

President Brian Armstrong

**Minutes of the Coach Committee Meeting held on Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> July 2023  
via Zoom at 1015am**

**Present:**

Lisa Atkinson (LA)	City of Bristol
Barry Aldrick (BA)	Poole SC
Mark Rawle (MR)	Taunton Deane
David Cousins (DC)	Bristol Penguins / RDP Lead Coach
Neil Edwards (NE)	Mount Kelly / RDDP Lead Coach
Kieran Piper (KP)	Millfield
Roberto Pavoni (RP)	Plymouth Leander
Jon Wills (JW)	Soundwell
Anthony Clark (AC)	Swindon Dolphin
Jeff Sandley (JS)	Swim Bournemouth
Rachel Aldington (RA)	Somerset Representative
Mike Parker (MP)	Swim England Talent
Chrissie Robinson (CR)	SWR Chair
Paul Robbins (PR)	SWR Vice Chair
Chris Vickery (CV)	SWR Office Coordinator an Events Officer
Stacey Millett (SM)	SWR Development Officer

**21 Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

CR welcomed all to the meeting, due to the number of new members (listed below) introductions were made.

**New Members:**

Mark Rawle	Taunton Deane
Rachel Aldington	Somerset Rep
Glenn Currie	Devon Rep
Liam Wilcox	Team Bath
Roberto Pavoni	Plymouth Leander
Jon Wills	Soundwell
Anthony Clarkson	SWR Para Swimming Lead Coach
Jeff Sandley	Swim Bournemouth
Anthony Clark	Swindon Dolphin

**Apologies:**

Jason Quiterio	Caradon SC
Adam Clarkson	SWR Para Swimming Lead Coach
Rich Smith	Tigersharks
Glenn Currie	Devon Rep

**22 Declarations of Interest**

None

**23 Minutes of the Previous Meeting 04.05.2023**

Acceptance proposed by Lisa Atkinson and seconded by David Cousins.

## **24 Matters Arising Not on the Agenda**

SM – SW representatives at international events has now been published and is available to read on the website and in the Annual Report.

## **25 Talent Update – Mike Parker**

- 25.1 Appendix 1 report  
Spreadsheet attached re NAG Programme2023-2025. This spreadsheet will be updated and communicated through the Regional Officers. SM to update Coach Committee when changes have been made.
- 25.2 Selection Guidelines for National Programmes will go out on the Swim England Website next week, Regions have received their selection guidance. Main change is the ages invited, Counties for 12yrs, Regional for 13yrs and National for 14yrs.
- 25.3 Coach drop ins are running for NAG and Youth programmes to feedback from last season.
- 25.4 Parent drop in sessions being held for athletes on the pathway to provide support and information on how best to support their athletes, also encouraging parents to volunteer.

## **26 Development Programme**

- 26.1 David Cousins will remain as the Development Programme Lead Coach. Neil Edwards is unable to commit to the Distance Development Programme next year so we will need to re-recruit.
- 26.2 Para Swimming Programme is now finished for this season, planning for next season has started.
- 26.3 Only 6 coach applications have been received for both the Development and Distance Development Programmes, we need 6-8 coaches for each programme. SM requested coaches to ask about and encourage others to apply. MP suggested going to the Counties as the coaches should progress through from County. SM to contact Counties and send details to RA.

## **27 Competitions**

- 27.1 All dates have been booked for 2023/2024 including Para Swimming Meet, Masters Open Meet and Masters Inter-County.
- 27.2 Only Long Course Times will be accepted for Summer Champs, the Region will not be converting anything and the conversion table to be used will be identified.
- 27.3 Presentations will be brought back next year, timings during the event to be decided. Look at National Presentations and schedules to help guide us for next year. BA suggested the possibility of presentations during the distance events.
- 27.4 BA asked if the entry programme could do the conversions. CR stated that Hy-Tek didn't have the capability to do this however the software is constantly being updated.
- 27.5 JW asked if the new ratios will be monitored at the championships going forward. Cr – checks were brought in at Summer Champs and this will continue to happen going forward.
- 27.6 BA asked about any discussions had at swimming committee regarding mixed relays. CR this wasn't on the agenda at the meeting.
- 27.7 BA asked about Swim England's guidelines for entering 50m events and if the Region will be following this. MP answered that there would be no expectation from Swim England for the Regions to provide this.

