

SWIM ENGLAND NORTH EAST REGION LTD.

President – Vacancy

Minutes of the Twenty – Third Meeting of the North East Region Board of Directors Held on Tuesday 10th June 2025

Present: D. Watson (Chairman), B. Saunders, D. Alexander (Zoom Link), G. Peters, R. Palmer-Jones, S. Prasad, A. Thompson, P. Court (Zoom Link) & N. Atherton (Zoom Link)

Apologies: R. Gordon, H. Leighton, D. Parry, J. Manners

Staff In Attendance: L. Graham, C. Leighton, S. Small, L. Tjaguns

1 Welcome and Apologies

- 1.1 D. Watson welcomed everyone to the meeting. He reported that he felt the AGM went well and to publish 3 year forecast as an action point.

2 Declaration of Interest

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

3 Minutes of the Twenty-Second Meeting

- 3.1 Minutes agreed as a true record.

4 Matters Arising from the Minutes

- 4.1 None.

5

Report of the Regional Finance Sub-Group

- 5.1 L. Graham reported that the finance paper had already circulated.
- 5.2 G. Peters referred to page 3 of Finance Report – suggested that this can be used in same format for future AGM.
- 5.3 Two changes have been made – Income and Expenditure – these have been put in financial format. Deficit was £51,000 rather than £58,000. Overview sheet showing investments in line with our delivery. Try to break even with competitions, only Swimming makes a surplus. Festival of Aquatics and Super Camp held last year and to follow up again this year with these events.
- 5.4 It is proposed to look at membership fees, which last year increased by 50p and to discuss what to charge next year per capita. Per Capita fee – DW should we pay different fee depending on type of member – agreed. Option A & B would be a slight increase in income. If our costs increase by 5% all options will be covered. What is baseline income target and what price increase can relate to this. AT – can inform the membership of price increases planned for the next 3 years to make them aware.
DW – option C proposed. Agreed. Looking ahead to lower spectator fees to support the clubs/membership. To make both announcements at the same time.
- 5.5 Events – At the September board meeting in 2024, the board of directors agreed to discuss

further the entry fee structure for 2026. It was suggested to reduce the spectator fee from £10 to £5 per day. L. Graham reported that the Region may have a sponsor for the short course event later in the year. However, may need to increase discipline fees. To look at uplifting entry fees, e.g. water polo by 10%. L. Graham to report at next Board Meeting with options – looking at number of competitions and athletes. We do not offer concession fees – children are free. Possibly to pilot cheaper tickets in November.

6 NER Welfare Officer Report

- 6.1 E. Kelly reported no further concerns have been brought to her attention. There are still two open ongoing cases that have been raised to national/independent investigations.
- 6.2 B. Saunders reported that the NER Swimming Championships involved the attendance of County Sport Welfare Officers.
- 6.3 The Officials Seminar will also involved County Sport Welfare Officers.

7 Regional Team Updates

- 7.1 Update from last Board Meeting. R. Palmer-Jones questioned how engaged are the Coaches within the Region? L. Graham reported that the Coaches Forum had been well attended with another planned in July. Artistic Coach development sessions are being planned. Diving Coaches attended CPD. Engagement with coaches is increasing.
- 7.2 Good feedback from parent education workshops. There will be a pilot running with Richmond ASC. Super Camps will be holding workshops.
- 7.3 Regional Short Course – Jess Hendon now Championship Manager, Nicola Atherton to assist.
- 7.4 Festival of Aquatics running in N&D.

8 Any other Business

- 8.1 **Next Meeting – 16th September 2025 Darlington Dolphin Centre at 6 p.m.**