

East Diving Leadership Group
(the “EDLG” or “Group”)

Minutes of the Diving Leadership Group held via video conference
3rd April 2025 at 7pm

Present	Lottie Thompson (LT)	Diving Manager
	Lexie Bushell (LB)	Specialist
	Sharyn Bord (SB)	Operations Officer
	Sarah Gateshill (SG)	Dacorum Representative
	Ian Rollinson (IR)	Competitions Officer
	Ian Mackenzie (IM)	Director Representative
	Emma Winter (EW)	Regional Administrator

25/15 Welcome and apologies

- 25/15.1 LT opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
- 25/15.2 Apologies were received from Stephanie Lewis (SL), Southend Diving Club representative, and Beth Lee (BL), Luton Diving Club representative.

25/16 Declarations of conflict of interest

- 25/16.1 None declared.

25/17 Previous minutes

- 25/17.1 The minutes from the meeting held on 6th February had been circulated.
- 25/17.2 The minutes were agreed.

25/18 Matters arising

- 25/18.1 Actions from the previous meeting.
- 25/03.1 LT to make initial changes from IM to IR – completed.
- 25/06.2 IM to contact Ian Cotton regarding the Dacorum platforms – completed.
- 25/06.3 IM to try to find out who is taking over from Fusion as the pool operator at Southend - IM confirmed that it should be known by the end of April or early May.
- 25/07.1 SB to contact Southend to extend the pool booking to 5.30pm – completed.
- 25/08.1 LT to email EW with information for the Expression of Interest form for the judges - LT informed EW that James Hadley (JH) will be chief referee for the competition in April.
- 25/09.1 LT to arrange a meeting with AC and LB to discuss regional development – agenda item.

25/10.1 LT to update officials list - completed.

25/19

Correspondence

- 25/19.1 LT had received an email from James Salmon (JSa), Regional Manager, regarding branding for events.
- 25/19.2 IM confirmed that the Region just needs confirmation of what branding the Group would like e.g. a wall, pop-ups and 'Toblerone' frames.
- 25/19.3 LT suggested that SB and SL have a meeting with JSa to go through the options and choose during the meeting.

Action: LT to contact JSa regarding the branding and connect him with SB and SL.

25/20

Club reports

- 25/20.1 Cambridge
Alice Clarke and Dan Murphy have been holding Talent ID events at schools. This has brought new children in to the learn-to-dive programme.

The Easter camps and summer camps have been arranged. Interest has already been expressed.

The club held their Skills championships at Parkside pool. There were quite a few entries to the Regional Skills competition, with some medals and qualifiers.
- 25/20.2 Southend
The club has finished attending schools with the Talent ID events and are now moving on to phase two, with pool testing.

The club took a small team to Leeds. It went well.

The club also attended the Regional Skills and Elite event in Southend, here Todd Geggus received the County award.

The club is now down to three boards, with one being used for dryland and the other two for the pool. IM reported that he is talking to the facilities team at Swim England to look into the situation with the boards.

Connor Lano attended Aachen in Germany and won a silver medal in the 3m Synchro.
- 25/20.3 SL had provided a report before the meeting detailing that the club is doing really well with the largest number of competitors since Covid, and qualifications are going well for Skills. The club would also like to thank the Region for the new, recent Elite event.
- 25/20.4 Dacorum
The club's boards are now back in use. This is good news and has transformed everything. The club have attended a few competitions.

The club now has some new judges. One has been to the London and Southend Skills competition, and one is going to the Age-Groups competition.

The club is still training one day at Amersham and on a Wednesday at Luton.

25/20.5

Luton

BL had provided a report before the meeting detailing that the club attended the London and Southend Skills event, and so far there are seven qualifiers for the National Skills, which is an increase from last year. They are also attending Sandwell, Leeds and Tunbridge Wells.

The club has also arranged Easter training camps.

John Cripps (Chairman) and BL continue to meet with Active Luton's manager once a month. The meetings are very productive. The club is currently working on a new Memorandum of Understanding, so that the club's Welfare Officer and the manager of Active Luton can work together in the event of any issues.

The pool's bubbles are now fixed. A coach attended the level 2 coaching course in Sheffield, so the club has another level 2 coach. The club is also working on their Club Affiliation.

25/21

Operations update

25/21.1

LT reported that since the last meeting she has received the finance information from the Region which she will pass on to SB.

Action: LT to send SB the finance information from the Region.

25/21.2

SB reported that the Skills event was very successful financially, with £2,285 from entries, plus £723 income on the door, resulting in a surplus. The Elites event made £390 on entries and £83 on the door, resulting in a slight loss. There was an overall surplus from the two events combined.

The cost of the shirts and medals was allocated to the Skills events to lower the burden on the Elites event.

25/22

Regional Diving Competitions

25/22.1

IR reported that the Skills competition went really well, with a good number of entries. There could be potential for accepting a few more entries if the pool booking was a little longer.

The Elites competition was really good, and there was only a small loss. There is potential scope for expanding the competition.

25/22.2

LT reported very positive feedback regarding the Elites competition.

25/22.3

The next competition is the Age-Groups. Entries close on 5th April 2025. LT confirmed that JH will be chief referee for the event.

25/23

Regional development

25/23.1

LT, LB and AC have agreed a couple of provisional dates and LB has compiled the initial A and B team selections, which AC will be reviewing. Some hold-the-date emails will then be sent out.

25/23.2 LT reported the likely dates to be 17th/18th May, having the A team on one day and the B team on the other day. A date in September is also being considered. LB is also looking into holding a talent games workshop in September.

Action: LT to contact Keith Belton regarding the budget.

25/23.3 LT asked about running camps with both senior and junior divers.

IM confirmed that it was fine provided that the correct team managers were in attendance.

25/24

Officials update

26/24.1 LT reported that there was a judge level 1 course held in March. She is waiting for the results, as there maybe a few more people to add to the officials list.

26/24.2 LB asked if there will be another course soon as they have some nearly 16-year-old divers who have shown interest in the course.

LT confirmed that there will be a course in June, one in September and hopefully one in December. There are normally four courses held in the year. There is a link on the Swim England website to register interest for a course.

26/24.3 LT reported that there is still no judge level 2 course arranged at the moment.

25/25

Coaches Forum update

25/25.1 LT reported that the coaches forum has discussed regional programmes, and a question has been raised as to whether there might be any support for coach mentors going into other programmes to provide support.

25/25.2 IM reported that the Region has supported coaches to attend a conference in America, so if genuine mentoring and a programme is set up, he advised submitting a request.

25/25.3 LT will suggest to the coaches forum that a proposal be put together to bring to the Board. Details could be provided on where and how often, and interest could be gauged.

25/25.4 It was also reported that Southend are still experiencing issues with the boards as Fusion are no longer spending any money. It was asked if the Region would consider helping.

IM suggested waiting until the new pool providers come in and then start negotiating with them as to whether they will help with getting the boards sorted.

IM also suggest that it might be worth contacting the local County counsellors to see if they are able to help.

25/26

Any other business

25/26.1 IM reported that the Region's Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on the 23rd April 2025.

25/27

Confidential Items

25/27.1 No confidential items.

25/28

Next meeting

25/28.1

The next meeting will be on 5th June 2025.