

Minutes

Minutes from the County Durham Club Network Meeting
Monday 4th October 2021

Venue: Online Meeting - Zoom
Time: 19:15 – 20:15

Attendees:

Sarah Small – Swim England North East (SS)
Paul Woodley – Derwentside and Durham County Council (DCC) (PW)
Tracy Donnelly – NDSA Secretary (TD)
Kelly Dunbar – Durham City (KD)
Su Cooper – Wear Valley (WV)
Wico Van Mourik – Teesdale Tiger Sharks (WVM)

Apologies:

Ian Frame – Consett (IF)
John Moore – Sedgefield and District Swimming Club (JM)
Carroll Harrison – Sedgefield Water Polo Club (CH)

1. Welcome

PW thanked everyone for attending the meeting.

2. Club updates – short update from each club

City of Durham – First club Gala yesterday with spectators which went well. Good to see the younger swimmers racing. Are on new timetable after meeting with the council. Zoe won the North East Young Volunteer award. Nice to get back to competitions.

Wear Valley – Several concerns, any coaches able to offer any holiday relief for Angela. Had to cancel the clubs November gala due to lack of support from swimming parents, especially those of younger swimmers. Hope to hold May gala. Great news that they will have a new pool (Woodhouse close existing site), which means the existing pool will have to close in the interim. All squads are busy and are looking forwards to competitions. PW to see if can source some help for coaches.

Consett – *Update provided by email:* Managed to manipulate water time (not restricted as much now) to bring in younger lower level swimmers back. Will be doing our first competition in over 18 months this weekend.

Teesdale Tiger Sharks – Have been looking for a head coach since June 2021. Have managed to get some support from Richmond Dales who have offered coaching support. Approached Teesdale Mercury to publish an article – as a result, new swimmers have joined the club. Have had a little bit extra pool time than pre-Covid. Teesdale Action Partnership have approached the club to provide information on a grant application. End of November having a two club mini gala with Richmond Dales. Same problems with getting people to fill roles on the committee.

Sedgefield Water Polo – *Update provided by email:* Sedgefield Water Polo Club have recently started a Level 8 waterpolo session for beginners on a Saturday afternoon, kindly funded by GAMP. Numbers each week are slowly increasing due to word of mouth and we hope that this continues as we're looking for more members to help the grow and develop in the future. Our Men's national league team had their first taste of competitive water polo in September and have another weekend of matches planned for this coming weekend. Pool hire costs are still a concern.

Derwentside / Performance Programme – Lyndon Longhorn attended the Paralympics in Tokyo, broke 3 British records. Club are struggling with volunteers. Two day meet is now a one day meet, more for the younger swimmers and those who need qualifying times. Struggling finding officials.

TD – Kath Smith has stood down as chair of NDSA board, Dave Low from Durham has stepped into the role on a temporary basis. Looking for volunteers to join the board. If you know anyone within your club who would be interested in joining, please contact TD.

Sedgefield and District Swimming Club – *Update provided via email:* Training is going well but we are facing a big rebuilding job. Last weekend we attended the Billingham Gala. A really good event. We had eleven swimmers competing in 53 swims, 31 PBs taking 17 medals. 9 Gold. 5 Silver 3 Bronze and set 3 meet records. I will be very interested to know what the outcome is in relation to the report by Kelvin Juba and more importantly what Durham County Councils vision for the future is in relation to competitive swimming. Without question if there are any more increases in pool hire then we are gone. Fact!!!

