

SWIM ENGLAND NORTH EAST REGION LTD.

President – Howard Leighton

Minutes of the Fifth Meeting of the North East Region Board of Directors Held on Tuesday 22nd September 2020 online at 7.30 p.m.

Present: D. Watson (Chairman); R. Gordon (Finance Manager) D. Alexander, H. Leighton, B. Saunders, K. Smith, A. Thompson

Apologies: S. Prasad

Staff In Attendance: D. Parry, S. Small S. Stephenson, L. Tjaguns

50 Welcome and Apologies

50.1 D Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

51 Declaration of Interest

51.1 Members were asked to declare any interest as and when this arose during the meeting.

52 Minutes of the Fifth Meeting

52.1 28.1 - A finance sub-committee has not been established.

43.1 – No advertisement for additional Directors has been made.

46.1 – NER records are now on the website.

48.1 – D. Ramm has been made redundant due to the Swim England restructure.

53 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

54 Report of the Regional Finance Manager

54.1 Due to the disruption to swimming resulting from the Covid19 virus, this has impacted on the Region's finances. However, the Region has substantial financial reserves and is not taking any emergency action at the present time.

There will be a para swimming meeting on Thursday and the para swimming money will be drawn down from Swim England.

Swim England has stopped the £6k administration grant.

Swimming is usually a strong income stream but now there has been a loss of £25K on licence fees.

No refund received of £5K from Sheffield venues.

H Leighton reported that the medal company staff are on furlough and this is why the Region are awaiting an invoice.

A Thompson suggested the need for future financial planning for the worst case scenario going forward during lockdown. D Watson requested R Gordon do a quick prediction of income going forward.

Swim England carried out a restructure in the summer. They are now consulting

staff about layoffs and reduction in hours being included in contracts.

- 55**
- 55.1** **Regional Business Plan**
- S Stephenson reported that both S Small and D Parry had carried out a huge amount of work to support clubs during this difficult time, without the support of a Club Development Officer. Covid and Discipline Forums have been well received by clubs. Virtual Youth Forum has had good feedback and has generated a lot of interest. Any questions in respect of the Impact Report to be sent to the Regional Development Team. D Watson wished to thank and highlight the work of S Small, D Parry, S Stephenson and L Lill.
- S Stephenson commented that S Small and D Parry are now undertaking additional work due to the Swim England restructure and this needs to be prioritised following the Board's direction.
- 56**
- 56.1** **Pools Reopening**
- Sheffield Council are making a decision tomorrow in respect of Ponds Forge.
- B Saunders reported on a Return to Competition document which has been produced by volunteers. There are 5 stages, informal training, informal racing, level x racing, level 4 licence meet (not return until 1/1/21) DCMS to sign off and return to normality. Highly unlikely any county championships until early January/February 2021. Suggest these are run in May/June. To pass this information onto the N&D Secretary.
- Para Swimming – a virtual gala is a possibility. There is a backlog on classifications. Para Swimming event in Manchester is taking place in January 2021.
- 57**
- 57.1** **Regional Agreement**
- Discussions between Swim England and Regional Chairs have taken place. Any request for money from Swim England to be made on an annual basis. G Wood and C Coleman have worked with the Regions – need open and honest relationship with Swim England, with joined up decision making. Purpose – how we will work/what we will do. Need to look at Governance. D Watson to talk to G Wood and other Chairs on timescale, etc.
- 58**
- 58.1** **Other Items for Information**
- None.
- 59**
- Any Other Business**
- 59.1** Club Leadership Group membership. Following an email request from Ian Cotton, Club Leadership Group Chair, a nomination from the North East Region will be made when terms of reference are known.
- 59.2** D Alexander reported that Pontefract Marlins have changed their name from Minsthorpe Marlins. NER agreed name change. YSA to approve.
- 59.3** R Gordon needs to obtain the Region's accounts. There will be a Zoom Club Meeting in October/November – presentation of the Impact Report to the membership.
- 60**
- Next Meeting**
- Tbc – November/December.

ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
54.1 - . D Watson requested R Gordon do a quick prediction of income going forward.	RG
59.1 - Swimming Leadership Group County Briefing – each county can send a maximum of 3 representatives. L Tjaguns to send out email	DW/LT