

Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Water Polo Committee
29th July 2019

Present	Martin Atkinson (MA)	East Region Water Polo Manager
	Simon Lecomber (SL)	Essex Representative
	Linda Griggs (LG)	Suffolk Substitute Representative
	Peter Mole (PM)	Hertfordshire Substitute Representative
	Dean Walker (DW)	Specialist

Also present: Amy Bryant (AB), Regional Development Officer; Matthew Griggs (MG)

19/01 Welcome and Apologies

- 19/01.1 Apologies were received from Stewart Murray, Management Board Representative, and John Dickerson (JD), Norfolk Representative.
- 19/01.2 No communication had been received from the Bedfordshire Representative. Cambridgeshire currently do not have a water polo representative.

19/02 Declarations of conflict of interest

- 19/02.1 None.

19/03 Previous minutes

- 19/03.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed as a true record.

19/04 Matters arising

- 19/04.1 All matters arising covered as part of the meeting agenda.

19/05 National and Regional Matters

- 19/05.1 MA had been informed that the National Academy would now be focusing on 2004 and 2006 born players. Therefore, these age groups would be targeted for the Regional Academy. All agreed that 2005 players should be included at the Regional Academy if appropriate for them to ensure they still had access to development opportunities.
- 19/05.2 A national review of the competition pathway was currently being held to look at all levels of competition. There was also a review of officials training courses underway. The timescale for completion for each of these was unknown.

19/06 Development

- 19/06.1 The Regional Academy had run in April but the session planned for June was unable to run due to a lack of available coaches. MA requested that more Level 2 coaches come forward to help run the Regional Academy as he and DW cannot currently commit the same amount of time to coaching these sessions as they have done previously.

With the new national age groups being set, the region would need to organise trials as soon as possible. Potential venues and dates were discussed.

ACTION: MA, DW and AB to work on date for regional academy trials.

- 19/06.2 AB was working with the Institute of Swimming to set up an Assistant Coach (Level 1) and Coach course (Level 2) for water polo. Courses will only run when there are enough learners to ensure a course is viable and will therefore not be cancelled. AB asked all learners looking for a course to complete the expression of interest form to enable the region to assess the need for each course. Learners will then be contacted when there are enough people to run a course. The form can be found on www.eastswimming.org/courses/teachers-and-coach-education.

ACTION: Clubs to ask learners to complete the online expression of interest form.

19/07

Competition

- 19/07.1 The region would run the Grand Prix again in 2019 but due to the re-introduction of the junior inter-county competition, it was decided it would be best for the Grand Prix to continue to be an entry-level event for younger players and the inter-county competition would then provide a competition opportunity to older players, rather than the Grand Prix having two age groups as in previous years. Both events would be made as flexible as possible with conditions to encourage entries, e.g. smaller counties may wish to submit a joint team into the inter-county competition.

ACTION: MA, DW, SL and AB to work on dates, venues and conditions for both events.

ACTION: County reps to advise their county associations of the junior inter-county event.

19/08

Plan and Budget

- 19/08.1 The 2019/20 budget had been approved by the management board. There were no major changes other than the re-introduction of the junior inter-county competition.
- 19/08.2 The majority of the deficit in the budget was due to the inter-regional competitions where there were few opportunities to generate income.
- 19/08.3 Since the budget had been approved, the development day had been removed from the 2019/20 plan due to difficulties with suitable dates and coaching availability.

19/09

Kit

- 19/09.1 Since the committee last met, the regional management board had agreed to the purchase of a new shot clock which was required to conform with the introduction of new regulations.

19/10

AOB

- 19/10.1 MA confirmed he would be stepping down as regional water polo manager after three years in post. He thanked the committee for their support with the changes he had implemented during that time. The committee also expressed their thanks to MA for all his hard work as regional manager.

19/11

Confidential items

- 19/11.1 None.

19/12

Next Meeting

- 19/12.1 The date of the next meeting will be confirmed once a new regional manager is in post.