

Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Artistic Swimming Leadership Group Meeting
7th June 2025 at 10am, via Zoom

Present	Amy Davis (AD)	East Region Artistic Swimming Manager
	Sheila Mackenzie (SM)	East Region Director
	Karen Brennan (KB)	Aqualina
	Tom Brennan (TB)	Aqualina
	Kerri Clewlow (KC)	Aqualina
	Jane White (JW)	Aqualina
	Laura Neary (LN)	Chelmsford
	Emma Chapman (EC)	Dacorum
	Amy Bryant (AB)	Hatfield
	Emily Gower (EG)	Norwich
	Olivia Taylor (OT)	Potters Bar
	Also present Emma Winter (EW)	Regional Administrator

25/12 **Welcome and apologies**

- 25/12.1 AD welcomed everyone to the meeting.
- 25/12.2 There were no apologies.

25/13 **Declarations of conflict of interest**

- 25/13.1 There were no declarations of conflict of interest.

25/14 **Previous minutes**

- 25/14.1 The minutes from the previous meeting had been circulated.
- 25/14.2 AD reported that the date for the October competition should 18th October 2025.
- 25/14.3 EW reported that AB had asked for some changes to be made prior to the meeting.
- 25/14.4 Subject to the changes, the minutes were agreed to be a true reflection of the meeting.

25/15

Plan and Budget

- 25/15.1 AD reported that the plan is on track with competitions, grading days and the regional games.
- 25/15.2 AB asked whether the competitions are making a profit.
- AD reported that the February competition brought in a small profit as there were solos, figures and teams. The March competition made a loss as it was a smaller competition and the May competition made a small profit.
- AD reported that the income is currently under budget.
- AD reported that the October competition has solos, figures and duets and should bring in a profit. It is hoped to break even by the end of the year.

25/16

Grading days 2025

- 25/16.1 AD reported that the next grading day is being held on 19th July 2025. Entries are due by 5th July 2025.
- This July grading day will cover all figure grades and routine grades up to grade 3.
- 25/16.2 AD reported that TB is organising a routine grading day on 27th September 2025. It will cover all grades.
- 25/16.3 AD reported that there are grading days in the diary for November and December but the pools have not yet been booked.
- AD will enquire at Potters Bar and Hemel Hempstead regarding availability on the dates, and will also look at holding one at Norwich.
- 25/16.4 OT reported that the Potters Bar committee has requested that if a booking is being made it is done via the facilities manager.
- 25/16.5 AD confirmed that the grading days are on 19th July, 27th September and, provisionally, 1st November and 6th December.
- Action** AD to inquire at Potters Bar, and EC to enquire for November at Hemel Hempstead and advise AD.
- Action:** AD to liaise with EG regarding holding a grading day at Norwich.
- 25/16.6 Provisional dates for 2026 grading days were discussed.
Provisional dates for 2026 grading days are:
- 24th/25th January 2026
9th/10th May 2026 – Possibly figures
July 2026

November 2026
December 2026

25/17

Competitions for 2025

25/17.1 AD reported that at the May competition there were some technical issues, and she apologised to the clubs that were affected. There was also the splits issue. AD will make sure it is saved properly to the computer and that the scorers score properly.

AD reported that at the competition the STC review was done after each routine rather than at the end.

KB reported that it was the first time that she had done the reviewing at the regional event and has only done it at National Age-Groups (NAGS) as a shadow, but she felt that it had worked well.

AC reported that it was really good, and once they had all got the hang of it they were able to do it a little bit quicker. It was much easier than at the February competition. AC also reported that it helped with a new rule which comes in this year (2025) that if all three people on the panel agreed with the same major and wrote it at the same time, there was no need for a review.

25/17.2 AD reported on her plan for the October competition.

AD said that at the 2024 October competition there were three solos per age-group and four duets per age-group. AD was considering having three solos and just three duets per age-groups, or leaving the duets as four and removing the ungraded figures.

There was discussion on what to include in the October competition and how to make the day a little shorter.

The Group was asked to send AD rough numbers of potential swimmers in each age-group for solos and duets. AD will then work out timings and will try and extend the pool time.

Action: The Group to send AD potential numbers, and AD to look at the timings.

25/17.3 Provisional dates for 2026 competitions:
7th February 2026 – All figures, 12 and under and 13 to 15 solos, duets, mixed duets and free team.

21st March 2026 – Masters technical solos and duets, 15 and over solos and duets, pro teams and all combos.

13th June 2026

17th October 2026

25/18

Officials' courses

- 25/18.1 AD reported that she is still in talks with Jenny Gray (JG) regarding a Judge level 1 course, and once AD has some dates she will circulate them.
- AD will check with JG as to whether the course is online.
- 25/18.2 AD reported that she is looking into providing a scorer's course, and once she has a date she will advise everyone.
- AB offered to help AD with the delivery of the course.
- 25/18.3 AB reported that she is looking into holding another assistant coach course. When she has a date she will inform everyone.
- 25/18.4 EG and AB confirmed that there is a level 2 coaches course being held in the summer in York and one being held in Guildford later in the year.

25/19

Regional Games

- 25/19.1 KC and KB reported on this year's Regional Games and stated that it was a great event.
- This year the squad came second in the land video and fifth in the figures. In the individuals, Dominika Janikova came first and Chloe Reynolds came second - a great result.
- KB reported that it was good to compete as East Region, not individual clubs. In the League table, East Region is in sixth position out of seven which is an improvement from last year.
- 25/19.2 TB confirmed that the first training session for the Regional Games squad for 2026 will be on 14th September 2025 at Potters Bar, the second session on 23rd November 2025, the third session on 1st March 2026 and the last session on 17th May 2026. The competition is on 19th May 2026.
- 25/19.3 AD asked about the criteria for the squad.
- KB stated that the oldest the swimmers can be is 15yrs old, and KB explained that there is no criterion on the grade, but the more experience the swimmer has the better.
- A discussion took place around the criteria and the type of swimmers who may like to attend the training sessions.
- 25/19.4 TB will put together information about the training session and competition and share it with the Group.
- TB will ask the Region's staff to set up the registration page.

25/19.5 TB asked coaches interested in getting involved to contact him.

25/20 Any other business

25/20.1 AB asked a question about coach cards for the Combo Cup and what should be put on them.
She was advised that it is just the order, with H for hybrids etc.

25/20.2 EG asked if there were any judges available to judge at the Masters' competition.
JW offered her availability.

25/20.3 KB thanked AD for everything she does for Artistic Swimming in the Region.

25/20.4 On behalf of the Region's Board, SM congratulated everyone involved in organizing and running great competitions, as well as development through the Regional Games Squad.

25/20.5 EW advised that nominations for the Swim England National Awards are now open, as are nominations for the Regional Jeff Cook Salver Award.

25/21 Confidential items

25/21.1 There were none.

25/22 Meeting dates

25/22.1 Date of next meeting: 13th September 2025.