

Draft SWR Swimming Officials Meeting 16 January 2022 6.30 pm via Zoom

Attendees: Chair Paul Robbins (Wilts), Jill Beard (Training & Development Coordinator),

Neil Harper (Gloucester), Mel Jeynes (Devon), Esther Rookes (Devon), Nick Jenkins (Cornwall), Nicky Vause (Officials Secretary).

22.1 Welcome PR.

22.2 Apologies: Tracey Roberts (Dorset), Chris Metcalf (Somerset).

22.3 Minutes 16 September 2021 agreed (to be signed by NV).

22.4 Matters arising:

21.27 Regional competitions 2021/22- NV to update SwimMeet / completed to FAST 5.

21.27 Recruiting officials for regional events – NV link forwarded to SWR office.

21.28 Regional training update:

21.28.1

JB to organize and promote a J2 rolling programme of training approximately once a month- ongoing.

21.28.2

JB to circulate J2(S) power point to County Coordinators / Arrange a Doodle Poll for the Mentoring CPD – complete.

22.5 Report from Swim England SOG – JB circulate the minutes prior to the meeting.

Referee training:

- November 2021 exam_8 candidates sat the exam, papers were generally of a high standard.
- Existing candidates remaining from May 2020 plus those from November 2020 who have completed their practical training will be offered the chance to sit the exam on 7th May 2022. A decision on locations will be taken nearer the time.
- November 2022 exam the eligibility for candidates wishing to enter training in 2022 remains unchanged. The closing date for entries has been extended until 31 January to allow for any time accrued during the County window to be included.
- The exam will take place on 19th November at 10am.

Development Programme for Referee and Starters

- Applications to join the programme in 2022 will close 28th February 2022, with the pre-requisites unchanged.
- If a candidate is close to the required number of days at national events they are advised to apply but to acknowledge this in their application, on the understanding that there is no guarantee that they will be accepted.
- A launch event is planned for the end of March 2022, delivery probably online.
- Those that are already in the programme will be offered the opportunity to remain on it.

Contemporary Issues CPD

- The current version has now outlived the four-year licensing cycle. Previous versions have been Developed by SE but it is acknowledged that there may no longer be the budget or staff resources to do this.
- Input will be required from the other Home Countries, plus advice from the SE Inclusion Partner, on possible topics. Suggestions were welcomed from group members from the Chair Mark Davies, also they will be looking at resources available in other sports, possibly with a view to building on an existing product.
- If either the new version of this CPD or the FINA Rules Update are not available, then licenses will be able to be renewed provided the official has done the most recent version of both courses.

FINA Rules Update

- It is anticipated that any rule changes will be from late September 2022; with any changes notified in advance for a prompt launch.

Licensed Meets

- The relaxation of the guidelines covering the level of officials required for licensed meets was extended to 10 March 2022.

22.6 Regional training update – JB

J1 online

- End of Year report submitted to the SWR Board. To date 16 SWR funded candidates have completed the training with many more anticipated at the end of the counties. With only half of the budget allocated used it is hoped the SWR Board will continue to fund training.

Action – PR to follow up. Confirmation received SWR will fund for a further 12 months from licensed meet revenue.

Action – County Coordinators to email JB when completions occur.

J2 / J2S

- County coordinators reminded training can commence following 15 certified post qualification hours.
- Zoom theory sessions held once a month October – January have worked well and positive feedback received. Future dates planned February - June and following a summer break sessions will recommence monthly from September subject to the demand.

Action – County Coordinators to encourage candidates to email JB with application forms and summary of their post J1 hours. County Coordinators to follow usual process of sending name/club/reg number to JB on completion & JB will register passes.

DQ Reporting sign off

- Take advantage of the relaxing of the licensing conditions up to 31/3/22. At Level 1 & 2 competitions DQ reports can be completed by any qualified official, at Level 3 / 4 competitions trainees are able to complete the form.

Referee examination 2019

- All candidates that passed the examination have successfully completed the practical assessment.

2020 candidates & 2019 Resits

- Gloucester - one to sit in November, another undecided, NH has received no contact from the third. **Action NH to confirm with JB**
- Cornwall – withdrawn, stepped back completely from swimming.
- Dorset – 2020 candidate to sit as “first sit” in May.

