

Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Masters Leadership Group Meeting
Monday 22nd November 2021 @19:00 hrs

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|----------------|-------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Present | Mrs Louise Mackie (LM) | Manager – SE ER MLG |
| | Mrs Joan Wheeler (JW) | Board Representative (Sub) |
| | Mr Doug Drake (DD) | Essex |
| | Mr Martyn Fresher (MF) | Cambridgeshire |
| | Mrs Louise Hughes (LH) | Hertfordshire |
| | Mrs Gemma Cannon | Suffolk |
| | Mr Paul Clark (PC) | Bedfordshire (Outgoing) |
| | Mrs Liz Woolner (LW) | Bedfordshire (Incoming) |

Also present **Emma Winter – SE ER Regional Administrator**

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| 18/01 | Apologies |
| 18/01.1 | Mrs Gerry Metcalf |
| 18/02 | Declarations of conflict of interest |
| 18/02.1 | None declared |
| 18/03 | Previous minutes |
| 18/03.1 | The minutes of 09.08.21 were circulated before the meeting and were agreed. |
| 18/04 | Matters arising |
| 18/04.1 | None |
| 18/05 | Activities Completed |
| 18/05.1 | SE ER Masters Championships 10.10.21 at Newmarket Leisure Centre |

LM reported that the meet had gone ahead successfully. One letter of complaint had been received via the SE ER Office. Most points raised were to do with changes to the usual running of the meet due to COVID including a longer warm up period and no medals. There was also disappointment that the car park could not be used for longer than 3 hours. LM had replied explaining the reasons for these changes. PC also sent a letter to the Group raising similar concerns. LM reported that these issues should hopefully not occur next year and a different venue with better parking would be sought. Most feedback had been positive and swimmers were very happy to be back in the water.

18/06

Activities Planned

18/06.1

Development Day

A discussion took place about what activities could be planned and a virtual session was ruled out – swimmers would like some time in the water. Topics for talks could include Pilates/exercise for injury prevention. A sports Psychology talk (Could H Davis be asked), water time in a 50m pool. Oundle School pool (50m), Culford School pool and Ely were put forward as possible suitable venues. Sunday 27th March 2021 was agreed as a suitable date. JW suggested that the SE ER staff could help with sourcing a suitable venue and speakers. LM to contact Leanne/ Jo at SE ER.

18/06.2

Spring Long Course Meet

LM had previously suggested that a Spring Masters Meet could be something the Group could consider. A letter had been received from John Bellis of South Beds Masters asking if the Group could consider organising a Spring Long Course meet as there are few opportunities for long course and some meets restrict entries to swimmers from outside of the Region until a later date meaning the meet is full before there is a chance to enter. This was considered to be a good idea and a two or one day meet would be possible. However, JW informed everyone that for long course pools in the region, Basildon was still stuck in 25m mode and availability at Luton and Norwich in the Spring was extremely unlikely. The use of a 25m pool as an alternative was discussed but as there are plenty of 25m meets it was decided that this was not an option for the Spring. The Group decided to revisit this item for 2023 as it is likely to be popular.

18/07

County Matters

18/07.1

Bedfordshire – PC gave his last report, handing over to LW who the Group had welcomed At the start of the meeting.

There are only about 70 competing Master's swimmers. This number may have fallen because there were so few competitions this year. Beds ASA do not run a Master's swimming competition but run the annual Beds Masters Decathlon, based on results from the National Decathlon Competition. There are about 60 swimmers on the Beds Masters newsletter mailing list.

At the SE East Region Championships at Newmarket on 10th. October 2021, Beds had a good representation with 23 swimmers from six Beds Masters Clubs, down from 34 swimmers in 2019.

During the year to date swimmers set 16 Beds Masters Short Course and 3 relay records after the National Masters Champs in October, but no Long Course records because there were no long course competitions.

Cambridgeshire – MF reported that as Cambridgeshire had few Masters swimmers There was nothing to report.

Essex – DD reported that the Essex Masters Meet was taking place on 27.11.21 and That entries would be accepted on the day as it was not full.

It was noted that Romford Masters SC had folded.
The number of Masters swimmers isn't known but there are quite a lot of 18 – 25 year olds.

Suffolk – GC reported that Sudbury SC had folded. 7 of the 11 clubs in the County have active Master teams and Team Ipswich is getting stronger. It would be good if clubs could encourage their 16 – 18 year olds to consider swimming Masters once they are old enough.

Hertfordshire – Nothing to report

Norfolk – Currently no rep. JW offered to write to Norfolk and ask if they could try and fill this vacant position

18/08

Any other business

- 18/08.1 LM had been contacted by a swimmer who was at the East Region Masters Championships asking where the results could be found as they did not appear to be on the rankings. LW commented that individual results could be found and JW offered to investigate and find out what was wrong with the submission of the results to SE (if there was a problem). Results not in the results section would not be included in the Masters Decathlon results which would be of concern to swimmers.
Some meets have not appeared on the Masters Calendar. LM to contact Jeroen Peters.
- 18/08.2 PC asked if the Region were going to run the ER Decathlon this year as it was being run Nationally. Although it was thought that for some swimmers there had not been sufficient opportunities to compete so could be unfair overall the Group decided that as it was To be run Nationally then the Region would run the competition too.

18/09

Confidential items

- 18/09.1 There were none

18/11

Next meeting

- 18/11.1 The next meeting will take place on Wednesday 9th February 2022 @ 19:00
Via Zoom