

Water Polo Leadership Group

5th June 2024

Time: 18:30 – 20:00

Attendees:

Ian Mackenzie (IM)	Chair
Steve Kinloch (SK)	Communications Lead
Chris Stephens (CS)	Officials Lead
Mike Hesketh (MH)	Competition Lead
Paul Metcalf (PM)	Co-opted Member
Craig Figes (CF)	Swim England Water Polo Programme Lead
Claire Coleman (CC)	Swim England Head of Development
Becky Walker (BW)	Swim England Club Growth & Programmes Manager
Gareth Picken (GP)	Swim England Development Team Administrator

Additional attendees:

Richard Blackshaw (RB)	Swim England Head of Performance
Becky Walker (BW)	Swim England Club Growth & Programmes Manager

Apologies:

Elliot McHugh (EM)	Youth Representative
Craig McCullough (CM)	Swim England Head of Coaching
Ekaterina Boyd (EB)	Swim England Head of Events

Standing items	
1.	Welcome
	IM welcomed everyone to the meeting. Due to technical difficulties, IM asked CC to chair the remainder of the meeting shortly after the apologies section.
2.	Apologies
	Apologies were received by CM, EM & EB. EM has notified IM that they will be standing down for the foreseeable future. Action: Group to discuss and agree the recruitment of a youth representative. Process to be led by IM.

3.	Conflict of Interest
	There were no conflicts of interests declared.
4.	Action Log
	Actions were reviewed and marked as either ongoing or complete.
5.	Growth Update - Learn to Swim Pathway (presentation)
	<p>BW introduced herself as the Swim England Club Growth & Programmes Manager and presented on the Learn to Swim Pathway project.</p> <p>BW asked that a group member selected from the WPLG to be the Water Polo representative for the consultation group.</p> <p>SK asked if a member outside of the group could be nominated as the Water Polo representative. BW suggested this would need to be agreed by the group.</p> <p>Actions – WPLG members interested in volunteering in the project to inform IM.</p> <p>BW left the meeting.</p>
6.	Coaching Update (presentation)
	This item was postponed.
7.	Talent Investment Update (presentation)
	<p>RB introduced himself to the group as the Swim England Head of Performance and presented on the Sport England Investment.</p> <p>There were no questions from the WPLG, however it was suggested that the presentation should be circulated to the group.</p> <p>Action – RB to email the presentation to GP for circulation.</p> <p>Action – RB to email the OADF and OCDF to GP for circulation.</p>
8.	SOC Update (verbal report)
	<p>CC discussed that currently WPLG does not have a SOC Liaison. As a consequence of the current Leadership Group review, another SOC representative will not be selected for the duration of the review.</p> <p>CC outlined the key areas of discussion from the last SOC meeting.</p>

The below items were associated with a document ahead of the meeting. Any questions about the paper were responded to during the meeting. If no questions arose, the content of the papers was accepted as read.

1.	Development Report
	<p>The Development Report was circulated ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>There were no additional questions from the WPLG.</p>
2.	Leadership Group Review
	<p>The Leadership Group Review was briefly discussed during the SOC update and a paper circulated ahead of the meeting.</p> <p>There were no additional questions.</p>
3.	SE Water Polo Guidance – Head-neck tackles
	<p>CS provided more detail on the draft guidance that was circulated to the group ahead of the meeting. The guidance is proposed due to the level of head-neck tackles and costume - pulling which was witnessed at NAGs and Talent Games.</p> <p>Action – CS, SK, CC, Andrea Startin and GP to catch up on how to promote the change throughout the community.</p> <p>PM raised that issues may arise more frequently in low-level leagues where teams may not be as engaged with Swim England and its current rules.</p> <p>Action – CS, SK, CC and AS to agree on how this information can be distributed widely to reach all relevant stakeholders.</p>
4.	AOB
	There were no AOB's raised by the group.
5.	Date of next meeting
	Wednesday 9 th October