. SBw is currently collecting the names of candidates for that course.</p>
8.	<p>Event Conditions Review</p>
	<p>LT circulated a paper to the group ahead of the meeting. The paper outlined the proposed changes and rationale for National Skills Finals (“NSF”) and National Age Groups (“NAGs”) conditions which had been reviewed by several coaches. The proposed changes included the confirmed introduction a Group A event at NSF with an agreed qualification score for both 1m and 3m. In addition, it was proposed that the NSF qualification score be increased for the Group B event as a result of the quality and</p>

	<p>number of participants qualifying for the event. The NAGs expected performance standard would also increase for the Group A and B Girls events.</p> <p>The group agreed with the proposed changes.</p> <p>Action – LT to contact SBk regarding the events conditions review and provide an updated version of the Competition Handbook to CF and EB for input.</p>
9.	DLG Vacancies
	<p>LT updated the group that the competitions lead and volunteer lead positions within the group were still out for advert. LT has received interest in the competition lead position from a known individual in the discipline. LT mentioned that she would follow up with the individual to encourage them to apply for the position.</p> <p>LT recommended that the volunteer role should be push out to the regions for wider awareness of the role.</p>
10.	AOB
	There being no further business, the meeting was closed.
11.	Date of next meeting
	<p>Tuesday 12th November</p> <p>Action – GP to contact SBk and AH to confirm their availability for the next meeting.</p>