



Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Disability Leadership Group Meeting
20th April 2022

Present	Jackie Harvey (JH)	Manager
	David Metcalf (DM)	ROC Representative Substitute
	Anthony More (AM)	Norfolk Representative
	Sandra Grant (SG)	Bedfordshire Representative
	Peter Winter (PW)	Specialist
	Chris Vinter (CV)	Suffolk Representative Substitute

Also present Emma Winter, Regional Administrator (EW)

22/12 **Apologies**

- 22/12.1 JH welcomed the Group to the meeting.
- 22/12.2 Apologies received from Joan Wheeler ROC Representative, Ann Bryne Suffolk Representative.
- 22/12.3 David Metcalf (DM) attended as ROC Representative Substitute and Chris Vinter (CV) attended Suffolk Representative Substitute.
- 22/12.4 No apologies made from Cambridge or Essex.
- 22/12.5 JH welcomed PW to the Group and asked him to tell the Group about himself and what role he would like to play.
- 22/12.6 PW informed the Group that he hopes to achieve with the Leadership Group, in his specialist role is support for the athletes in all age groups, currently Para sports loses athletes at the end of the youth age group, as there are no competitions for them to enter.
- 22/12.7 PW informed the Group that prior to the pandemic he was working closely with Swim England Master representative Sharon Lock, to incorporate a Para-Masters competition at National level, where by the swimmer gains points over several events and competing against other Para swimmers in their age groups. Unfortunately due to the pandemic all the hard work has now been lost and people in the loop have now moved on for whatever reason.

- 22/12.8 PW states that we need to keep Para swimmers in the water, as this will help with their mental health, strength and give them the confidence they deserve to progress in life.
- 22/13** **Declarations of conflict of interest**
- 22/13.1 JH asked the Group if anyone had any conflict of interest on anything that is on the agenda for this meeting, there were none.
- 22/14** **Previous minutes**
- 22/14.1 The minutes of 19/01/2022 were circulated before the meeting. The minutes were agreed.
- 22/15** **Matters arising**
- 22/15.1 None.
- 22/16** **Athlete Recognition**
- 22/16.1 CV informed the Group that Jordan Catchpole has received the Honorary Life Vice President of the County which was presented to him by Paul Kendall, East Region President and Stephen Christian, Swim England Suffolk President.
- 22/16.1 JH informed the Group that Grace Harvey swam at the Berlin meet and she gained two British Records in the 50m Backstroke and 50m Breaststroke.
- 22/17** **County Reports**
- 22/17.1 **Suffolk** – CV informed the Group that they had incorporated Para events in the County Championships and they only had two swimmers entered which is disappointing. The pandemic has had a greater effect on the Para/ Disability swimmer and we have lost a number of swimmers.
- 22/17.2 Suffolk normally hold a swim ability gala in conjunction with the Lions Club Lowerstoft which didn't take place this year due to the pandemic. Will try to so it next year.
- 22/17.3 CV informed the Group that they still haven't found a replacement for the Suffolk Representative.
- 22/17.4 **Norfolk** – AM informed the Group that Norfolk will be holding the Swim ability meet in July. There is nothing else to report.
- 22/17.4 **Bedfordshire** – SG informed the Group that she has been keeping the clubs informed with what is going on with in the Region and Nationally
- 22/17.5 SG informed the Group that she has been working with Martin Lees to get a Para academy at her club and explained what is would involve.
- 22/17.8 **Hertfordshire** – JH informed the Group that it's been quiet in the County and that only two swimmers took part in their County Championships.
- 22/17.9 **Cambridgeshire**- no report provided.
- 22/17.10 **Essex**- no report provided.



22/18 **Planned Classifier Training**

- 22/18.1 EW informed the Group that Carl Cooper had been in contact about a possible Classifier training weekend on the 22nd, 23rd and 24th July.
- 22/18.2 EW informed the Group that as soon as more information becomes available she will inform everyone.

