

Diving Leadership Group

28th May 2024 – 12:15 – 13:30

Attendees:

Lottie Thompson	Chair (LT)
Sam Buck	Coaching Lead (SB)
Sarah Barrow	Technical Officials Lead (SBw)
Alex Harrison	Sport Operations Committee Leadership Group Liaison (AH)
Sally Freeman	Competition Planning Lead (CF)
Sophie Bolton	Competition Planning Support (SBn)
Joel Trenchard	Volunteering Lead (JT)
Richard Blackshaw	Swim England Head of Performance (RB)
Claire Coleman	Swim England Head of Development (CC)
Gareth Picken	Swim England Sport Development Administrator (GP)

Apologies:

Connie Ford	Swim England Diving Programme Lead (CF)
Becky Walker	Swim England Club Growth & Programmes Manager (BW)

Welcome and Action Log

LT welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Apologies were received by BW ahead of the meeting; CC to provide an update on BW's behalf. CF also sent her apologies ahead of the meeting.

All actions were complete or updated on during the meeting.

SOC Update

AH updated the group that the last SOC meeting took place a couple of weeks ago with items discussed including;

- An update from Helen Weeks (Swim England Sport Governance and Welfare Manager) on Club Compliance.
- Craig McCullough (Swim England Head of Coaching) presented on his observations of the first eight weeks in the role.
- A discussion took place into how the sport responds and implements the recommendations from the listening project.

CC raised that a request was made during the SOC meeting to promote the current Swim England Values and Vision Roadshows.

Development

- **General update**
- **Leadership Group review**

Ahead of the meeting, the Development report was circulated to the group. The report included;

- The recent change from British Swimming to Aquatics GB
- The upcoming SwimMark review which will shortly be released to clubs. CC asked the group to raise awareness of the review once it is available for clubs.
- The Learn to Swim toolkit.
- The Event Volunteer project which aims to better understand the pathways in to event volunteering is currently in scoping stage.

LT asked if the Event Volunteer project could be linked with Aquatics GB so that full pathway in place for volunteers to international standards.

CC replied that this is something that could be looked into and developed, however the initial focus would be on Swim England.

CC further highlighted the successes at recent competitions and camps that Swim England divers have been attending.

In addition, a review of all leadership groups is currently being planned. Referring to a paper shared ahead of the meeting, CC explained the purpose of the review and that the review management group will be chaired by Joan Wheeler. Keith Munday will be on the group to represent the SOC.

The key areas of focus for the review are the decision-making process, terms of references, the future input from the leadership group into strategy and policy and how the group is administered and governed. The DLG is the third group to be reviewed.

Learn to Swim pathway

CC shared, on behalf of Becky Walker, a presentation on the Learn to Swim and Club Growth Pathway.

CC asked that a member of the DLG could volunteer to be a part of the consultation group for the project. SBw volunteered.

Event Update

LT updated the group that the National Skills Finals registration opens tomorrow with the entry packs already circulated to clubs.

LT advised the group of the challenges encountered at the recent South East qualifiers event. Following discussion between the event Chief Referee and members of the DLG an agreement was reached regarding the qualifying event scores. LT advised that LT, SF and SB would propose a way forward to increase the standardization and quality of the qualification events ahead of the 2025 competition season.

CC asked that the review into the competition should feed into the Event Volunteer project so that any issues concerning volunteers at events are identified.

SF explained that all tasks were on time for the National Age Group Championships where entries close tomorrow. The events have been restructured so that athletes do not need to attend all four days and therefore do not incur additional costs.

Additionally, there will be a variety of volunteers engaging in the competition with a mix of those new to the discipline and those who have previously attended a number of competitions.

A final catch up between SF and the event leads will take place on the 3rd of June to finalise the competition's events and any outstanding tasks.

Coaching Lead Update

SB update the group that the coach education review is currently on hold as agreed at the last review meeting. However, progress has been made on reviewing the coach and assistant coach and level 3 courses.

Volunteer Lead Update

JT informed the group that he is working on developing the number of recorders.

In addition, JT has been engaging with volunteers from across the discipline ahead of volunteers' week in June.

Lastly, JT is currently formulating a volunteering survey, which will be released to everyone involved in Swim England diving to help identify the

volunteers we have in diving, and understand what can be done to support them further.

Action – CC and JT to work together with Insight team to develop the survey.

Technical Lead Update

LT provide an update that a Judge 2 course took place earlier in the year; all expect one passed. It was a full course with 12 participants. The next course is not scheduled. SB suggested that a course could be run alongside the London Legacy event again, subject to demand.

It was noted that the next Judge 1 course was organised for December 2024 and LT highlighted that she could run a Judge 1 course in September 2024.

Talent Investment

RB introduced himself as the Swim England Head of Performance and presented on the Sport England Talent Investment. The presentation was shared with the group ahead of the meeting.

SBw asked how long it would be before the investment is implemented. RB replied that the plans would be implemented over the coming weeks.

AOB

SBw mentioned that her four-year term has now passed on the DLG.

Action - CC to check with Joan as to what the renewal process is.

Date of Next Meetings

23rd July 2024