- 27.8 MR asked about the use of the Leisure Pool at Plymouth and the noise affecting the athletes when starting at that end. A discussion was had around the possible solutions such as changing the starting end for the 50m events. We will need to check that the timing system is able to work that way round, RP said that Plymouth Leander have used the diving pit end of the 50m pool for starts in the past so it should be possible.
- 27.9 AC asked if there had been any discussion at committee regarding relays at the Age Group Championships. CR it isn't included at the moment due to there being no further pathway for the athletes beyond this. Will take the comment to Swimming Committee for discussion.
- 27.10 LA wanted it noted that only the distance events were scratched at the last championships so some athletes missed the chance to achieve a qualifying time for National events. MP suggested looking at the numbers and increase the number of heats in the 800 and 1500m events to give more athletes the opportunity to qualify.

## **28 Terms of Reference**

- 28.1 SM reported that the work on the Terms of Reference is now complete, the number of individuals on the committee has increased and we have greater representation of clubs, Counties and Regional Programme Coaches now.

## **29 Overseas Camp**

- 29.1 NE reported that the selection policy has now been pulled together and this was based on the 2020 selection policy (the last time we did an overseas camp). See Appendix 2 for the details. All coaches to send feedback to SM by Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> July.
- 29.2 The events to attend have been narrowed down to Luxemburg, Flanders, Belgium Open Champs, Lisbon Meet or Geneva Meet. All will be running end of January beginning on Feb 2024. A discussion was had and the general consensus was to attend the Lisbon meet. Usually held around 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> Feb each year, the dates for 2024 are yet to be released.
- 29.3 BA suggested the selection of the meet was to be based on the number of second swims the athletes will have. LW noted the Lisbon meet was good the last time the Region attended.
- 29.4 The selection period will be from 01.01.23 to 07.08.23. Athlete's year of birth 2005 to 2009. LA noted if athletes have left for university then they become ineligible there also needs to be a balance across age groups, genders and events.
- 29.5 Neil Edwards was selected as Lead Coach for the camp due to the hard work he had already put in with researching and pulling together the selection criteria.
- 29.6 Team size of 30 athletes, previously send 4 coaches and 2 Team Managers, will now need at least 3 Team Managers. SM to advertise Coach and Team Manager Positions. Next year the Team Staff need to be in place before any communications are sent out.
- 29.7 CR requested for costings to be pulled together, the Region will subsidise the trip but an athlete contribution will be needed.
- 29.8 BA for future trips we will need to look at inclusivity due to the National Heart of Aquatics document. MP noted that all Para selections were done by Carl Cooper at Head Office for the Regional and National Programmes. Consult with Carl regarding the suitability of the athletes. Those who go to the meet this year will need to assess the suitability for Para athletes in future.

### **30 INSPIRE Coach Applications**

- 30.1 Applications will soon be open for the INSPIRE programme, this will be open to all coaches to receive mentoring and development, including a personal development plan and 1-2-1 support from one of the Region's mentors.

### **31 Open Forum / AOB**

**Next meeting** – Early July – SM to send out a Doodle Poll of Dates.

Meeting closed 11.40am

**Appendix 1** – Mike Parker, Swim England Talent Report

# South West Region Coach Forum July 6<sup>th</sup> 2022 Swim England Talent Report

## **1. TALENT SELECTION GUIDELINES 2023-2024**

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Selection guidelines have been completed for the SE Talent Pathway. They are currently with SE legal department for approval. The SE Talent Extended Pathway selection guidelines have also been completed. They are currently with the wider talent team for comments and feedback.

Once this process has been completed, all selection guidelines will be sent to each of the 8 regions.

