

Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Swimming Official's Leadership Group Meeting
Monday 13 September 2021 @ 19:00 hrs

Present	Mr. David Metcalf (DM)	Manager – SE ER SOLG
	Mrs Louise Mackie (LM)	Bedfordshire
	Mr Ian Knight (IK)	Cambridgeshire
	Mrs. Kay McGuire (KM)	Essex
	Mr. Jonathan Pope (JP)	Hertfordshire -joined at 21/53.1
	Mr. Chris Galer (CG)	Norfolk -
	Mr Stephen Christian (SC)	Suffolk -

21/62 Apologies

21/62.1 Sarah Nooteboom - Cambridgeshire

21/63 Declarations of conflict of interest

21/63.1 None declared.

21/64 Previous minutes

21/64.1 The minutes of the 30 June were circulated and agreed after the meeting. No changes made at the meeting.

21/65 Matters arising

21/65.1 None.

21/66 Ratification of items agreed since last meeting.

21/66.1 None.

21/67 Covid Virus - Covid-19 ongoing

21/67.1 Swimming is slowly starting to return to pre-pandemic times, adjustments have been made to the number of Technical Officials required for Licensed Meets and the level of qualification required for each role up to 31 December 2021.

21/68 Activities completed since the last meeting

21/68.1 Regional Officials supported the BS Festival of Swimming galas and the Regional "Future Champions" Meet.

- Basildon 24-25 July 2021- junior ages 10/11
- Norwich 31 July -1 August 2021- BS Racing Festival
- London Aquatics Centre 7-8 August 2021- BS Racing Festival

FINA Rules Update CPD's by Counties.

21/69

Activities planned before the next meeting

21/69.1 Support to the Regional Masters Championships at Newmarket in October and the Regional SC Championships in Luton in November.

Officials Forum – A presentation by Craig Hunter – His experiences at an Olympic swimming referee at Tokyo 2020.

21/70

British Swimming/Swim England updates

21/70.1 DM attended a SE SOG meeting via Zoom on 8 September 2021 on behalf of the Region.

21/70.2 Data Sharing - GDPR

DM reported that Claire Coleman spoke at the meeting and reported that in principle there has been an agreement with the regions nationally. Unfortunately, only 6 out of the 8 have so far returned their agreements.

Regions to be supplied with limited licensed technical official's data 3-4 times a year and monthly updates regarding online judge level 1 candidates having passed their theory modules. There will be restricted use of the data.

21/70.3 Judge Level 1 Training Timelines

The deadlines for Judge level 1 candidates to complete their training have been reinstated:

- Anyone who commenced their Judge 1 training under the old face to face/classroom system will have until 31 March 2022 to complete their practical training
- Anyone who completed their Judge 1 online theory training by the 31 August 2021 with have until 31 July 2022 to complete their practical training
- Anyone who completes their Judge 1 online theory training from 1 September 2021 onwards will have 11 months to complete their practical training

The Regional website has been updated; County coordinators have been circulated with the information.

21/70.4 Judge Level 1 Online Workbooks

Helen Akers (HA) had notified Regions and Counties that there had been problems with the SE warehouse sending out poolside mentoring workbooks. There had been many reports of candidates still not having received them.

It was advised that to prevent delays, candidates and mentors should record mentoring on a temporary piece of paper and transfer the details to the workbook upon receipt. This was further hampered by coordinators not knowing who the candidates were within their areas due to lack of data being received from Swim England (see 21/70.2).

21/70.2 **Referee Training and Examinations**

DM had circulated prior to the meeting an update via HA concerning the status of the Referees examination process following its suspension due to Covid.

Candidates that were registered to take the examination in May 2020, are being offered an opportunity to sit the written examination on 20 November 2021.

Further information will be published regarding the candidates who started their training in 2021 in due course.

21/70.3 **Strobes**

The current review regarding secondary strobes at licensed galas had reached its course. Promoters will have to continue to state within the gala conditions if the venue has a secondary strobe available for swimmers entering the gala. Swimmers with hearing impairment can then decide if they wish to enter the gala or not.

Finance is not available from SE to equip pools with strobes.

21/70.4 **Return to Competition – Training of officials on poolside**

SE SOG are updating the document previous issued in May of this year (21/55.4), to include:

- Deadlines for judge level 1 candidates to complete their training
- Judge 2/2S theory training sessions can restart
- Updated Referee examination process
- Mentoring at all levels of galas (except level X), provided it can be carried out in a safe and legal manner.
- No final assessments for J1 & J2

DM to circulate regional wide once the new document is published and update the regional website.

21/70.5 **SE Certificate of Swimming Disability**

Mike Hawkes (SE Inclusion Partner) gave a presentation on changing the current format away from being swimming specific with technical exceptions to a more inclusive format across other aquatic disciplines.

The process is in the consultation stages with the new format being known as a SE Certificate of Exception.

21/71 County Matters

21/71.1 **FINA Rules Updates 2017-2021**

DM reported that 3 online CPDs had already been delivered, with a total of 11 being planned. Delivery is regional wide, with candidates enrolling via an online registration process on the regional website.

21/71.2 **Online judge level 1 TK and judge level 1 Training**
BS have removed the CTK module from the online TK theory training as it was duplicated and appeared both in the TK and judge level 1 for qualified timekeeper course.

An updated SE TK ppt for those who deliver F2F/remotely reflecting the change had been circulated.

21/71.3 **Official's training taking place within counties proposed/now.**

Discussion about J2 training- to decide if we do it online regionally as we have done the Fina update.

Beds- J2 enquiry, like to piggyback on the Norfolk course.

Cambs- No courses planned

Essex- No courses planned

Herts- Ran Fina course x 8 attendees, few asking for J2 course

Norfolk- J2 course planned, will forward details to advertise.

Have done a familiarisation course for 19 x J1 online trainees, a few enquiries regarding J2S course

Suffolk- putting enquiries out to do courses.

Discussion on Open meets & the current way forward, we should be thinking of the current Covid restrictions-

- Facility/Pool limitations on numbers
- Proximity of officials working
- Changing rooms
- Wearing of face masks
- Lateral Flow tests prior to arrival
- Athletes coming pool ready
- One way system around venue
- Food
- Drinks
- Spectators-limits or no spectators
- Swimmers (where will they congregate) sit- crowding, alternative venue for housing them

21/71.4 DM to recirculate to County coordinators all judge level 2/2S applications he had received since September 2019 to enable Counties to contact candidates, regarding resuming courses.

21/71.5 CG asked about resuming referee training in 2021. Nothing planned currently, as BS have not published the process for 2021 candidates resuming in 2022. An update is expected later this autumn. DM stated any further courses would have to be virtually regarding regional involvement.

21/72 SE ER SOLG Development Plan and Annual Budget

21/72.1 **SE ER SOLG Plans for 2021-22**

No update due to Covid – no budget proposal agreed.

21/73 Issues/Recommendations to the Regional Board/Operations Committee

21/73.1 None.

21/74 Any other business

21/74.1 None.

21/75 Confidential items

21/75.1 None

21/76 Next meeting

21/76.1 The next meeting was scheduled take place by Zoom on Tuesday 7 December 2021 at 7.00pm. Since DM set the date, DM is now unavailable to attend on this day due to a national swimming commitment. A new date for in November 21 is being arranged.

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

Abbreviations used in swimming in this document

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
TK	Timekeeper
Judge Level 1/2/2S	Judge Level 1 – Judge Level 2- Judge level 2S (Starter)
CTK	Chief Timekeeper
HA	Helen Akers – Swimming Officials coordinator (BS/SE)