

Minutes of the Swimming Committee held on Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March  
2022 at 19.00 via Zoom

**Present:**

P. Robbins (PR) Regional Vice Chair  
C. Elliott (CE) Cornwall Representative  
A. Osborne (AO) Gloucester Representative  
J. John (JJ) Coaches Representative  
C. Robinson (CR) Regional Chairman  
A. Smart (AS) Dorset Representative  
N. Vause (NV) Officials Representative  
S Haigh (SH) Masters Representative  
C. Vickery (CV) Admin & Events Co-Ordinator

**Apologies:** S. Yeoman Wiltshire Representative; G. Pearce Regional Finance Officer; L. Leffers Swimming Licencing Officer; D. Avery Devon Representative

**SW 2022**

**11 Welcome**

11.1 CR welcomed everyone to the meeting.

**12 Declarations of Interest**

12.1 No declarations of interest were registered.

**13 Minutes of 20<sup>th</sup> January 2022**

13.1 Agreed as a true record – Proposed by AS seconded by AO. Agreed unanimously.

**14. Matters arising from above minutes**

14.1 5.2 CR investigated the lack of contact details being issued by SE for officials and was assured that they were. This was confirmed by NV.

**15. Officials Report**

15.1 Training and development opportunities continue to be available for our officials.

J1 online – full completion of theory and practical to 14/3/22 45, with many more anticipated in the coming weeks.

J2 – 6 regional Zoom theory sessions held since October, of the 39 candidates 7 have been signed off. There are 3 more in the diary to June.

J2 S – theory sessions are run by the counties when there is the demand.

- 15.2 SW Officials newsletter – the second edition is to be issued shortly to all licensed officials, (whom have signed up to receive information), to include upcoming training and development opportunities, officials updates from Swim England and the SwimMeet link for sign up for regional events.
- 15.3 Our SW officials continue to support national events:  
British Swimming Para International Swim Meet - Sue Gabriel (Cornwall), Dave Jones (Wilts) and Nicky Vause (Somerset).  
British Championships - Jill Beard (Dorset), Sue Gabriel (Cornwall), Dave Avery and Martin Walters (Devon).

## 16. Masters Report

- 16.1 It was good to meet up with the new Masters representative for Wiltshire Dan Pickup at our recent masters meeting.
- 16.2 The Regional Masters Swimmer of the year (or for two years, the 2020 and 2021 results being combined) has gone to Kalon Veale. Kalon placed second nationally with dad Simon placing fourth in the men's competition.  
The Totnes the men's team of Kalon Veale, Simon Veale, Dan John and Bill Leitch placed first in their competition.  
Helen Kula-Przezanski, swimming for Caradon, was the highest place woman coming sixth.
- 16.3 There will be discussion at our next masters meeting as to the correct title for the recipient of the Ernest Clement Masters trophy.

## 17. County Representative reports

- 17.1 **Cornwall:**  
A successful 2022 County events have taken place the only disappointment was we were Four hundred swimming entries down on the 2019 event.  
GLL and Cornwall Council still have issue's with pool closures. Even today there is a Cornwall Cabinet meeting re Ships and Castles at which the closure is being challenged by local councillors.  
Bude Leisure Centre is at this point in time closed due to part of the roof blown of by the Gales with no start date as to when the repairs will start as yet. To the best of my knowledge they have some time at Holsworthy Pool  
Several clubs at this point in time are struggling with reduced numbers of swimmers and the possible increase in pool hire costs in the near future
- 17.2 **Devon:**  
Not much from Devon,  
We have two new clubs, Tiverton Water Polo adn Dartmouth County block ran well, we actually managed to make a small surplus, Mount Kelly became Arena champions again.
- 17.3 **Somerset:**  
No report

#### 17.4 **Dorset:**

The Dorset Counties and Novice League both ran at a loss - to get competitions up and running again really. Both were a huge success. We also have the Graded Meet and Developments Comp scheduled. Our Novice League went well too, with many of the swimmers getting experience of a team event for the first time. Spectators allowed FOC for rounds two and three as a trial.

Our intended Masters Meet run by SB in March (and in which we were going to run our Masters Champs again) hasn't got off the ground. We have had a Coach questioning the Region decision to not allow spectators at the Championships, not sure whether they have made contact with the Region or Coaches Committee to express their views. Our Secretary has just heard that the Inter-County is planned for 2 October but no information whether the usual subsidy will be available for counties having to travel a considerable distance and incur an overnight stay. This could be a deciding factor on whether Counties attend. Also, again there is not much time to arrange travel plans, eg Coach and Hotel accommodation is sparse in the area for that number of bodies. I know the Hotel we use has closed during the pandemic.

#### 17.5 **Gloucester:**

GCASA held an exec meeting on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> March.

