

Minutes from Disability/ Para Forum Meeting - Monday 24th September

Attendees: Martin Lees, Carl Cooper, Louise Johnson, Graham Cockill, Christine Tremellen, Steve Johns, Andy Harley, Rich Smith, James Richards and Yvonne Stead

Apologies: Kay Wilcox, Chris Elliott, Sam Towers, Maria Harris, David Hill and Robert Margetts

Previous Minutes/ Actions:

Current delivery was discussed and the following information was gathered:

Gloucester

- **Gloucester City SC** currently have 12 swimmers (S8-S14) some are integrated in mainstream and a para section that trains 4 x week. (*4 individuals awaiting classification*)
- **City of Bristol** currently have 18 swimmers (S6-S10), run a para only sessions for 1 hour a week and a disability link session (*16 individuals awaiting classification*), currently organising the Swift Gala, promotion to be added to minutes

Somerset

- **City of Bristol** – As above
- **Clevedon** – swimmers in mainstream sessions (?)
- **Norton Radstock** – swimmers in mainstream sessions (X4)
- **Bridgwater** – 1x S14 swimmer NOW AT NEWQUAY

Wiltshire

- **Malborough Penguins** – currently have 6 swimmers, 4 are within the learn to swim programme but all are integrated in mainstream. (*5 waiting classification - S14*)
- **Durrington Otters** – Currently have 4 swimmers (3 classified and 1 just started)
- **Wiltshire wide information** – there are clubs that have swimmers integrated in mainstream these are: Calne Alpha (x1), Trowbridge (x3), Swindon Dolphins (x8), Salisbury and Tiger Sharks (x2). Two of these clubs run a session as a taster/ introduction.

Dorset

- **West Dorset** – sessions have stopped
- **Bournemouth** – currently have 3 swimmers (S9-S10) (*one has been classified – two are waiting*)
- **Bournemouth Collegic** – details to be confirmed

Devon

- **Devonport Royal** – currently have a couple of swimmers (S6-S14)
- **Plymouth Life Centre** programme
- **Exmouth**
- **Mount Kelly**

Cornwall

- **Caradon** –
- 0.2% of swimmers in learn to swim are disabled (GLL)

Previous minutes/ actions continued....

Yvonne confirmed that a request for information had been added to the regional newsletter and to date nothing had been received.

Martin confirmed that the date for the national competition is still not known. Chris advised that the original date is still booked in until the date is known.

Oxley Event – all booked and to be discussed later in the meeting as an agenda item.

Future event dates: possible future dates are still outstanding

There was a discussion as to competition standards for disabled athletes at county and regional competitions. A document with these timings was produced and it was agreed that this would be included with the minutes for all counties to receive/ action.

It was also discussed and agreed that there needs to be a forum agreed guide that clarifies classifications and the process to become classified.

There was a discussion about how meets are currently accessed on a county by county basis – it was agreed that this needs to be looked into and a message to be sent out through the national team.

It was also noted that there is the need for more transparency in information about the para swimming pathway and how it can be accessed at a local level with better access on club websites. This is also needed in an introduction to swimming/ showcase how to start.

Learn to swim and club links sessions were discussed and agreed that this would need to be looked into on a regional basis at a later date.

Action: Martin to chase and confirm asap

*Action: future events
Yvonne to chase Plymouth life centre (Jan 2019)
Louise to get a date for Hengrove (April 2019)
Rich to chase Malborough College for date due to Water Polo possibly booking the same time*

Action: Yvonne to attach recommended swimmer competition times to minutes

Action: to be added to next meeting agenda

Action; undertake an exercise on what meets are accessible.

Action: Yvonne to ask that Para element is updated on regional website page by next meeting.

Election of Officers:

It was proposed by Yvonne that Andy Harley become the chair of the forum this was seconded by Martin Lees and third' by Graham Cockill.

Andy asked that any queries for disability are sent to the generic regional email (which will be on all future promotional material/ website) and this will be sent onto him to action/ delegate

Yvonne to take on minute's secretary but then all attendees agreed that they will take on planning roles for upcoming events.

Action: Yvonne to discuss with regional team

Oxley Event – 18/11/2018

Yvonne updated the forum and thanked Christine for booking Oxley Sports Centre.

It was noted that the sign up for the Talent ID and Regional Training/ Classification sign offs have been sent out to all county secretaries to send on.

To ensure all have the information here are the links:

Talent ID: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/para-swimming-talent-identification-event-for-disabled-swimmers-tickets-50490414188>

Regional Training: <https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/para-swimming-regional-training-session-tickets-50491500437>

All coaches interested in the CPD, to register directly with Yvonne

https://www.theiosonline.com/Courses.aspx?itemid=48321&itemtitle=Coaching%20Para-Swimmers%20into%20a%20Mainstream%20Coaching%20Environment%20-%209.00am%20to%2012.00%20noon&sitesectionid=43&sitesectiontitle=Qualifications&destination=Courses.aspx%3fsitesectionid%3d43%26sitesectiontitle%3dAll%2bTraining%26type%3d%26role%3d%26location%3dPostcode%26cType%3d1&cType=1&itemType=cpd_seminar

For all those attending, it was noted that for catering purposes this would need to be given to Christine the week beforehand.

Action: Yvonne to confirm numbers signed up for the CPD week commencing 05/11/18

Budget/ Marketing

It was discussed and agreed that a specific action plan would need to be devised for the forum with a budget attached.

The development plan discussed at the last meeting would be the starting point but this would need to be adapted and have elements included with a budget which would need to be submitted to the regional management board for budget planning purposes.

A number of questions were raised regarding the budget which it was agreed Yvonne would email to the Regional Finance Officer in preparation for the next meeting.

Marketing: It was also noted that each county would need to update the county websites with all upcoming event details and county links/ regional contact email etc...

Action: To be added and reviewed at next meeting

Action: Yvonne to email questions raised to Regional Finance Officer

Action: All counties to update websites by next meeting

<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>It was noted that there is a clash between the SW regional championships in November and the zonal camps.</p> <p>It was discussed and noted that for all events, it needs to be more joined up for all future events, this includes venue choices and future activities.</p>	
<p>Next Meeting Proposed Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Actions/ updates • Classification Information • Competitions • Learn to Swim exit routes • Marketing • Oxley Event feedback • Plymouth event preparation 	
<p>Date of Next Meeting: 20th November from 7.30pm at Regional Office</p>	