

Minutes of SW Para/Disability Swimming Committee Meeting, 20th June 2022 via Zoom

- 1. Present:** Graham Cockill (Chair)(GC); Chrissie Robinson (SESW Region Chair)(CR); Paul Robbins (SESW Region Management Board)(PR); Cathy Ralph (Cornwall)(CaR); Kay Willcox (Somerset)(KW); Kerry O'Reilly (Gloucestershire)(KoR); Jan Daly (Devon)(JD).
- 2. Apologies:** Carl Cooper (Swim England); Richard Smith (Wiltshire); Geoff Pearce (SW Region Treasurer). We are awaiting a new representative from Dorset.
- 3. Minutes of meeting held on 11th May 2022:** Agreed as an accurate record.
- 4. Matters arising from minutes of 11th May meeting:** None
- 5. New Regional Strategy:** Committee members have received details of the New Regional Strategy, published by Jackie Hilleard, via email with an invitation to respond where appropriate.
- 6. SW Para-Swimming Development Plan (January – December 2022)**

a) Dates/Venues of Future Regional Training Days

Summer Term Training Day: Saturday 9th July, Taunton School, 12.00 to 16.30. Stacey Millett has sent out details.

GC to ask Chris Vickery if swimmers have been asked what their disabilities are, and to ask Stacey to inform parents that they won't be able to remain at the school during the training session. **Action: GC**

CR confirmed that coach positions will be advertised annually.

b) Feedback from National Para-Swimming Engagement Day (8th May)

The committee considered CC's papers on the rationale of the Para-Swimming Engagement Days, and the detailed content of the 8th May event (included below).

13 athletes and 4 coaches attended the day in May. Of that number, 5 athletes were from the South West.

- The workshops for athletes included: Self-awareness and the importance of rest and recovery.
- The coach workshops included: RMAP and physical literacy for Para-Swimming, as well as Developing stroke technique for Para-Swimmers.
- The athletes and coaches always have an opportunity for questions at the end of each workshop and this is where many questions around the pathway and athlete development can be explained. On this occasion, there were many questions from parents around the given subjects and other areas such as classification., which were answered.
- The talent team and associated programmes are integrating but Para-Swimming National Pathway Engagement Days are considered an important element of developing Para-Swimming and its talent pool, so have been added to delivery plans moving forwards.

c) SW/SE Joint Para-Swimming Championships 25th September 2022

- 1) Horfield Pool is booked for the gala from 15.30 to 19.30, with the creche booked from 12.00 to 15.30 for Officials' training.
- 2) Two lanes have been booked at Hengrove Pool, from 08.00 to 14.30 for the classifications. Martin Lees has secured a team of classifiers.
- 3) The licence has been granted, and the Meet Pack is currently being distributed. Chris Vickery will process the entries.
- 4) We still need to agree with the SE Region that the SW will pay the expenses of SW Officials, and the SE Region will pay the expenses of their officials. All other gala expenses will be covered by the SW Region as host. Action: GC
- 5) Coaches will be expected to help during the warm up, but we still need a warm-up marshall to manage warm-up arrangements.
- 6) Officials: Nicky Vause
- 7) Officials' Training: Jill Beard
- 8) AOE Operator: Rob Hart (currently being arranged by PR)
- 9) Recorder of Results: Neil Chambers (currently Somerset President).
- 10) Medals: Sue Dors (who will bring and organize them on the day. CR to contact Sue to confirm medal distribution. The committee recommends awarding medals for each EFDS (English Federation Disability Sport) band, ie 10-13 (Band A), 14-16 (Band B), 17+ (Band C). This will have to be for future events as this year's arrangements are already advertised and in the meet pack conditions. **Action:CR**
- 11) Still to be arranged: Announcer; General Marshalls, Door Staff. Stacey has placed a request for volunteers in a recent SW Newsletter.
- 12) The committee agreed there would be no entry fee for spectators. Programmes are available online on Meet Mobile.
- 13) GC to invite Chris Elliott. **Action: GC**

d) Start Para-Swimming Centres – new clubs for 2022?

There is no information as yet on recruiting a Wiltshire club to be the next Start Para-Swimming Centre.

7. Para-Swimming Secretary: the vacancy remains open.

8. Any other business

KoR questioned whether the South West could have regional records for para-swimming as other regions including the South East do. GC to ask Stacey to obtain relevant information from the South East region, for discussion at the next meeting. **Action: GC**

KoR asked whether para-swimmers could swim in their age bands at the regional age group competitions. While it was recognized that low entry numbers might make this

difficult, it was also felt that having age bands might lead to a higher number of para-swimming entries. CR to discuss with the SW Swimming Committee. **Action: CR**

World Para-Swimming Championships: Madeira, 12th – 18th June 2022.

