

Swim England East Region**Minutes of the Swimming Official's Leadership Group Meeting****Wednesday 25 January 2023 @ 19:00 hrs**

Present David Metcalf (DM)
Louise Mackie (LM)
Sarah Nooteboom (SN)
Jane Howell (JH)
Jonathan Pope (JP)
Keith Belton (KB)
Stephen Christian (SC)

Manager – SE ER SOLG
Bedfordshire- not present
Cambridgeshire – not present
Essex
Hertfordshire
Norfolk
Suffolk – joined 19.41

Also Present: Gerry Metcalf taking notes

23/01 Apologies

23/01.1 Chris Galer- Keith Belton substituting (Norfolk)

DM mentioned the sad news of the passing of David Robinson (Mildenhall SC). David had assisted many officials in their training within the Region, he was always had time to listen and help others. Our thoughts are with Jane and his family.

23/02 Declarations of conflict of interest

23/02.1 None declared.

23/03 Previous minutes

23/03.1 The minutes of the 19 October 22 were circulated and approved following the meeting. A draft copy published on the Regional website on 31/10/22. No amendments were made, the final approved copy to be added to the website.

23/04 Matters arising

23/04.1 None.

23/05 Ratification of items agreed since last meeting

23/05.1 None.

23/06 Activities completed since the last meeting

23/06.1 Regional Winter SC Championships in Luton 4-6 November 2022

22/06.2 Regional Masters Inter-County Gala in Braintree 13 November 2022

23/07 Activities planned before the next meeting

23/07.1 Regional Long Course Championships

Planning for the Regional Championships being held over 3 weekends in April and May 23 (Norwich and Luton).

23/07.2 **FINA Rules Update 2023**

On the 12 December 2022 in Melbourne; FINA, the Fédération Internationale de Natation, became World Aquatics following a vote at an Extraordinary Congress on the eve of the World Swimming Championships (25m) 2022.

At the time of the meeting British Swimming had not published the Rules update 2023-25 to be delivered to all officials in GB. Swim England. The SE SLG issued the following statement by email on 3 January 2023: -

“World Aquatics (FINA) is currently reviewing its technical rules in all disciplines. In respect of swimming, the revised rules, covering the 2023-25 period, were published on 3 January 2023. The British Swimming Swimming Officials Group will shortly circulate details of the new rules, create training materials and determine a suitable date for their implementation. The new rules should NOT therefore be applied at swimming competitions held in England until the implementation date is determined. County Age Group Championships should therefore be judged in their entirety under prevailing Swim England Laws, Regulations and Technical Rules of Swimming, WITHOUT reference to revised 2023-25 FINA Technical Rules.”

The quote from SE, 10 March 2023 will be the intended implementation, date for the start of the ‘National’ qualifying window.

I will be updating the meeting after my meeting for the SE SOG tomorrow.

Action: DM

23/08

British Swimming/Swim England updates

23/08.1

SE Guidance on Water Depths – Diving into Swimming Pools and Competitive Starts

On 8 December 22, Swim England issued guidance on diving into swimming pools. Following a health and safety review, the international governing body’s guidance states the minimum depth for racing entries should be 1.35m. From 1 September 2023, all Swim England affiliated clubs will be required to ensure that all starts and changes during relay races are into 1.35m of water.

DM updated officials in the December 22 Officials’ Newsletter.

[Full details can be found here](#)

23/08.2

British Swimming Referee Course Leader Training

Planning for the course has been in the making for 12 months+, with numerous pushbacks of a firm date, the last pushback being in December 22. The training will be virtually online, each region has submitted suitable candidates. DM has asked for this to be an agenda item at the next SE SOG meeting to expedite the issue. Ian Knight (Cambridgeshire) has stood down being a course leader.

Darren Peck, Henry Watkinson, Jane Howell, Louise Mackie-names have been put forward for this course. **Action: DM**

23/09

Referee Training and Examinations

23/09.1 **BS Referee Examination – 19 Nov 22**

Congratulations to Chris Willmott (West Suffolk) on passing the examination. Arrangements to be made by DM/SC regarding the practical assessment.

Action: DM/SC

23/09.2 **BS Referee Course 2023**

Applications close on 31 January 2023. DM reminded all that applications must first go via the County Coordinator to verify the hours and Referee course required before forwarding it to DM for Regional approval.

There were several possible candidates within the region, only 2 had had been submitted via DM.

Action: ALL County Coordinators

23/10

County Matters within SE East Region

23/10.1 **Virtual delivery of Judge level 2/Judge Level 2S (starter) courses by Counties within the Region**

DM thanked those who were present at the meeting who had already volunteered to assist in the running of online courses.

