



Officials Committee meeting 3 October 2018
at the Regional Offices Wellington

Present:

P Robbins	(PR)	Wiltshire & Chairman
J Beard	(JB)	Regional Officials Training Coordinator & SOG
N Harper	(NH)	Gloucestershire
M Jeynes	(MJ)	Devon
C Cox	(CC)	Somerset
G Cockill	(GC)	Somerset (transition observer)
N Jenkins	(NJ)	Cornwall
T Roberts	(TR)	Dorset
R Margetts	(RM)	Competition Secretary
C Tremellen	(CT)	Swimming Secretary
N Vause	(NV)	Officials Secretary
C Vickery	(CV)	Observer

Apologies: None

18.1 Welcome

PR extended a warm welcome, especially to the new county representatives from Dorset (TR) and Cornwall (NJ). (CV) is currently shadowing (RM) and will be taking over as a paid Events Officer in 2019.

18.2 Apologises: None

18.3 Minutes of previous meeting 7 February 2018 signed as a true record.

18.4 Matters arising: Seminars & CPD courses

18.4.1 Complete – copy of Annual Report circulated 15/2/JB

18.4.3 Complete – one referee identified as not having attended a FINA Rules Update is stepping back and no longer active in the region.

18.4.6 Complete – JB escalated to SOG regarding referee candidates whom had just missed the pass mark in the examination. There was a full and frank discussion regarding measures already in place, any candidate requiring additional support should be identified early in the training process.

18.5 SOG

- JB explained her role for the benefit of new members to cascade information from the National Swimming Officials Group.
- Minutes of the meeting held 15 April and (JB) draft notes of the meeting held 16 September were circulated prior to the meeting.
- The discussion centred around the benefits of the new online Judge 1 training. Reduce volunteer hours to run courses, a national approach to eliminate inconsistency, user-friendly resources to suit all learning styles, inclusion of Contemporary Issues CPD.
- Online access via an IOS Learning Account, requirement Swim England member, payment option via IOS voucher scheme.
- Success will be dependent on the selection of lead trainers/tutors/mentors (role title to be confirmed), (desirability referees or knowledgeable J2S, possibly J2), who will embrace the new system and nurture candidates through the process. Ideally need for between 50-60 SW trainers/tutors/mentors to cover geographical spread of the population recognised.
- One or two National launch meetings being scheduled for approximately April 2019, for key trainers followed by a regional cascade.
Action: Names of county lead trainers/tutors/mentors to JB by Christmas 2018.
Action: JB to raise with SOG if cross county mentoring will be permitted with the caveat of exclusively between Swim England members.
- The role of lead trainer/tutor/mentor is viewed to support and guide candidates to gain experience at appropriate meets. Online access is expected to be available to view progress and sign off competencies if British Swimming Referee.
- Work is ongoing between the developers, Mark Davies, (SOG Chair); Helen Whittle, (BS SOG chair); and Helen Akers, (Swimming Officials Coordinator); for national roll out in approximately April 2019.
- A demonstration module is hoped to be available to view at the next Swim England SOG meeting in January.
- County Training Coordinators advised not to deliver face to face J1 courses past February 2019 unless advised the above launch timetable has slipped.
- 2019 J2 courses to remain under the old system with anticipated development of online module for 2020 launch.
- It is understood that Time Keeper, Starter and Referee training will remain as face to face delivery.
- Regional Referees Examination Centre discussed, issues linked to the geographical spread of the population recognised, one centre would not work for the SW.
Action: JB required additional feedback from county representatives a.s.a.p.
- Request for Referee Examination questions.
Action: Please forward to JB.

18.6 Technical Director / Meet Director

The proposal for consideration was circulated prior to the meeting. The reasoning behind it was to provide a development opportunity for volunteers to develop the necessary competencies required to apply for British Swimming / Swim England event roles.

- The proposal was agreed in principal, the final wording to be reviewed.
Action: RM, CT, JB to review before the Events Meeting in early 2019
- The job title was discussed, it was agreed Technical Director was fitting because it was a nationally recognisable title.
- A requirement of the role would be attendance on all days of the competition. In circumstances where this was not possible a thorough hand over would be necessary.
- TD duties for one day competitions to be filled by the Lead Referee.
- JB nominated TR to be TD for the Winter Championships, all agreed.
Action: TD nominations for May Summer Championships to be listed as an agenda item for February's meeting.

18.7 Regional Events

- NV expressed her thanks for the support received coordinating officials for the Fast 5, SW Relays, ESSA Snr Relays and SW Masters. Keen to harness social media to make up the short fall in volunteers a request was sent out to all the county coordinators to cascade to their web administrators. It was recognised that not all counties have this facility or volunteers with club links.
- Officials for Winter Championships, minimum licensing numbers met with the exception of the distance events on 2 November, shortfall will be filled when swimmer's attendance confirmed.
- SW Inter Counties Masters RM to email clubs, there is a requirement to provide two officials, senior roles appointed.
- 2020 changes announced in the qualifying window, CT advised the last weekend for the SW Summer Championships will be 9/10 May.
- RM confirmed 2019 ESSA events at Millfield:
Primary Relays – Monday 1 April 6pm for 6.30pm
Snr Relays – Wednesday 25 September 12 for 12.30pm

18.8 Management Board Liaison

PR updated the committee on the Regional Boards commitment to value volunteers. Feedback received suggest the smallest gestures make a difference. This will remain a focus, finance is available.

- All to be proactive in welcoming volunteers, the new TD role will also facilitate this.
- Quality and cost of lunches provided at regional venues discussed. Current practise of not providing lunch for trainees attending all sessions should be reviewed.
- All agreed that travel expenses should not be paid if attending for ½ day, unless extenuation circumstances to meet officials licensing requirements.

- The Regional Board has discussed the provision of shirts and clipboards; however, no decision has been reached. SOG support this provision.

18.9 Seminars & CPD courses

- Mentoring CPD to be arranged for early 2019, target group new J1 mentors AND identified county tutor/trainer/mentor group. The model to be paired counties (Devon & Cornwall; Somerset & Gloucestershire; Wiltshire and Dorset) with regional support available to finance.

Action: JB to arrange dates when new online J1 system date launch known.

- FINA Rules and Contemporary Issues sweep up completed by all counties.
- Para Swimming CPD no date as yet, updated list of WPS approved tutors awaited.
- Referee trainees to be encouraged to attend a Para Swimming CPD.

18.10 AOB: None

Date of next meeting Wednesday 6 February 2019

Meeting closed 8.27pm