JD reported on the performance of the 3 Devon swimmers at the recent World Para-Swimming Championships.

Reece Dunn S14 from Plymouth Leander representing Paralympic Team GB.

S14 200m Freestyle, securing a spot in the final and finished 6th

S14 100m Backstroke secured a spot in the final coming 8th

S14 mixed 4 x 100m freestyle relay swimming the final leg of the relay securing a gold medal.

S14 mixed 4 x 100m medley relay swimming the fly leg of the relay, the team secured a well fought gold medal.

S14 100m Butterfly; securing a silver medal.

Leo McCrea S6 SB5 SM6 from Mount Kelly representing Paralympic team Switzerland

S6 100m Freestyle secured a spot in the final coming 8th.

SB5 100m Breaststroke secured a silver medal in the final

S6 50m Freestyle finished 9th place

Cameron Vearncombe S14 from Plymouth Leander representing Paralympic Team GB. He made his debut at these championships.

S14 100m Breaststroke, finishing 10th narrowly missing out on the final.

S14 200m IM. Came 7th in his 1st World Championship final.

National Junior Para-Swimming Championships: Coventry, 18th June 2022

Swum in the age bands 10-13; 14-16; 17/18 years.

JD reported the following SW results.

DEVON

Club: Devonport Royal

- Abi Daly (S14 SM14) 17 /18 age group. 200m Freestyle – 1st; 200m IM – 1st;
- 100m Freestyle – 2nd; 100m Fly – 1st; 100m Back stroke – 1st
- Rachel Balling (S8) 14/16 age group. 100m Freestyle – 16th; 400m Freestyle – 5th;
- 50m Freestyle – 13th; 100m Backstroke – 14th

Club: Mount Kelly

- Alexander Hobbs (S7) 17/18 years. 100m Freestyle - 5th; 50m Freestyle - 5th;
- 100m Backstroke - 2nd

Club: Barnstaple

- Theo Reynolds (S6, SM6, SB6) 14/16 years. 200m IM – 6th; 50m Fly – 2nd; 100m Free – 16th; 100m Breaststroke – 10th; 50m Freestyle – 14th; 100m Backstroke 9th

DORSET

Club: Swim Bournemouth

- Zack Sturgess (S10, SM10 SB10) 14 /16 years. 200m IM - 3rd; 100m Freestyle – 8th; 400m Freestyle - 1st; 50m Freestyle – 9th; 100m Fly – 2nd
- Matthew Davies (S8, SM 8, SB 8) 17/18 years. 100m Freestyle – 3rd;
- 100m Breaststroke – 1st
- Isabelle Haynes (S8, SM 8, SB 8) 14 /16 years. 200m IM – 5th; 100m Freestyle – 6th;
- 50m Freestyle – 5th; 100m Fly – 6th; 100m Backstroke – 4th

GLOUCESTERSHIRE

Club: Gloucester

- McKenzie O'Reilly (S8, SM 8, SB 8) 10/13 years. 200m IM – 2nd; 100m Freestyle – 2nd; 400m Freestyle – 2nd; 100m Breaststroke -3rd; 50m Freestyle – 2nd; 100m Fly - 1st; 100m Backstroke – 2nd. Also achieved 2 Welsh Championship qualifying times for 100m Backstroke and 400m Freestyle.
- Jacob Wood (S9 SM9 SB 9) 14/16 years. 200m IM – 2nd; 100m Freestyle – 1st;
- 100m Breaststroke – 3rd; 50m Freestyle – 1st; 100m Fly – 1st; 100m Backstroke – 1st

SOMERSET

Club: Bristol Penguins

- Harry Hollister (S10, SM 10, SB 10) 10/13 years. 100m Freestyle – 5th;
- 50m Freestyle – 5th; 100m Backstroke – 4th

Club: Team Bath AS

- Sophie York (S6 , SM6, SB6) 10/13 years. 100m Freestyle – 11th;
- 50m Freestyle – 10th; 100m Backstroke – 9th

JD also reported that the informal gathering of SW parents, team managers and other personal assistants at the national championships had proved beneficial to all the swimmers. The committee members could see the benefits of this but it was stressed that this kind of arrangement MUST remain informal. It is not authorised or the responsibility of the region.

- 9. Date of next meeting:** Monday 5th September 2022, 7pm, Zoom