

Swim England, Hertfordshire

Minutes of the Synchronised Swimming Discipline Committee

Meeting 12th May 2020 8:00 pm – Remote Via Zoom

Present

Tom Brennan	(TB)	Swim England Herts Synchro Manager
Amy Bryant	(AB)	Hatfield SC
Kerri Brennan	(KB)	Aqualina
Karen Brennan	(KB)	Aqualina
Jayne Jarvis	(JJ)	Cheshunt SC
Eve McGinty	(EM)	Dacorum
Ian Mackenzie	(IM)	President of Swim England

1. Apologies

None received (No response from Potters Bar Clubs was received)

Eve McGinty was a first time attendee representing Dacorum, we welcomed her to the committee and gave a brief introduction from all who were present. (EM) is a parent of one of the swimmers at Dacorum and is also the club Welfare Officer. We also shared that each club could send 2 representatives to these meetings if they wanted to but the key point to note was we were very pleased to see representation from Dacorum club at the session.

2. Minutes of previous meeting

All present had received a copy of the previous minutes and no queries or additions were noted at the meeting.

3. Matters arising

The previous Actions were reviewed and updated under the main body of the meeting

4. Discipline Specific areas for discussion.

Coaching

TB asked each club to give a summary of how they were doing from a Coaching perspective during the Covid 19 lockdown period. It was pleasing to hear that every club had been providing some form of on-line training to their swimmers. This varied from signposting to appropriate resources to regular scheduled zoom sessions running flexibility and stamina sessions. TB reminded everyone of the Health & Safety guidance provided by Swim England around running remote sessions on-line and seeking appropriate acceptance & consent from parents regarding their obligations for such sessions.

KB offered to Dacorum to share details of the way she had gone about the setting up and running remote sessions EM to let her know if they would like to take up the offer?

Land Training Grades

Communication had been received from Swim England regarding the ability for those who had attended the last Synchronised Swimming Nation event to start to assess Land Grade No1. It was confirmed that certificates can also now be purchased to be award to swimmers upon successful completion.

Officials

Nothing really to report as current courses have been postponed due to Covid 19 situation. No online official's courses are currently available for Synchronised swimming

Competition

All current competitions have been cancelled until further notice. It was confirmed that at the last competition in the Region County medals were awarded to the Masters Swimmers this was on the 8th of Feb

Skills Days

TB had spoken with Amy Davis the Regional Synchro Manager and she advised subject to the Covid situation she was still hoping to run a Skills day in October or Nov of this year. We will of course keep clubs advised on this one.

TB to advise committee if he becomes aware of any certainty around future skills days

Pathway (LTS,8/9/10, Local Partnerships Beacon Program)

KB mentioned that as a result of their overall placing at NAG's several of her swimmers had been invited to join the London Region Beacon games squad. As the situation turned out due to Covid 19 this did not happen. AB had previously advised that the Region were looking to set up their own squad and selection criteria for this. There seems to some uncertainty around this so it will require clarification at Regional level so we can all understand the process . AB had previously agreed to seek clarity around this so we have left the action ongoing

Previous Action: AB to clarify the Beacon Squad selection criteria and feedback on the set up of an East Region Squad.

Funding

TB reminded everyone that there was various funding pots out there at present to support clubs during these difficult time. The most recent one was the Swim England Covid Fund for grants from £250 to £1000 .

5. Development Days within Herts County (feedback, de-brief)

Our last Development Day was on the 15th of March just before all the restrictions were invoked. Unfortunately our external Coach pulled out with less than an hours notice prior to the event. Despite this the day was a success with many thanks to all of the Coaches who picked up the gap (Jayne Jarvis, Kerri and Karen Brennan) without who I would not of been able to continue the day. The debrief is that the day ran very well, the swimmers all benefited from the sessions and in some ways we felt the training was more suited to their level of ability. We still feel there is benefit in having external Coaches but we may look to see if there are others we can invite to provide this service to us.

6. Plan for next Development (confirmed as 15th March)

We agreed in the current circumstances we would postpone any decision on further Development days until a later date.

7. Name of committee in light of Change of Discipline Name to “Artistic Swimming”

After some discussion and debate we all agreed we would stick with our current name of the Swim England Hertfordshire Synchronised Swimming Discipline Committee

8. AOB

Nothing raised

DONM

The next committee meeting has already been booked (Tuesday) 7.00pm at Welwyn Civic Centre 15th Sep (This may be via Zoom if still under social distancing restrictions)

ACTIONS SUMMARY:

- 1) **KB offered to Dacorum to share details of the way she had gone about the setting up and running remote sessions EM to let her know if they would like to take up the offer?**
- 2) **TB to advise committee if he becomes aware of any certainty around future skills days**
- 3) **Previous Action: AB to clarify the Beacon Squad selection criteria and feedback on the set up of an East Region Squad.**