



Swim England Hertfordshire

County Association of Swim England East Region
President: Bryan Thompson

Swimming Committee Minutes 24th November 2022 Zoom call

Present: Sheila Mackenzie (SM) Swim England Hertfordshire Secretary
Bryan Thompson (BT) Swim England Hertfordshire Swimming Manager / Chairman
Louise Hughes (LH)
Ian Mackenzie (IM)
Nicola Rix (NR)
Sara Matthews (SaM)

S22/10 Apologies:

Karen Huckle

S22/11 Introductions:

BT introduced Sara Matthews (SaM) to the committee. Sara has expressed interest in becoming the Open Water Manager.

S22/12 Minutes of Last Meeting

The minutes were accepted as a true representation of the previous meeting. The minutes had already been presented to the Management Board and accepted.

S22/13 Matters Arising

None

S22/14 Club/Coach Forum

General consensus that the forum was successful with good input from attendees. Suggestion that we should encourage clubs to share best practices and club visits. NR reported that in light of one of the discussion points raised re collaboration between clubs it was worth noting several clubs in the East of the county are already collaborating. This was encouraged by the meeting.

S22/15 Development Camps / Development generally

BT explained 1-Direction for the benefit of SaM and where we are as a county. We have not run 1-Direction this year due to being unable to recruit a suitable Lead Coach. It was also pointed out that the sessions are meant to be for the development of swimmers/coaches/team managers. Target age group is 11 year olds. There may be an issue with the number of 11 year olds at County Championships who would then be eligible for 1-Direction 2023. Suggestion to run a Zoom session for all 11 year olds with then 2 x face to face sessions for invited swimmers. We need to review numbers and split into "performance 1-Direction" and "development 1-Direction". BT to check suggested dates for 2023 sessions and set date for SEH. Recruit Lead Team Manager We have an offer for a Programme Lead for the Development 1-Direction



S22/16 Masters

LH is standing down as Masters Manager – the committee thanked LH for everything she has done over the time she has been in the role.

IM reported that there are a number of people who have expressed an interest in taking on the role and developing masters in the county.

BT reported that Gareth Harper has circulated an email to the Masters swimmers at Watford to see if anyone is interested BUT if one of Ian's contacts is keen then we should consider taking the first approach.

Hertfordshire finished 2nd in the recent Regional Masters competition behind Bedfordshire.

S22/17 Open Water

There was an open discussion with SaM regarding the expectations for the Open Water Manager. SaM expressed some concerns re time commitments as she is very busy, she was assured that the committee would be supportive and would encourage SaM to recruit a team with a view to becoming a stand-alone committee.

BT to send SaM the Terms of Reference for the Open Water Committee.

BT also reported that he would advise the Regional Open Water Manager that SaM was now the SEH representative.

SaM was advised that the Open Water team would be expected to assist in the preparation and running of the Regional Championships .

S22/18 Records

BT had circulated the last verified records as at 2015 and the latest records as produced by Paul Wollaston as at November 2022.

There was a discussion regarding why records are now harder to reconcile against the Rankings database.

The committee decided that we need to stop trying to undo the mess and rebase the records.

The proposal from the committee is:

Publish the 2015 records stating they are from 2015 and will not be updated.

OPEN RECORDS – County records will be rebased as at 01/01/2023 – these will be produced using the online report from Rankings.

All records will be accepted as valid unless someone wishes to claim a record they believe to be incorrect. Any such claim MUST be supported by evidence which can be validated.

New records will be created for Long Course (LC) and Short Course (SC).

JUNIOR RECORDS – The 2015 County records will be posted as the current records.

If anyone wishes to claim a junior record they must apply supplying evidence which can be validated.

Suggested way forward to be presented to the Management Board for ratification and an explanation to be published on the website.

S22/19 County Championships 2023

BT reported no real updates since the last Event Management Team meeting.

S22/20 National Inter County Team Championship

BT reported 2022 was our worst placing ever. Although the swimmers were excellent and the trip went very well.

Questions had been raised regarding selection criteria and if it was right going forward to deselect swimmers who could not make training sessions.

Question also raised re swimmer food allowance but nothing for adults on the trip.



Discussion took place, food allowance to be removed from all, although it is not a great amount the cost of the event to the county is increasing and we do need to control the expense.

Selection criteria to be updated and published.

Aim to select swimmers at the end of July and send invitations out early August.

Select from SC times only.

Consideration to be given to refunding Open Meet entry fees for selected swimmers who have already entered meets on the date of competition.

Paul Wollaston has offered to be Lead Coach again for 2023, BT to accept Paul's offer.

BT has approached Kate Liddiard to see if she is willing to be SEH Team Manager for a fixed period (2 years from the ACM).

S22/21 Committee Responsibilities & Vacancies

BT showed the Swimming Committee structure chart indicating the current responsibilities and vacancies. BT will update the chart to reflect Sara as Open Water Manager and Open Water Regional Representative.

Even after that there are still vacancies to be filled.

Following the Club/Coach Forum BT will look to ask clubs to provide a representative to the Swimming Committee on a rota basis as per Hertfordshire Swimming League (maybe 2 representatives to be recruited this way). There is no expectation that the representatives should be Chairs/Secretaries or even committee members – just someone willing to get involved and help out.

S22/22 County Colours

BT presented a list of the swimmers who competed at the National Inter County Team Championships in October.

The team are proposed to receive ½ colours with the exceptions of Nathaniel Mapley, Hannah Brooke & Daniel Holliss who are all due full colours for representing the county a second time. BT to contact Murray Devine to arrange the production of certificates and badges.

S22/23 A.O.B.

None

Meeting closed 21:43

Date of next meeting Thursday 23rd February 2023 20:00 – 22:00 via Zoom