22/19 **Regional Training sessions**

- 22/19.1 EW gave a report on the Regional training held at Great Dunmow on the 20th March, which had 13 Swimmers attend and 6 Coaches. It was a good day and everyone really enjoyed it.
- 22/19.2 EW informed the Group that the next Regional Training will be held on Sunday 22nd May at Flitwick Leisure Centre hopefully alone side Bedfordshire.
- 22/19.3 EW asked JH if she was happy to charge £15 per swimmer for the training session. JH agreed with the price.
- 22/19.4 JH asked if the Region has anything booked for the Autumn for a Training session. EW confirmed that there isn't anything booked.

22/19 **Para/ Disability Meet 2022**

- 22/19.1 DM gave a report to the Group about the Duel in the Pool London meet which was held on the 27th March. Very unorganised with very little swimming as there wasn't many entries and not many officials attended. The results have not been published and people have been trying to get hold of the organiser.
- 22/19.2 PW informed the Group that he attended the meet and competed. He informed the Group that the License for the Meet had been removed on the day of the competition as they didn't have enough officials and that the electronic timing system wasn't working so all timing was done manually.
- 22/19.3 PW stated that the East Region had a good turnout of Swimmers there and that they all swam well under the condition.
- 22/19.4 JH to enquire with Swim England London Region regarding the License being removed and will inform the Group with any response.
- 22/19.5 JH informed the Group that the East Region's meet will take place on the 9th October at The venue in Borehamwood, Hertfordshire which is a 25m pool.

- 22/19.6 JH stated that the pool is a shallow dive start and asked DM what are the implications of having a shallow dive end.
- 22/19.7 DM stated that the pool will need to meet the Swim England rules regarding diving.
- 22/19.7 A discussion took place around the depth of the pool and what would be required.
- 22/19.8 JH asked DM to be the lead Referee for the meet. DM is unsure if he will be available but will know later in the year, but will let JH know.
- 22/19.9 DM asked if there will be a course held JH confirmed that there will be.
- 22/19.10 DM will circulate the information about the event to Referee's, he will need dates, times and all relevant information.
- 22/19.11 DM asked JH if the pool has AOE system in place are would we need to arrange to get a AOE hired in.
- 22/19.12 JH confirmed that the pool does have AOE in place and that she has spoken with Graham Sprat about helping with the AOE.
- 22/19.13 SG asked if the meet was open to swimmers who are not classified.
- 22/19.14 JH confirmed that swimmers who are on the waiting list to be classified will be eligible to enter, but the conditions still need to be written.
- 22/19.15 JH to get in contact with Anne Bryne about liaising with DM with organising the officials.
- 22/19.16 JH to arrange the License and to draft up the conditions for the meet and to send onto EW to circulate to the Group for checking before sending onto Licensing.
- 22/19.17 JH asked the Group to put the date of the meet into their dairy's so that they can be available to help on the day.
- 22/19.18 JH is happy to liaise with The Venue regarding refreshments.

22/20

Membership of the Group

- 22/20.1 DM confirmed that Joan Wheeler will be stepping down from Chairman of the Region at the AGM, which means that she will ceased to be a Representative of this Leadership Group and it will be to the Regional Operations Committee to appoint a new Representative. The Group will be informed when a Representative has been appointed.
- 22/20.2 DM asked if the Group has a Representative from each county.
- 22/20.3 JH confirmed that yes the Group does have a Representative for each County apart from Essex and a new Representative for Suffolk to replace Anne Bryne as she has now moved Counties to Norfolk.
- 22/20.4 DM suggested that EW could send a copy of the minutes to the Essex secretary and inviting them to the next meeting.
- 22/20.5 EW confirmed that she will send the meetings with an invite to the next meeting to the Essex secretary.



22/20.6 CV offered to put a request through the County Forum where the Essex secretary normally attends.

22/20.7 The Group agreed that it would be a good idea to try the County Forum route.

22/21 Any other business

22/21.1 DM suggested that the Group will need to plan to have a meeting around June to start planning for the October meet.

22/21.2 SG asked if the Autumn training will the Group want to hold it before the October meet or after.

22/21.3 The Group decided to hold it after the October meet and it can be discussed at the next meeting.

22/22 Confidential items

22/22.1 There were none.

22/23 Next meeting

22/23.1 The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 5th July at 8pm via Zoom.