



## Swim England Hertfordshire

County Association of Swim England East Region

### Minutes of the Artistic Swimming Committee Meeting 23rd January 2025 @ 19:45 via Zoom

Present:	Tom Brennan (TB) Helena Poletti Taylor (HPT) Jayne Jarvis (JJ) Emma Chapman (EC)	Swim England Hertfordshire Artistic Swimming Manager Potters Bar Potters Bar Dacorum
Also present:	Ian Mackenzie (IM) Sheila Mackenzie (SM)	Swim England Hertfordshire Swim England Hertfordshire

#### 25/01 Apologies

25/01.1 Karen Brennan, Kerri Brennan and Amy Bryant

#### 25/02 Declaration of conflict of interest

24/02.1 No conflict of interest was declared at this point.

#### 25/03 Minutes of the previous meeting

25/03.1 All present had received a copy of the previous minutes and no queries or additions were noted at the meeting.

#### 25/04 Matters arising

25/04.1 The previous Actions were reviewed and updated under the main body of the meeting, No matters arising.

#### 25/05 Discipline specific areas – coaching

24/05.1 (TB) shared that he had checked the Institute of Swimming (IoS) sites for scheduled L1 and L2 Coaches courses. There were no Coaches courses at the moment, but there is an Assistant Artistic Swimming Coach course at Hatfield starting on 4<sup>th</sup> February. Amy Bryant will be running it, and there are five spaces remaining at this time. (TB) shared that he had four people from Aqualina signed up for the course.

#### 25/06 Discipline specific areas - officials

25/06.1 (TB) stated that there were several courses for officials that he was aware of at the moment. One is running in London on 30<sup>th</sup> January and he has three people attending. A level 2 judges course is running online, starting on 4<sup>th</sup> February. (HPT) confirmed that several people from Potters Bar were signed up for the course.

#### 25/07 Discipline specific areas - competition

25/07.1 (TB) confirmed that all National competitions for next year were as follows, and that the regional committee had also set dates for all regional events as well. A copy of all known dates are shared below.

25/07.2 National Age-Groups 15<sup>TH</sup>/ 16<sup>TH</sup> March, Championships 26<sup>th</sup>/27<sup>th</sup> April, Combo Cup 5<sup>th</sup> July and Masters



6<sup>th</sup> July. The Regional Games would be on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> May.

8th February: Figures, free teams, age-group solos and duets

29th March: Age-groups, 15+, Masters, teams, combo, solos and duets

10th May: Practice for combos, ungraded figures and Masters

(JJ) raised concerns that the May date was a bit early for practice for the Combo Cup, but it was stated that there had been an issue with booking later dates with the pool.

## **25/08 Discipline specific areas – Grading days**

25/08.1 A grading day is due to take place on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> January at Potters Bar, (JJ) raised concern regarding a late decision to allow Routine grade entries. This did not give sufficient training time to prepare swimmers for entry for these grades. This should be looked at for the future. Below are all currently scheduled grading days

25th January at Potters Bar

26th April – grading day for figures - at Witham

19th July – To be confirmed

## **25/09 Discipline specific areas - Pathway ( LTS 8/9/10, Local Partnerships Beacon Program )**

25/09.1 Nothing specific was discussed for this agenda item.

## **25/10 Discipline specific areas - funding**

25/10.1 Nothing new recorded on this occasion. (TB) reminded everyone of the information available on the East Region website.

## **25/11 Development days within Hertfordshire (Feedback and de-brief )**

25/11.1 It was decided not to set up a separate development squad within the county at this time, as several of the group were already heavily engaged in supporting the Regional Development Squad in Swim England East Region.

## **25/12 Any other business**

25/12.1 Several areas were discussed, as follows :-

(JJ) felt that communication from Swim England regarding the many rule changes seen over the last year has been very poor. Everyone agreed that the resources available to help Coaches understand the Routine and Figure grades were very limited, making the situation very difficult.

Everyone agreed that they enjoyed the Swim England Awards event in Birmingham, but questioned why, in the Artistic Swimming categories, there was only one award for each - i.e. Gold, but no silver and bronze as had been in previous years.

(HPT) stated that having Club Affiliation renewal in January was not the easiest time of the year and that paying renewal fees at this time was also a challenge. (IM) stated that this could be changed to another time of the year, if required, by working with the Region. Also in terms of fees - these should be known from about September onwards each year, so clubs could collect this over an extended period of time. Nearer the time, (IM) will be happy to share the details, if required.



**25/13**

**Date of next meetings**

25/13.1

10<sup>th</sup> July 2025 @ 19.45

16<sup>th</sup> October 2025 @ 19.45