3. Updates from Swim England and Swim England North East

- **Return to pool guidance FAQ's** updated regularly, please check Swim England website: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/coronavirus-faqs-answered/>.
- The Water Polo Guidance for Competitions has been updated to reflect some minor changes; <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/pool-return-guidance-documents/>.
- Swim England Updated Swimming Competition and Declaration form guidance: <https://asaner.org.uk/swim-englands-covid-guidance-updated/>
- Sport England Crowdfunding have released additional funding: <https://asaner.org.uk/extra-funds-for-sport-englands-crowdfunder-club-scheme/>
- Live Events Reinsurance: <https://asaner.org.uk/live-events-reinsurance-scheme/>
- Club Bank Accounts information: <https://asaner.org.uk/club-bank-accounts/>.
- Two useful websites around isolation and Covid precautions are:
 - <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-coronavirus-covid-19-measures-for-grassroots-sport-participants-providers-and-facility-operators>
 - <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid-19/self-isolation-and-treatment/when-to-self-isolate-and-what-to-do/>
- Update on the NE Regional Short Course Swimming Championships planned for November can be found here: <https://asaner.org.uk/swim-england-north-east-regional-championships-25m-2021/>.
- NDSA Performance Programmes Youth, Senior and Junior athletes are now back in the water. Please contact ndswimpp@gmail.com if you have any questions about the programme.

4. Updates on County Durham Club / Pathway review.

PW - Has been a delay on this. Kelvin Juba passed away, worldwide pandemic. Survey allowed us to relook at the pathway, thank you to everyone who completed it. There have been some meetings with DCC, Swim England, PW and SS. DCC will be in contact with clubs, looking at ways to support and connect clubs, to have a pathway within DCC. Things are moving after standing still for 18 months, positive that things are moving.

WVM – How does the scouting system work for the pathway / performance programme? PW - Lots of suggestions, talent ID, coach development, how to clubs connect with local learn to swim. DCC what to offer every swimmer within County Durham club to move on if they would like to. Offer in partnership with local clubs, schools, University.

5. Workforce development

- The region are running a free online **Team Manager Module 1 workshop** on Wednesday 6th October 2021 at 6 p.m.: <https://asaner.org.uk/event/team-manager-module-1-online/>.
- **Swim England** Club Welfare and Chairs sessions are being held throughout the Autumn. More information on this sessions can be found in the links below: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ClubChairSessions>
<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Welfareofficerworkshops>
Swim England are also running a number of Club Secretary and Membership Officer workshops: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/NVK7FXW>
- **North East and Northumberland and Durham coaches forums** are starting again in September. Please keep an eye on the regions social media pages for more information on forum topics, dates and times.
- **Resilience in Coaching – Coach Development Workshop** is taking place on Saturday 16th October 2021 at 10 am, £5 per person: <https://asaner.org.uk/coach-development-workshop-resilience-in-coaching/>. The workshop is suitable for coaches from all aquatics disciplines in the Swim England North East Region who are qualified as a Level 2 coach or working towards becoming a Level 2 coach.
- **FREE Swimming Judge 2 and Judge 2S online courses** are being delivered w/c 18th October 2021: <https://asaner.org.uk/free-online-level-2-judge-and-judge-2s-swimming-official-courses/>
- **Team Manager 2 workshop** which will be delivered via Zoom:
 - 11th October 5.45pm to 8.00pm: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/TM21110>.

6. SwimMark and Stronger Affiliation

- Clubs that **accredited at the panel in September 2021** were: Chester-Le-Street and Consett.
- Clubs **due for accreditation at the panel in December 2021** are: Derwentside, Peterlee, Teesdale Tiger Sharks, Durham University, Sedgefield Swimming Club, Wear Valley, Teesdale Swimming Club, North East Disability Swimming Club.
- Clubs who complete their SwimMark renewals don't need to complete Stronger Affiliation as SwimMark covers the required affiliation elements. Need to complete elements for SA as won't be affiliated.
- Please contact SS if you have any questions. More information can be found on the Swim England website: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/stronger-affiliation-process/>.
- Swim England have recently updated their club affiliation website pages: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/affiliate-your-club/>.

- Reminder that if your club doesn't have SwimMark and just has Stronger Affiliation, this also needs to be renewed annually. We will send out reminders for this.

7. AOB

WVM – Coaches who are lifeguarding? Do SE have any guidance – SS – not that we are aware. PW all coaches at the Louisa Centre are NRASTC covered, need to have two coaches who have this qualification at every session, or one Lifeguard and one coach who has the qualification. PW – Speak to centre manager.

None

8. Date for next meeting

Next meeting will be on **Tuesday 25th January 2022, 7:15pm via Zoom.**

Action Points	Who
Distribute meeting minutes	SS
Schedule next meeting	SS