Agenda was dominated by reaction to the Glos County Championships which concluded on 6<sup>th</sup> March. This years Championships were vastly different from previous years. Covid restrictions meant the whole event was held without spectators. From a coaching perspective this was welcomed, but from an atmospheric perspective was felt that no spectators did devalue the meet. All weekends were run Long Course at Hengrove which (opposed prior to the meet) was deemed a success. The event was well supported by officials bar one session which was reduced to 8 lanes rather than ten to comply with the licence. One session also had equipment failure which meant it had to be run on hand held timers. The licence was adjusted accordingly, but the Region has allowed these times to be used for Regional qualification, even though they will show L4 rating on Rankings. The County were very appreciative of this.

Long Course Championships meant that numerous British Championship times were swam, although again the general standard of swims was questioned. With the revised timetable of events, no relays were run in conjunction with this years championships.

The County is seeking a coach and TM team to run the 3 Counties Gala and the Inter-Counties team in October.

A separate meeting going through what worked and what didn't is being held on 21<sup>st</sup> March.

Keith Smith told the meeting that he wants to leave the position of County Secretary stating he only returned when the previous secretary left with no notice. The County therefore seeks a new secretary.

The County Open Meet diary is full with most available dates open, Pool providers seem to be open again to clubs requiring time, but don't want to allow starts before 1pm. This seems to be the case in most centres.

Open Water County Championships will be held within the Regional Championships as in previous years.

17.6 **Wiltshire:**  
No Report

**18. Licensing Report**

18.1 See Appendix 1

18.2 The following statement was agreed unanimously:

*The Region has decided a Club can run a meet during County Periods as long as the above applies. On Regional Dates we will allow Single Club L4 meets only. This is a decision the Region can make and protects the Region in terms of Officials availability.*

**19. Coaches Report**

19.1 Minutes from meeting 30.03.2022 reviewed.

19.2 See Appendix 2. Revised Terms of Reference agreed for Operations Committee to recommend to the Board for acceptance.

**20. Competitions**

20.1 Spectators / streaming; to stream the 3 weekends will cost approx. £11,000 based on the 3 companies contacted. Cost prohibitive. Discussion re spectators and Millfields number restrictions – max of 700 plus officials / organisers. Equal to 350 swimmers and one spectator per swimmer. How to monitor / police this. Meeting to discuss just this item on 12<sup>th</sup> April once entry numbers are known.

20.2 Facilitators: Millfield – Exeter City, Plymouth – Plymouth Leander, Hengrove – CO Bristol, Winter Champs – Poole SC. Meeting with the summer champ facilitators and TD's ASAP

20.3 Fast Five – Has this event un its course? Not many clubs showing any interest. Unanimously decided after discussion to cancel.

20.4 Millfield request re assistance with cost of replacing broken back stroke wedges. Discussion followed. Proposed to offer 50% of the cost but negotiate re cancellation charges for the Fast Five. It should be stressed that this will be the last time as wear and tear should be included in hire costs.

20.5 Millfield requested if it was possible for us to move the Winter Regional Champs to another venue. This request was not felt to be feasible.

20.6 Pool Temperature for competitions – both Millfield and Plymouth have been very hot for recent open meets. This is because of LTS sessions needing warmer water. Easier and cheaper to maintain the temp than to heat up if cooled. Both pools will be approached prior to the Age groups about this.

Meeting closed at 20.55

Next meeting 12<sup>th</sup> April 2022 19.00

## Appendix 2

### **Sub-groups of the Swimming Committee: COACHES**

To formulate policy on development and provide recommendations to the Swimming Committee.

#### **Membership:**

- .1 A Representative appointed from each County from a club that has swimmers who compete in Regional Championships or the Lead Coach of each of County Development Programmes (for those that run them)
- .2 The Head Coach of stand-alone clubs with a minimum of 10 individual swimmers who have competed in a British Swimming or Swim England Championships in the current year;
- .3 Swim England Talent Officer;
- .4 The Swimming Committee manager;
- .5 SW Region Administration and Events Officer
- .7 SW Region Development Officer;
- .8 SW Lead Coach for the Development Programme
- .9 SW Lead Coach for the Para Development Programme
- .8 The committee has the authority to co-opt a specialist, without power to vote, to advise on a specific task.

#### **Responsibilities:**

- To receive a report on the Talent Pathway;
- Provide and encourage a chain of information throughout the region County Links;
- Provide direction in the field of coaching;
- Actively encourage the development of and create greater opportunities for coaches;
- Conduct authorised seminars and conferences;
- To disseminate any relevant information back to their County/Coaches in their County;
- Act as a point of contact for Coaches in their County to be able to communicate to the Regional Committee

#### **Meetings:**

- Convene meetings not exceeding four per annum.
- Five are needed to form a quorum.