

Swim England East Region
Minutes of the Disability Leadership Group Meeting
Tuesday 18th July 2024 @ 8pm

Present	Peter Winter (PW)	Manager
	Helen Stephens (HS)	SEER Board Representative
	Ann Byrne (AB)	Suffolk Representative
	Carl Cooper (CC)	National Talent Officer
	Tony Moore (TM)	Norfolk Representative
	Christopher Pagan (CP)	Essex Representative
	Sandra Grant (SG)	Specialist

Also, present James Salmon, Regional Manager (JS)

24/13 **Apologies**

- 24/13.1 Apologies received from Louise Hughes.
- 24/13.2 No representative from Bedfordshire.

24/14 **Declarations of conflict of interest**

- 24/14.1 None

24/15 **Previous minutes**

- 24/15.1 Minutes from the meeting held on 23rd January were circulated prior to the meeting, these were agreed.
- 24/15.2 **CC** informed the group that his title has now changed, he is now National Talent Officer, this should be updated on future minutes.

24/16 **Matters arising**

- 24/16.1 **PW** welcomed Sandra Grant to the Leadership group, She has joined as a specialist and will help us on various different aspects.

24/17

Athlete Recognition

- 24/17.1 **AB Suffolk** - William Ellard has been chosen to represent team GB At Paris.
- 24/17.2 **PW** – Jude Gunner has broken quite a few short course records at British Junior Para meet. William Ellard broke a few records at the World Para Series in Berlin.
- 24/17.3 **CP** Essex - Roan Brennan and Rio Rogers from Basildon did well at the British Champs, just narrowly missing out on their chance to go to Paris.
Jacob Desso and Elizabeth Grey did well at the Junior Para Nationals.
PW Jacob Desso also competed in the East Region Open water Championships and won a gold medal and a Regional record.
AB Corey Hare also competed in the Open Water Championships in the 3k and 5k event.
- 24/17.4 **CC** Informed the group that for the first time we took an England talent program team to the Scottish Open, 2 Athletes were from the East Region, Abby Wickens from Flitwick and Connie Ratley from Colchester. Connie achieved a silver and Abby had some really good swims.
There were no Para relay events at this meet but we qualified for 4 relays as an able-bodied team, Connie was part of one of these teams.
Louise King (coach) was selected as part of the team Staff.
Out of a team of 27 going to Paris 4 are from the East region, these are Ellie Challis, Grace Harvey, Louise Fiddes and William Ellard.

24/18

County Reports

- 24/18.1 **AB Suffolk** – Our swimability meet was a great success. We had 84 entries, which is the most we ever had and manage to fit it into the 3 hours. Jessica Jane Applegate did a meet and greet before the event.

We have provisionally booked next year's event for the 5th of April.

William Ellard was the flag bearer at the European championship.
- 24/18.2 **AM Norfolk** – Informed the group they ran their swimability on 6th July, This was a success, They had 48 entries which is about normal, big thank you to Anne as this would not have been such a success without her, putting the word around to get more entries.

We are looking to run this again next year on the first Saturday of July.

24/19

2024 Budget and Plan

- 24/19.1 **PW** Informed the group that we have had to pay out for things like pool hire and not had any money coming in so as it stands it does not look great, but this is normal, we were in the same position this time last year and we had a very successful meet and turned it around, So is not concerned about the Budget.



Action JS to send the budget around to the group with the minutes

24/20

Regional Training Sessions 2024

- 24/20.1 **PW** informed the Group that we have only run one Regional Training Session this year as due to only two athletes signing up it was not viable to run the second one, this was due to several other events happening at the similar time.
- 24/20.2 **PW** We are planning to run the next Regional Training Session in November. But we need to look at other events to find a suitable date.
CC November is a busy month, with 3 other competitions already planned, the only date available would be 9th or 10th November.
PW Agreed with these dates and suggested that Sunday 10th would be preferred, As we seem to get more swimmers on a Sunday, but also said that he would need to check the availability of the preferred venue, Abbey Pools in Cambridge

Action PW/JS to check pool and Coach availability

- 24/20.3 **PW** we will also need to approach a coach to run the event. Louise King, who we have used previously is now the head coach, at Flitwick, so she may have too much on, PW Asked Carl if this would be a conflict or if this would be acceptable to have her coach at our event.
CC responded there is no issue using a head coach to run this event.

24/21

SEER Para-swimming Championships 2024

- 24/21.1 **PW** The Regional Para-Swimming meet will be held on 22nd September at Newmarket Leisure Centre, the Venue is booked.
So far we have only had five entries, So please could everyone push this event. We will also be inviting other regions to attend, the same ones as we did last year. Swimmers from outside our Region will get a commemorative medal, so this will not affect Swimmers from our Region medalling.
- 24/21.2 **PW** There will be classifications on the Saturday 21st and Sunday 22nd September. The Conditions for the meet have been changed to allow swimmers that are 9 at the date of the competition and on the classification waiting list to compete, this has been done with the agreement of Martin Lee.
- 24/21.3 **HS** Asked how many participants do we need to make the meet viable?
PW Responded that he wasn't sure of this, but last year there were about 30 swimmers, which is a good number, but we will need to run the event regardless of numbers so we can carry out the Classification



- 24/21.4 **SG** Asked if the meet was just for swimmers that are already classified and those that are being classified? Or can swimmers with certificate of disability compete?
PW Responded it is only for those that are being classified and already classified. Swimmers can compete if they are on the waiting list but they will not receive a medal. Swimmers cannot compete with a Certificate of disability. This is due to the conditions of the Licence.

- 24/21.5 **PW** asked Helen if she will be sorting volunteers for the day,
HS Confirmed that she would be sorting volunteers

Action Helen to sort volunteers for the event

- 24/21.6 **HS** asked if the East Region president will be there to present the medals
PW Said he hoped he would be, he has been invited, He also made a request that AB ask William Ellard if he could attend this event, following him being at Paris

Action AB to Ask William Ellard his availability

24/22 Any other business

- 24/22.1 **SG** Wanted to confirm the roles of all the participants of the group.

24/23 Confidential items

- 24/23.1 None

24/24 Next meeting

- 24/24.1 Date of the next meeting is
Tuesday 5th November at 8pm

All meetings will be held via Zoom.