## **2. REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2023-2024**

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We are currently in the process of pulling together resources to compliment the Regional Talent delivery for 2023-2024 and onwards to 2025. Once completed, Regional staff will be invited to review the detailed plans on box.

## **3. NATIONAL AGE GROUP DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME 2023-2024**

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See attached Delivery Plan.

Please note this is a live working document and as such is subject to change and amendment without prior notice or notice of change.

# Swim England South West Overseas Meet January / February 2024

## 1. Performance objective

- 1.1 The objective for this event is to provide a positive team experience and exposure to an overseas camp and competition for the development of English athletes aspiring to achieve international representation and success in the future.

## 2. Coach and Team Manager selection

- 2.1 The Head Coach and Lead Team Manager for the camp and competitions have been selected by the SE South West Swimming Committee.
- 2.2 Three further group coaches and an assistant team manager will be selected from applications received by the selection committee and selections confirmed by the end of .....

## 3. Athletes selection Qualifying period

- 3.1 Selections will be made from the fastest performances achieved in a long course licensed meet between January 1st and August 7th 2023 inclusive.

## 4. Team announcement

- 4.1 A list of swimmers will be published at the Regional Coaches Meeting on .....
- 4.2 Athletes will be notified of their selection by the .....
- 4.3 The team will be announced via the regional website by the end of .....

## 5. Athlete Selection criteria

- 5.1 Selection will be made for the male and female athletes achieving the highest ranked time in each event. Only times achieved in Olympic events will be considered. Further selections for the next highest ranked athletes will be at the discretion of the selection committee, in line with Swim England selection guidelines and with a view to achieving a balance across both events and genders. Only times achieved in the qualifying period January 1st to August 6th 2023 will be considered. In consultation with their home programme coach athletes will have the opportunity to compete in up to 5 individual events.

## 6. Age Eligibility

- 6.1 Age eligibility is for up to 24 athletes born between 2006 and 2009. A further 6 athletes born 2005 or earlier may be selected from the highest ranked FINA points at the sole discretion of the selection committee in line with Swim England Selection guidelines with a view to achieving balance across both events and genders.

## 7.0 Eligibility

- 7.1 Athletes who have been selected to represent international senior, junior or youth teams for British swimming or England programmes in 2022/23 will be ineligible for this competition.
- 7.2 Athletes must be in full time training, have a British Swimming ranked time recorded representing a club from the SE South West Region, within the selection qualifying period.
- 7.3 Athletes must have competed at either the 2022 SW Winter Championships or the 2023 SW Summer Championships.
- 7.4 Athletes must be an English citizen and eligible to represent England as per FINA General Rule 2.

## **8.0 Team Size**

8.1 Up to a maximum of 30 athletes may be selected subject to funding. The total number of athletes selected will be decided by the selection committee.

## **9.0 Team Commitment and Withdrawals**

All team members will be required to:

9.1 Confirm their acceptance by ..... Failure to do so will be interpreted as non-availability by the selection committee.

9.2 Comply with the SE SW Region's Code of Conduct. A breach of this may result in de-selection from the team.

9.3 Provide a race plan, pre-race preparation (dry land and pool warm up) and post-race protocol for each event by completing the appropriate pages in their log book prior to attending the competition.

9.4 Comply with British swimming and FINA swimwear regulations.

9.5 If for any reason the athlete is unable or unwilling to fully comply with the Team commitments outlined in Section 9 they may be withdrawn from the team.

9.6 Athletes becoming unfit due to illness or injury at any time following their selection must notify the Head Coach and the Lead Team Manager immediately.

9.7 A review of the ability of the athlete to compete will take place which may result in the athlete being de-selected from the team.

9.8 Replacement of an athlete (s) withdrawn from the team will be considered at the discretion of the selection committee.

9.9 Contribute the set financial contribution towards the camp as detailed in the selection letter.

Selection Committee

Head Coach: Neil Edwards [edwardsn@mountkelly.com](mailto:edwardsn@mountkelly.com)

Lead team Manager:

SW Swimming Secretary: