



Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Disability Leadership Group Meeting
Tuesday 4th October 2022 @ 8pm

Present	Helen Stephens (HS)	ROC Representative
	Ann Byrne (AB)	Suffolk Representative
	Carl Cooper (CC)	Para-Swimming Talent Coach
	Sandra Grant (SG)	Bedfordshire Representative
	Peter Winter (PW)	Specialist

Also, present Emma Winter, Regional Administrator (EW)

- 22/35 Apologies**
- 22/35.1 Ian Cotton (IC) Regional Chairman sent his apologies.
 - 22/35.2 No apologies sent in from Norfolk, Cambridgeshire, Essex or Hertfordshire.
 - 22/35.3 HS welcome everyone to the meeting and informed them that she will be chairing the meeting.
- 22/36 Declarations of conflict of interest**
- 22/36.1 None
- 22/37 Previous minutes**
- 22/37.1 Minutes from the meeting held on the 5th July 2022 were circulated prior to the meeting and were agreed.
- 22/38 Matters arising**
- 22/38.1 A discussion took place about the role of the Leadership Group Manager and what is involved in chairing the Group.
 - 22/38.2 The Group agreed that as all Representative were not present at the meeting, that the role description and the application form to apply will be circulated by the Regional staff, so that everyone has the chance to apply for the position.
 - 22/38.3 HS is happy to chair the next meeting until a new chair has been appointed.

22/39**Athlete Recognition**

- 22/39.1 AB informed the Group that Jordan Catchpole came 4th in the 200-meter freestyle at the commonwealth games and he has been accepted onto the world class programme as podium potential.
- 22/39.2 CC informed the Group that Jessica-Jane Applegate, Grace Harvey and Louise Fiddes all came home with medals from the commonwealth games.
- 22/39.3 CC also informed the Group that the region has done well in the world class podium programme, out of the 17 athletes the region has 5 athletes on it, Jessica-Jane Applegate from Norwich, Jordan Catchpole from Team Waveney, Ellie Chalis from Clacton, Louise Fiddes from Hatfield and Grace Harvey from Hoddesdon.
- 22/39.4 On the England programme for which there are two sides to it, Para specific and integrated, the East Region has 10 swimmers on it out of 52.
- 22/39.5 On the Diploma in Sporting Excellence (DiSE) programme the Region has Rio Rogers and Mwaba Mkwasa from Norwich Swans. On the integrated programme are Rowan Brennon from Basildon, Abigail Wickens from Flitwick, Harry Arnold-Pepper from Royston, Connie Ratley from Colchester, Lily Herring from Norwich Swan, Ida Corcoran from Flitwick, Elizabeth Grey from Chelmsford and Claire Canon from Cambridge.
- 22/39.6 There was a discussion around funding for the athletes and that the Region has currently running a Bursary scheme to help the East Region athletes who have been selected to be part of British swimming or England talent teams.

22/40**County Reports**

- 22/40.1 Suffolk – AB informed the Group that they are looking to run a swim ability meet on Saturday 15th April 2023 but waiting to hear back from the pool if the date is available.
- 22/40.2 Bedfordshire – SG informed the Group that apart from Abigail Wickens and Ida Corcoran being selected for the programme there were no further reports on swimmers in the county. The Para swimming taster session which was going to be held had to be cancelled.
- 22/40.3 Norfolk – No report given.
- 22/40.4 Cambridgeshire – No report given.

22/41**Regional Training Sessions 2022/2023**

- 22/41.1 EW informed the Group that she is looking at organising a Regional training session for November but will need to put in a variation of budget/plan to the board as a third training session was not put into 2022 budget. EW asked the Group for suggestions of venues to hold the next training session.
- 22/41.2 HS mentioned Newmarket and SG suggested Flitwick.
- 22/41.3 Going forward into 2022/2023 the plan is to have 3 Regional training sessions.



- 22/41.4 The Regional training sessions are currently attracting around 10/15 swimmers per session. CC informed the Group that currently this is a low number compared to where the Region was pre-pandemic. The Region used to be the power house for Para swimming and it wasn't unusual to get 50 or 60 swimmers attending. CC confirmed that 12 swimmers is currently around normal for most regions as there aren't many Para swimmers at the moment.
- 22/41.5 CC confirmed that having a Regional training session is worth laying on as it encourages swimmers to come along to get additional training and input, and it is also an opportunity for the workforce to gain experience and knowledge to take back to their own clubs.
- 22/41.6 A discussion took place on why we have lost swimmers e.g., swimmers moved out of the Region, move onto masters but the biggest impact was covid.
- 22/41.7 A discussion took place on what the Region could do to get the numbers back up within Para swimming.

22/42 SEER Para-swimming meet 2022

- 22/42.1 EW informed the Group that the Para swimming meet was cancelled due to the conditions not being completed on time for the entries to be opened and to sign up swimmers to the classifiers only 4 weeks before the event.
- 22/42.2 HS asked how often do the Region hold a meet, EW confirmed once a year.
- 22/42.3 A discussion took place regarding when the next meet will be held and that London is planning to hold their meet again, possibly in March 2023, where Regional swimmers could attend. EW to find out.
- 22/42.4 HS asked what lead time we need to arrange a meet, EW suggest to start looking at organising it in the New Year to give time to find a venue and arrange the conditions. CC confirmed that he can look at the qualifying times to go into the conditions in January and write them ready.
- 22/42.5 HS will find out what conversation happened between the East Region and the London Region regarding attending each other's meets.
- 22/42.6 HS asked the Group if everyone is happy with the way forward for the 2023 meet. Everyone was in agreement.

22/43 Budgets for 2023

- 22/43.1 EW shared the 2022 budget with the Group. A discussion took place regarding the 2022 budget and the income that Disability generated.
- 22/43.2 HS informed the Group that they need to look at the budget for 2023 and discuss what the Group would like to put into the budget to break even.

- 22/43.3 EW informed the Group that Leanne has made a start on the 2023 budget and EW shared the budget at the meeting.
- 22/43.4 EW informed the Group that the Budget goes from January 2023 until December 2023.
- 22/43.5 A discussion took place around the budget in regards to how many Regional training sessions there should be and when they should take place and the cost of pool hire and the cost of coaches. It was agreed that the budget cost for coaches should increase to cover the cost of a strength and conditioning coach.
- 22/43.6 A discussion took place regarding holding a gala in October 2023 along with classification and a CPD for officials. EW informed the group that the cost of the gala that has been put into 2023 budget is based on the cost of 2022 planned gala.
- 22/43.7 The Group agreed that the budget costs needed to be increased for the pool hire, room for the classification and a CPD for Officials, medals, officials travel and officials tops.
- 22/43.8 EW shared the expected income for 2023 with the Group. A discussion also took place regarding the charge to swimmers for attending the Regional training session. A discussion also took place regarding the entry fee for the gala.
- 22/43.9 A discussion took place regarding spectator fees. It was also agreed to raise the entry fee for spectators at the gala.
- 22/43.10 SG asked if there would be a possibility of sponsorship for the gala to help support the event. EW and HS to raise it with the Directors.

22/44 Any other business

- 22/44.1 PW informed the Group that this year will be the first year that Para swimmers will be at the National Masters at Sheffield in October.

22/45 Confidential items

- 22/45.1 None

22/46 Next meeting

- 22/46.1 Meeting booked in for Tuesday 6th December 2022 @ 8pm via Zoom.
- 22/46.2 Meeting booked in for Tuesday 17th January 2023 @ 8pm via Zoom.
- 22/46.3 Meeting booked in for Tuesday 4th July 2023 @ 8pm via Zoom.