Judge Level 2 / Judge Level 2S Theory Training Opportunities			
Course Date	Time	Type	Presenter
Monday 16 January 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Chris Galer - Norfolk
Wednesday 1 February 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Chris Galer - Norfolk
Thursday 9 February 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Chris Galer - Norfolk
Tuesday 21 February 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Jane Howell - Essex
Wednesday 22 February 2023	7.00pm	JL2S (Starter)	Gerry Metcalf - Bedfordshire
Monday 6 March 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Jonathan Pope - Hertfordshire
Monday 13 March 2023	10:00am	JL2S (Starter)	Jane Howell - Essex
Wednesday 23 March 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Jonathan Pope - Hertfordshire
Monday 24 April 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Jonathan Pope - Hertfordshire
Tuesday 25 April 23 (new date)	7.00pm	JL2S (Starter)	Gerry Metcalf - Bedfordshire
Wednesday 17 May 2023	7.00pm	JL2 (Stroke)	Jonathan Pope - Hertfordshire
Wednesday 7 June 2023	7.00pm	JL2S (Starter)	Jonathan Pope - Hertfordshire

DM asked that more dates be provided and those who have not already assisted consider helping.

Action: ALL County Coordinators I require more dates

23/10.2 **FINA Rules Update 2023-25**

Planning in anticipation of publication of the BS Fina Rules Update for December 22 onwards had been made. DM thanked JH, CG, JP, and SC for their dates previously supplied to deliver the course virtually which had now expired.

DM asked them to consider provisional dates from February 23 onwards. The update can be delivered face to face or virtually. The expected date of implementation of the new rules is 10 March 2023.

Action: ALL County Coordinators

23/10.3 **BS Para-Swimming CPD for Officials**

DM updated the meeting that he had been asked to deliver the CPD on Sunday 17 September 2023 at Newmarket Pool, Suffolk prior to the Regional Para-Swimming Meet.

Details to be published and advertised once they are available.

<https://www.eastswimming.org/disability/para-swimming-competitions/>

Action: DM

23/10.4

County Updates

A discussion took place by County coordinators as to what was going on with their own Counties and future planning.

Problems /Issues encountered etc:

Bedfordshire- not present

Cambridgeshire- not present

Essex

Kay Maguire has given up being a referee trainer.

Hertfordshire

Officials' forum held on 2/11/22, using all the updates that were previously discussed in this forum. Now in the middle of counties, using AOE referee this time, and "Swim Meet" management. Been through J1 trainee list- lots of candidates over the 11 months- referred to Swim England (Helen Akers).

Norfolk

Chris has been catching up with lots of candidates and will be at the forthcoming championships.

Suffolk (joined during 23/10.3)

In the middle of County Championships, lots of mentoring for J1T. Lots of poolside volunteers- because of the change round of the pool regarding the starting end, limiting spectators, so more Officials/volunteers.

23.10.5

World Para Swimming Rules

New WPS Swimming Rules expected to come into force in March 23.

23/11

SE ER SOLG Development Plan and Annual Budget

23/11.1

SE ER SOLG Plans for 2023

DM submitted the 2023 plan, which is like the previous plan.

Action: DM

23/12

Issues/Recommendations to the Regional Board/Operations Committee

23/12.1

None

23/13

Any other business

23/13.1

Swim Meet (22/44.1)

The Region is now using “Swim Meet” the swimming officials sign up software for Regional Galas. DM met with Richard Dexter from Pelican Computing on 18 January 23. The software will assist Technical Directors in the management of swimming officials at Regional galas. A sign-up page link will be inserted onto the Regional website.

The counties that have already signed up for this, have bought licences for their county clubs (Hertfordshire are considering this).

23/13.2 **Regional County Forum**

DM has been invited to attend the Forum on 18 April 23 to discuss “what Counties can do to support officials”.

Action: DM

23/14 **Confidential items**

23/14.1 None

Meeting finished 20.02

23/15 **Next Meeting**

23/15.1 The next meeting is scheduled take place by Zoom on Wednesday 14 June 2023 @ 7pm.

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

Abbreviations used in swimming

SEER	Swim England East Region
SEER SOLG	Swim England East Region Swimming Officials Leadership Group
SEER SLG	Swim England East Region Swimming Leadership Group
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
SE SLG	Swim England Swimming Leadership Group
SE SOG	Swim England Swimming Officials Group
SE SOC	Swim England Sport Operations Committee
BS	British Swimming
BSSOG	British Swimming Swimming Officials Group
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 Development Coordinator (BS/SE)
WPS	World Para Swimming