

# Diving Leadership Group

23rd July 2024 – 12:15 – 13:30

## Attendees:

Lottie Thompson	Chair (LT)
Sam Buck	Coaching Lead (SB)
Sarah Barrow	Technical Officials Lead (SBw)
Sophie Bolton	Competition Planning Support (SBn)
Joel Trenchard	Volunteering Lead (JT)
Connie Ford	Swim England Diving Programme Lead (CF)
Charles Calvert	Swim England Talent and Inclusion Officer for Diving (CC)
Ekaterina Boyd	Swim England Head of Events (EB)
Claire Coleman	Swim England Head of Development (CC)
Gareth Picken	Swim England Sport Development Administrator (GP)

## Apologies:

Sally Freeman	Competition Planning Lead (SF)
Alex Harrison	Sport Operations Committee Leadership Group Liaison (AH)

## Agenda

### Welcome and Action Log

LT began the meeting welcoming everyone to the meeting. LT reviewed the actions from the last meeting.

CC updated the group that the handbook has gone to the legal team for review. There is a wider discussion around the handbook in 2025.

### SOC Update

On behalf of AH, CC provided the group with an update from the last meeting which took place on the 30<sup>th</sup> April. Items discussed during the SOC meeting included;

- A risk assessment portal which will be provided for by Howdens, however this will not be mandatory for clubs to use.
- Helen Weeks (Swim England Governance and Welfare Manager) attended SOC and presented on Club Compliance. Helen is now starting to work with the regions to support and develop club compliance; specifically, where compliance is low.
- Ally Whyke mentioned UK Sport funding given to Swim England.
- Health and Safety forum which took place on the 21<sup>st</sup> March. Chair resigned and recruitment is underway.

- Craig McCulloch is focused on elevating the ethics and the culture for coaching.
- There was an update on the Listening Report and the roadshows which finished last month. Analysis of the responses is underway.
- Richard Lamburn gave an update on the number of pool closing/ opening and the amount of water time per head across the country.

### **Development**

- **General update**

CC updated the group that the roadshows are now finished, and a revised strategy should go live by the end of the year. Development will maintain the status quo; some changes may take place in the new year.

CC asked the group what SE should be delivering to support the sport in 2025?

**Action – CC to circulate template for the group to complete focusing on courses, needs of the sport etc.**

CC caveated that SE supports five sports, so resources need to be focused on target areas. CC has a committed to explaining outcomes at a future meeting.

### **Event Update**

National Age Groups (“NAGs”) took place last month at Sandwell Aquatics Centre. Whilst there was positive feedback about the event in general, there were challenges around the shared changing village as other activities were taking place. It was noted that further feedback from the event was currently being collated and would be reviewed in due course.

EB advised that a venue had been provisionally for 2025. EB raised that the event programme and appointment of roles needs reviewing for events taking place in 2025.

LT provided a summary of the National Skills Finals (“NSF”) which took place last month at Southend. JT and SB both had attended both events and provided their feedback including opportunities for improvement.

### **Coaching Lead Update**

SB updated the group that coaching qualifications progress has currently been paused. SB provided an overview of the work that had been completed to date and that he was continuing to review the content of the courses. It was noted that how qualifications are being delivered is also being reviewed.

### **Volunteer Lead Update**

JT provided the group with an update that through the online community, the insight team has already built a survey. Andrea has mentioned to JT that some responses have come through but hasn’t provided any details.

Recorders upskilling courses to be booked for the end of the year/early 2025.

**Action: JT to meet with Volunteering Team**

**Technical Lead Update**

SBw updated the group that the next J1 courses were due to take place in September and December. The next J2 course needs booking as the last one was in March.

The group highlighted again that online logbooks would be really helpful for judges and chief referees/event organisers to monitor performance and suitability for progression.

CC mentioned that the pathway for technical officials needs reviewing to understand better how the community can be more engaged with the role and J1 technical official development to J2.

CC explained that a data pull took place on Swim England internal records where there were a number of people in roles that they have not held for a while. SBw said she has a list of current diving judges including the level of judge and whether they are active or not.

**Action - CC and SBw to review the current technical officials list with Andrea Startin.**

Following a detailed discussion regarding the quality of judging at NAGs and NSF, it was agreed that there was a need for more judge developers throughout the country to support and train judges. It was suggested that judges for national events could be identified at the beginning of the season and provided with additional support/training throughout the year if volunteers judge mentors could be identified.

**Action – LT and SBw to review and discuss.**

EB left the meeting at 12:59.

**Talent Investment**

CF explained a number of camps and competitions have taken place since the last meeting. The 2025 calendar is starting to be developed which can be found on a box file, and it is shared with the regions/club contacts. There was a discussion about how this information can be shared more widely to increase knowledge of diving. It was agreed that it would be useful to contact the regions to advise them of the events that should be held during the year in each region.

**Action – SB and SF to provide CC with information.**

**Action – CF to ensure that the regions have access to the talent calendar through the website.**

Talent squads have received a feedback form to review their experiences in the squads.

Anna Garside as head of performance operations has been influential on developing all the sports in terms of coordinating operational aspects such as camp sign ups etc.

CF has further been working with Aquatics GB on female athlete health, specifically on tracking and monitoring of injuries and how they can be developed.

The Talent Games conditions are out to the community with the events due to take place in November.

A training needs analysis has been sent to targeted clubs asking what courses they need. Responses have been few so far, so CF appealed to the group to advertise the analysis further.

**Action - CC and CF to meet to discuss how response rate can be increased.**

Team manager day booked to take place in September. The group discussed the courses and SB asked if there could be courses arranged in the north and south so that there is an opportunity each year both parts of the country. LT noted that she had previously provided proposed suitable timings for team manager courses to align with the key competitions during the year.

#### **AOB**

LT to ask the group, via an email, for nominations for the Harold Fern and Alfred H Turner awards.

**Action – Group members to nominate people for the awards.**

**Action – GP to send LT this list of proposed dates for DLG meeting in 2025.**

#### **Date of Next Meetings**

1<sup>st</sup> October 2024