

Minutes

Minutes from the Northumberland Club Network Meeting
Monday 24th January 2022

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

Attendees:

Sarah Small – Swim England North East (SS)
Ruth Tweedie – Morpeth SC (RT)
Hayley Savage – Ashington (HS)
Alicia Ryan – Tynedale (AR)

Apologies:

Becki McGuire – Morpeth (BM)

1. Welcome

SS thanked everyone for attending this meeting.

2. Minutes from the last meeting and updates on any actions

- Assistant coaching course at Morpeth is in the process of being organised.
- SS contacted the IoS about the Senior Coach certification.
- Update on Northumberland hub provided below.
- Other actions are ongoing.

3. Northumberland and Durham Performance Programme Update

NDSA Performance Programme is pushing ahead with the development of its club arm to allow athletes to compete under the programme should they choose too (as a dual club member). Club is working towards club affiliation with Swim England and an application is now in with the region to approve them becoming established. Please contact ndswimpp@gmail.com if you have any questions about the programme.

AR to contact PP about additional senior athletes onto the programme.

BM is looking to start up the Northumberland hub. Meeting held recently which was attended by Morpeth, Alnwick and Tyndale. Agreed criteria, PP programme swimmers not eligible for hub. Mark Seymour looking into pool time for sessions, hopefully be able to run three sessions before the summer.

SS asked RT to remind BM to consider the admin for sessions as this has previously been supported by regional team ie invite letters, ordering of hats etc. Coaching and safeguarding qualifications, DBS and Swim England membership will need to be checked for all coaches delivering at the sessions. This needs to be considered when planning the sessions. Regional team can help but will need prior notice.

4. Brief Updates from clubs

Morpeth SC: Good membership at the moment, looking to increase the bottom end (7-9 year olds). Looking to run some in house mini galas (under 8's) and possibly inviting other clubs to come along. 6 swimmers on the NDSAPP, 1 swimmer invited to commie games test event in May. Could do with some more time keepers, have a couple of judges. New pool due to open later in the year. Covid numbers are still varied. Looking at hosting an assistant coaches course in April this year. Will open the course to other coaches within Northumberland once finalised and spaces are confirmed.

Tynedale: Everything is ticking along fairly nicely, club is quite full. Demand is there to join the club, benefiting from junior coaches also being teachers for everyone active. Have picked up some swimmers from Consett while their pool is still shut. Plans to host invitational Level 3 gala for 10th April, will contact clubs about this shortly. Club is back to the number of training hours that had previously. Covid case numbers are ok at the moment. Would be interested in a Team Manager 1 course, AR to contact Linda Tjaguns.

Ashington: Have had good attendance, numbers are good, same numbers as pre Covid, no cases of Covid at the moment. Haven't returned to morning training yet. Have full pool when sessions are on. Have had another coach complete their assistant coach qualification. Have also got some new masters swimmers join the club. Attended Alnwick gala recently.

5. Updates from Swim England and Swim England North East

- **Return to pool guidance** has been updated to reflect the recent Government announcement <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/pool-return-guidance-documents/>.
- **Swim England have updated their model constitution:** <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/becoming-a-members-club/>. Clubs will need to use this when updating their constitution from now on.
- Queens **Platinum Jubilee Activity Fund** Sport England have announced a new funding stream to celebrate the Jubilee. The funding aims to use sport and physical activity to bring communities together and tackle inequality. The funding can be used for things such a facility hire and coaching costs, or small capital improvements. For more information please see the website: <https://www.sportengland.org/news/queens-platinum-jubilee-activity-fund-launched>.
- The region have recently recruited and appointed a third Regional Development Manager. Louise Graham joined the team last week and will be supporting Sarah Small and David Parry in the delivery of the regional objectives. She will cover areas of work including Governance, Para-Swimming, Open Water, Funding and Sponsorship, Officials Training and Masters.
- Sarah Small will be off on Maternity leave from mid-March 2022. A replacement for her role is yet to be appointed by the region. They will be covering the running of the network meetings while Sarah is off.

6. Workforce development

- Swim England have recently put out an expression of interest for the **Diving J1** course. Those who may wish to attend can register via the following link: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/BXHVRJ3>.
- There is a fantastic opportunity for Diving Judge 2s to gain skills to become Senior Judges. This would enable them to judge at the British Diving Cup and British Diving Championships. In order to gain the skills the J2s would shadow judge and be evaluated at either of those British Diving events. Dates for this year are: British Diving Cup (11th -

13th Feb) and British Diving Championships (17th-19th June). Those wishing to take part can express their interest via the link below by 24 Jan 2022:

<https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/LN8VZ7R>.

- **Swim England Connecting with Coaches.** The first open developmental session is **Over-intensification of Age Group Programmes: The impact on long term athletic development**
 - **Date:** Thursday 27th January
 - **Time:** 10:00am – 1:00pm (latest)
 - **Open to:** Swimming
 - **Free to attend. Sign up link:** <https://forms.gle/2V8YebqxeZKVHzeRA>
 - **Sign-ups close:** Tuesday 25th January – noon
- **North East and Northumberland and Durham coaches forums** are continuing to run. Please keep an eye on the regions social media pages for more information on forum topics, dates and times.
- **Swim England England Good Club Governance workshops continue to run:**
 - Club Secretary & Membership officer - Monday 7th February, Wednesday 9th March: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Secretary-Membership>.
 - Club Welfare Officer - Wednesday 23rd February, Thursday 24th March: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Welfareofficerworkshops>.
 - Club Chairs - Monday 28th February: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/ClubChairSessions>

7. SwimMark and Club Affiliation

- There are no Northumberland clubs due for renewal at the SwimMark panel this month. Please ensure all SwimMark contacts are correct on OMS as Swim England will send automated reminders about SwimMark / Club Affiliation to the details on the database.
- Stronger Affiliation will now be known as Club Affiliation.

8. AOB

- Discussion around NER qualifying times and why some are easier than N&D. BS has been made aware of the feedback around the times and has been invited to attend the regional coaches forum to discuss. It is hoped that a statement or note explaining how and why the times are set as they are can be written so coaches, club members and parents are able to understand and be able to explain the reasons to the swimmers.

9. Date for next meeting – Monday 7th March 2022, 19:15 p.m. Zoom Meeting

Action Points	Who
Distribute meeting minutes	SS
Schedule next network meeting	SS
Aims and objectives for all clubs to be discussed.	Ongoing
Review documents for Northumberland Coach Fund.	Ongoing