

SWIM ENGLAND NORTH EAST REGION LTD.

President – Howard Leighton

Minutes of the Fourteenth Meeting of the North East Region Board of Directors Held on Tuesday 7th February 2023 at 6.00 p.m.

Present: D. Watson (Chairman), R. Gordon (Finance Manager), D. Alexander, H. Leighton, R. Palmer-Jones, S. Prasad, B. Saunders, A. Thompson, P. Court, G. Peters (observer)

Apologies: H. Leighton, R. Palmer-Jones, L. Graham

Staff In Attendance: C. Leighton, L. Tjaguns

149 Welcome and Apologies

149.1 D. Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Board members introduced themselves to both Paul Court and Grant Peters.

150 Declaration of Interest

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

151 Minutes of the Thirteenth Meeting

151.1 135.1 Governance – Swim England proposal for Region to be tier 3 by the end of the year. To work with counties re governance. Counties to be tier 1. To look at next board meeting and add as agenda item. D. Watson to send online link to L. Tjaguns who will then forward to the Board for information.

151.2 Swim England are looking to invest safeguarding support officers in Active Sports Partnerships to support all sports. Regional Team to discuss safeguarding in future.

152 Matters Arising from the Minutes

None.

153 Report of the Regional Finance Manager

153.1 The Region continues to be in a strong financial position. A Thompson suggested looking at investing into a fixed rate savings account for some of the money held within the Region. Agreed to look at this regularly.

153.2 Recommend to the Board that subject to a review in June 2023 we do not reduce or increase any of our charges across the Disciplines at this time – **Agreed. £10 spectators/£9 entry fee. Review in June.**

153.3 Continue Streaming of all Events – **Agreed**

153.4 Continue to provide Security at all our swimming events – **Agreed**

153.5 Water Polo – Urgent need to fill the Water Polo Manager vacancy. Short term cover in place.

153.6 Diving – New diving short stands purchased for Leeds and Sheffield. D. Watson suggested the Region fund one-third to each club for this expense. H. Dutton, NE Region Diving Manager, to look at external funding.

153.7 D. Watson proposed to offer C. Leighton permanent part-time position once S. Small returns from maternity leave. **Agreed**

- 154 Regional Business Plan**
- 154.1 **Query from Richard Palmer-Jones** re when next Planning Meeting for the development of the Regional Business Plan/Development Priorities will take place. Would like to volunteer himself for such a meeting – has been involved in the development of corporate strategy across my time with Adidas and Under Armour and would love to play an active part in facilitating this for SENER. Agreed to set up a meeting with the Regional Development Team – D. Watson to attend.
- 154.2 **Mentoring Programme** – There are 4 candidates for each mentor. Some of these have been replaced due to drop off.
- 154.3 **Regional Camp** – 36 swimmers in total.
- 154.4 **SwimMark Club Affiliation** – all approved apart from one club.
- 154.5 **Impact Report** – video format. Jay Manners and Louise Graham working on this at present time.
- 155 Regional Agreement**
- 155.1 No further contact from Swim England. To pick up with strategy planning.
- 156 Welfare Officer Report**
- 156.1 C. Halliday – nothing further to report.
- 157 Date/Venue for ACM 2023**
- 157.1 It was suggested to hold the ACM face to face for Board Members, with membership invited via Zoom. Venue to be North Yorkshire Sport Offices in Harrogate at 6 p.m. L. Tjaguns to send doodle poll to Board Members with 3 suggested dates.
- 158 Other Items for Information**
- 158.1 None.
- 159 Any Other Business**
- 159.1 **Website Re-design** – Quote provided by Spot on Designs. Jay Manners to look at re-design initially before using Spot on Designs. A. Thompson suggested to look to link into social media. **Agreed**
- 159.2 **Swim England – NER Members Forum.** Request from Swim England to confirm NER Members Forum (8 members). L. Tjaguns to email those previously on Forum to see if wish to still remain.
- 159.3 **Coach Mentor Development** – proposal to provide a bespoke programme of ongoing support by contracting the services of Kevin Renshaw, Performance Pathway & Distance Lead, Olympic Swimming. There are 4 NE Region mentors plus a Swim England mentor (who has now left). Discussion took place re Swim England not replacing the extra mentor so could potentially cover the cost to contract Kevin Renshaw. **Agreed that operational discussion to be held, then discussed again at Board level.**
- 159.4 **Inter-regional Water Polo.** Email correspondence from Dawn Cousins, NE Water Polo Manager, re fine for failing to supply a referee. R. Gordon recommended not to pay the fine as reasonable notice was given due to illness. Agreed.

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Next Meeting

ACM 2023 – Wednesday 3rd May 2023 at 6 p.m. North Yorkshire Sport Offices, followed by Board Meeting – agreed by doodle poll.

ACTION POINTS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Governance - D. Watson to send online link to L. Tjaguns who will then forward to the Board for information.	DW/LT
Safeguarding - Swim England are looking to invest safeguarding support officers in Active Sports Partnerships to support all sports. Regional Team to discuss safeguarding in future.	Regional Team
Charges across disciplines - Review in June.	Board
Diving – short stands. Helen Dutton to look at external funding.	HD
Regional Business Plan/Development Priorities - Agreed to set up a meeting with the Regional Development Team – D. Watson to attend.	DW
NER Members Forum - L. Tjaguns to email those previously on Forum to see if wish to still remain.	LT
Coach Mentor Development - Agreed that operational discussion to be held, then discussed again at Board level.	Regional Team