

Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Swimming Official's Leadership Group Meeting
Wednesday 28 April 2021 @ 19:30 hrs

Present	Mr. David Metcalf (DM)	Manager – SE ER SOLG
	Mrs Louise Mackie (LM)	Bedfordshire
	Mrs. Sarah Nooteboom (SN)	Cambridgeshire.
	Mrs. Kay McGuire (KM)	Essex
	Mr. Jonathan Pope (JP)	Hertfordshire
	Mr. Chris Galer (CG)	Norfolk
	Mr Stephen Christian (SC)	Suffolk

21/32 Apologies

21/32.1 Stephen Christian reported he would be late joining due to a work meeting. He joined the meeting at 19:58 hrs.

21/33 Declarations of conflict of interest

21/33.1 None declared.

21/34 Previous minutes

21/34.1 The meeting of the 1 April 2021 was cancelled, as the Swim England SOG had been cancelled & rearranged for 10 April 2021. The minutes of the 13 March were circulated and agreed after the meeting - Agreed and accepted.

21/35 Matters arising

21/35.1 None.

21/36 Ratification of items agreed since last meeting.

21/36.1 None.

21/37 Corona Virus - Covid-19 ongoing

21/37.1 Swim England has now released its [Return to Competition guidance](#) for event promoters ahead of the country moving into Step 3, which is due to take place no earlier than Monday 17 May. The document is Swim England's **Roadmap** showing how we as a sport intend to move from the Return to Training to a Return to Competition in five stages.

- 21/37.2 There are sections that refer to officials and volunteers, it is essential to know the way forward, until the situation returns back to whatever is the new normal.
- 21/37.3 The release of the Return to Competition guidance was followed up with a webinar on 21 April to provide event promoters with further support and guidance. Answering any specific questions, they may have when considering how to plan and stage a meet/gala.
- 21/37.4 The Promoter is liable for all Covid issues, not the referee- Health & Safety is paramount.
- 21/38 Activities completed since the last meeting**
- 21/38.1 None
- 21/39 Activities planned before the next meeting**
- 21/39.1 None
- 21/40 British Swimming/Swim England updates**
- 21/40.1 All British and Swim England Summer Championships have been cancelled, this includes Open Water.
- 21/40.2 The National competitions in the summer have been cancelled (including Open Water), it is proposed by BS to hold 'Summer Festivals' run by the Regions.
- 21/40.3 Series 2 of Level X Racing has been launched ahead of indoor pools reopening on April 12. The virtual event is set to return to clubs across the country from April 12 to August 22, 2021, with the submission of times required by the 27/8/21. The extension of the date into August is to allow master's swimmers some additional time to participate given their later return to training on 17 May 2021.
- 21/40.4 Licensing applications for a single club level four competition will then reopen from Monday 26 April. It is hoped that licensing applications for all levels will reopen on Tuesday 1 June with meets commencing from 21 June, which is the Government's target date for all restrictions to be lifted.
- 21/40.5 A discussion took place at the SE SOG on the roles and numbers of officials required to run different levels of licensed galas and what qualification was required to carry out particular roles. The recommendations from the SE SOG have been submitted to the SE SLG for approval. Once a decision has been made, details will be published and circulated.
- 21/40.6 100 volunteers have completed the Timekeeper course online nationally. No assessment, but competency has to be evidenced.
- 21/40.7 308 volunteers have completed the JL1 theory qualification (30 are no longer members) & membership will forward workbooks at a later date.
- 21/40.8 Staff at Sportspark are still furloughed, a considerable number of staff have been made redundant.
- 21/40.9 Pilot FINA rules update being run by Helen Akers on a trial basis- we may as counties we may need to run them.

- 21/40.10 Licensing- I have been assured that all Technical Official's licenses (including those that have expired during covid) will be extended by a year when we go back on poolside because of the situation- no one will lose out, as long as they are still SE members. Once a decision has been made, details will be published and circulated.
- 21/40.11 It was reported at the SE SOG that there was approximately a 10% drop off of technical officials across the country.
- 21/40.12 DM reported due to GDPR, the SE SOG were still not any further forward regarding regions and counties having names and contact details of qualified officials and those judge level 1 online in training. This is being chased by Mark Davies as a priority.
- 21/41 County Matters**
- 21/41.1 **Regional Forums**
DM stated the way forward is to do a regional seminar-not individual counties- then there will be one message- the seminars will be recorded and made available for viewing at a later date.
- 21/41.2 News items to advertise the Forums on all social platforms, all counties were requested to advertise the forums. DM stated an electronic registration form will be created on the regional website. A single hyperlink to register- will be delivered by Zoom- presenters will be members of SEER clubs. The forums will be open to current members of regional clubs only, it is anticipated that there will be a good uptake. FINA videos are on the website-encouraged to watch prior to seminars
- 21/41.3 **Proposed Dates for the forums**
1 June 2021- 7.30pm- general officials
6 June 2021- 10.30am – qualified referees (this was changed later to the 13 June)
8 June 2021- 7.30pm – qualified starters
- 21/41.4 A suggestion of County Catch Ups with their officials via virtual online platforms.
- 21/41.5 Counties to deliver refresher training for officials in regard to FINA Rules Updates, Mentoring and Para Swimming CPD. DM would include training requirements in the Regional Forum registration application form. He would circulate counties with the data received to allow them to plan training CPD's.
- 21/42 SE ER SOG four-year Development Plan and Annual Budget**
No update due to Covid lockdown. Online Forums planned
- 21/42.1 **SE ER SOG Plans for 2021-22**
No update due to Covid lockdown.
- 21/43 Issues/Recommendations to the Regional Operations Committee**
- 21/43.1 None.

21/44 Any other business

21/44.1 None

21/45 Confidential items

21/45.1 None

21/46 Next meeting

21/46.1 The next meeting will take place by Zoom on Wednesday 30 June 2021 at 19.30pm.

County representatives were reminded to notify DM of the details of any substitute if they could not attend

The meeting finished at 20.40pm.

Abbreviations used in swimming

SEER	Swim England East Region
SEER SOLG	Swim England East Region Swimming Officials Leadership Group
SE SLG	Swim England Swimming Leadership Group
SE SOG	Swim England Swimming Officials Group
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
BS	British Swimming