Referee Training 2022 (deadline 31/1/22)

- County Coordinators were reminded of the process for submitting applications to JB.
- Applications are required to be endorsed by the County Coordinator and SWR Officials Training & Development Officer and submitted with the fee to Helen Akers.
- Application forms submitted directly to Helen Akers will not be accepted.
- 2022 applications include one from Devon and one from Gloucester.
PMN there is a third candidate from Somerset

Time keepers & J1 online (without timekeeper module)

- 3 SWR funded vouchers issued for shortened J1 online, with 2 completing the online study.
PMN all have completed online
- PR advised 20-30 Wilts Young Volunteers followed the online timekeeper course, it is hoped they will be encouraged to sign up for J1 Online.
- No information is provided to the Region on timekeeper online passes.

2017 FINA update sweep up

- Delivered by JB & ER to 24 officials (from the 53 officials contacted because of license renewal due by 31/09/22 and no FR recorded)
- Final Zoom session arranged for 24/1, after which responsibility will pass to the county coordinators to pass any “late requests” to JB for discussion on how to resolve.

Contemporary Issues CPD

- An updated version is expected later in the year; see 21.5.
- To meet relicensing criteria, complete the current online course, officials are required to take a screen shot as evidence to show County Coordinators. If they complete the form at the end of the course eventually it should appear in their SE Membership record.

22.7 Recruitment for regional events

In December JB distributed a newsletter to all SWR licensed officials; whom have signed up to receive officials related communications.

Thanks was extended from the SWR Board for their help and ongoing support. Topics included keeping in touch, the SwimMeet link for officials sign up for SWR events, county coordinators and regional officials’ coordinators emails, returning to competition, returning to training, commencing new training, licensing and relicensing criteria information.

- SWR Seasonal Newsletter (appendix A)
- Swim England Return to Competition - Training of Officials (appendix B).
- Swim England Licensed Meets Officials Requirements (appendix C).

All unanimously agreed the communication was well received and agreed going forward a SWR officials' newsletter should be issued on a six-monthly basis, or updates sent when key information received or officials recruitment for events required.

Action JB / NV

22.8 Correspondence - None

22.9 County Officials Coordinators reports:

Devon

The County Championships starting this weekend at the Plymouth Life Centre. There are no spectators at this event, however it will be live streamed. At present not many J1 trainees have signed up, an invitation was extended to the county coordinators if they were aware of any trainees that maybe looking for poolside opportunities.

Devon officials meeting their post qualification hours have attended the J2 and J2 S regional Zoom theory sessions run JB / ER.

There are still some old style J1 Trainees in the system

Devon have purchased the license for SwimMeet Officials sign up for events, for all clubs in the county.

Cornwall

The County Championships started on 8/1 other dates include 22/1, 5/2 & 6/2 and 12/2 & 13/2 at the Penzance pool.

Opportunities for trainees to gain poolside experience are limited in Cornwall.

Gloucester

The counties were due to commence this weekend however they have been suspended due to Covid-19 and rescheduled for 29/1 & 30/1, 12/2 & 13/2, 26/2 & 27/2 at Hengrove. There are no spectators, the J1 Online trainees sign up to date is not good.

Dorset

The County Championships start this weekend at the Littledown Centre; with a smaller entry and no spectators. There are difficulties surrounding the start time, access to poolside for volunteers / announcers' briefings. The window of time constraints, Covid risk management and the one-way system imposed have

proved challenging.

Wilts

Untold issues regarding pool hire at the Link Centre for the County Championships, the events will be held across nine days. Special dispensation has been granted by Swim England to run into March. The SwimMeet sign up for officials is disappointing at present. There will be no refreshments or water provided at the event for the officials.

Somerset (report circulated prior to the meeting).

- All systems go for our county champs which start this Sunday with the short course sessions for 100IM and the relays. A large number of J1 trainees have signed up for their relay takeover experience.
- Many thanks to Jill for all her assistance in figuring out the position with our remaining workbook J1 trainees. There have been quite a few combinations! Happily, a handful are completing.
- Great to see a steady trickle of people starting their J2 training.
- I got three folk started with their J2S training pre-Xmas with the new online presentation. Already have enough folk for a second iteration, which I will organise post-counties.
- Have had a couple of discussions about referee training. Both may wait until next year due to other commitments currently.

It was noted all counties are now using SwimMeet Sign up for Officials, with the exception of Cornwall. All agreed it was an exceptional tool which reduced the administration time pre, during and post event.

22.10 AOB - None

Date of next Zoom meeting – 6.30pm Thursday 1 September 2022

Meeting closed 8.10pm

