

Artistic Swimming Leadership Group

3rd June 2024 18:30 – 20:00, Zoom

Attendees:

Maria Ramos (MR) Chair
Hannah Secher (HS) Workforce Lead
Ian Atkinson (IA) Competition Lead
Keith Munday (KM) Sport Operations Committee Leadership Group Liaison
Sarah Clarke (SC) Athlete Reward and Recognition Lead
Ekaterina Boyd (EB) Swim England Head of Events
Claire Coleman (CC) Swim England Head of Development
Gareth Picken (GP) Swim England Sport Development Administrator

Additional:

Becky Walker (BW) Club Growth & Programmes Manager (during items 1, 2,)

Apologies received:

Karen Thorpe (KT) Artistic Swimming Manager
Louise Ross (LR) Coaching Lead
Richard Blackshaw (RB) Swim England Head of Performance

Standing Items	
1.	Chairs welcome and Apologies
	MR opened the meeting. Apologies were received from KT, LR and RB.
2.	Action Log
	MR suggest that the action log is reviewed and updated outside of the meeting. Action: MR and GP to meet to review.
3.	Updates from each of the Leads:
3.1	Grades
	Update postponed to the next meeting.
3.2	Coaching
	Update postponed to the next meeting.
3.3	Officials
	Update postponed to the next meeting.
3.4	Leadership Group Review
	CC provided the group with the purpose to the review and how the current plan in place for the coming months. MR asked how the data would be collected and if there is specific hypothesis the project is aiming to achieve. CC replied that initially there would be a survey to go out to all members and future work would be influenced based on the results.

	<p>MR further challenged that the leadership groups should have an influence on the questions being asked.</p> <p>CC replied that this would be fed back to the Project Management Group.</p> <p>CC clarified for the group that the purpose of the review focuses on whether the groups operate efficiently.</p>
3.5	SOC Update
	The SOC paper was circulated to the group ahead of the meeting. There were no questions.
3.6	Learn to Swim Pathway
	<p>BW shared with the group a presentation to outline the review project.</p> <p>BW asked for comments and questions on the presentation to which MR highlighted the need to both improve the current clubs available and the number of clubs within the discipline. BW clarified this project would look at the transition point.</p> <p>BW asked the group for a representative to sit on the consultation group; HS offered to take the role. MR suggested LR to also join the group.</p> <p>MR asked what the time scale of the project is.</p> <p>BW explained that the consultation period will take the remainder of the year but couldn't confirm a set competition date.</p> <p>BW left at 19:26</p> <p>Action – BW to link up with HS and LTR in relation to the group.</p>
4.	AS Conference
4.1	Date and location
	<p>MR explained that based on the feedback from the last Artistic Swimming Conference last year, holding the event in December didn't give coaches enough time to implement any new changes before competitions in the spring. As a consequence, MR suggested the 19th 20th October, 9th & 10th November or 16th & 17th November.</p> <p>The group agreed that the 19th & 20th October would be the preferable date.</p> <p>Paola Basso has sourced a venue and proposed content.</p> <p>Support would be required to communicate the details to the community. Support would also be needed to process payment once the fee had been agreed.</p> <p>Action – MR to confirm date with KT Action – MR to progress venue with PB Action – MR to agree content with PB Action – MR to create proposal for the fee Action – CC and GP to reach out to Communications Team and the Purchasing Team in relation to the communications and processing of payments.</p>

5.	Competitions
	<p>EB explained that there is a number of venues which could be used for the 2025</p> <p>There was a conversation among the benefits to each venue. The provisional dates are confirmed with EB will go to the venues with.</p> <p>Action - MR to email KT, EB and CC regarding how the agreed change would be released to the community.</p>
5.1	Job description for chief recorders
	Postponed to the next meeting.
6.	Depths Survey
	<p>EB updated the group on the progress being made on the survey and shared a preview of the survey.</p> <p>The working group agreed to share the survey with the rest of the leadership group for final comments. It was agreed that final comments would need to be made by the end of the week. GP shared the preview link through an email with the ASLG via email.</p> <p>Action – ASLG to provide final responses to the Depths Survey by Friday 7th June.</p>
7.	Champs Trophy criteria
	<p>HS raised that the trophies have their own conditions for winning. HS asked if the conditions for some of the trophies should be revised.</p> <p>The group discussed the criteria for each trophy and the need to update the virtual cabinet.</p> <p>Action – MR to identify a volunteer to review the SE trophy virtual cabinet.</p> <p>Action – EB to manage updated to the Communications Team once updates have been received</p>
8.	Duets/teams with mix of clubs for Champs – discussion
	<p>HS identified an issue for duets in current competitions are made up of swimmers from two different clubs but they can only compete for one club as a pair. It was agreed that a duet had to compete as one club.</p> <p>It was agreed that this needs to be presented and agreed as a pair with clear messaging to ensure the community is updated correctly</p> <p>Action: HS to create a document outlining the decision and the rationale for it to be shared with the group for agreement.</p>
9.	AOB
9.1	Artistic Swimming Calendar

	<p>CC explained that the coaching courses are circulated each week so show which courses are in danger of being cancelled to low sign up. Regional contacts should be passing this information throughout the community to maximise awareness.</p> <p>SC referenced other documents which had been prepared with KT with needed to be shared with the community</p> <p>Action – SC to email CC and GP with the documents that need sharing with the Artistic Swimming community.</p>
	<p>Group round up</p>
	<p>KM asked about the review from the AS community with regards to the Listening Report. MR mentioned that KT had reviewed the Listening report on behalf of the group and it was felt that the issues linked to AS were historic and the concerns had been addressed already.</p> <p>IA asked EB check with the City of Sheffield trust that they have enough staff in place for Combo Cup given the competition takes place the day after the general election.</p> <p>Action – EB to speak with City of Sheffield trust regarding staffing for Combo Cup.</p>
10.	<p>Close of meeting</p>
	<p>MR closed the meeting at 20:47</p> <p>The next meeting will be on 14th October 2024</p>