



Welcome to the October Club Newsletter

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Important Announcements

The Swim England East Region ACM took place on 12th September. A huge thank you to all those that attended. Some key decisions were made at this meeting, which our members need to be aware of. Full minutes will be available on the website soon.

Message from the Chairman, Joan Wheeler

I hope this email finds you well. It is great to hear that the majority of East Region clubs are back to training, albeit that for some this is not for as many hours as they would wish. We are, of course, concerned about those clubs who have no, or vastly reduced, access to pool time and do urge those clubs who have not already done so, to get in touch with us so we can discuss what can be done to help you.

A lot has been happening in Swim England East Region and I just wanted to take this opportunity of updating you on some of these issues.

Incorporation

At our ACM on 12th September, the members agreed a proposal from the Management Board that the association will become an Incorporated Association with charitable status from 1st January 2021. This will mean some changes to our current governance structure, a slimmed down Board of Directors, well less people anyway, with a new Members Forum with members appointed from nominations by Counties. Initially, as an interim measure, the Board of Directors will be appointed from the current Management Committee, with the current Board members forming a Regional Operations Committee. In the next few months we will be recruiting members for the committees, so there will be opportunities for new members to get involved in managing the region.

If you would like to know more about this change, the ACM papers published on our website include a summary and more detailed reports.

Change of Financial Year

The ACM also agreed a proposal that the region's financial year will change. Our financial year has always been 1st April to 31st March, but following a change by Swim England, we have found that the split of membership income over two financial years, causes problems for budget planning and monitoring. From 2021 our financial year will therefore have a financial year of 1st January to 31st December, which will be compatible with Swim England.

Regional Office

The Management Board has decided to give up the Regional Office currently located at Kentford. Clearly the pandemic has had an impact on our income, and in all likelihood we will continue to face challenging times next year and possibly into 2022. We have found that the use of technology has made the office redundant, and that an office is a luxury we can do without. Our regional staff will therefore be homebased, but will still be as accessible by email and telephone. Over the next few weeks we will update the contact details on our website and include details in future newsletters.

Our storeroom will continue to be located at Kentford, with enlarged storage for our increasing stock and equipment.

Stronger Affiliation

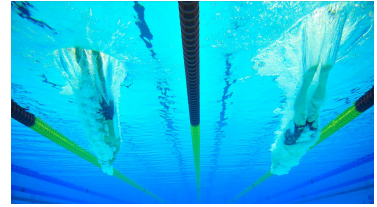
From 1st January 2021, Stronger Affiliation will be the minimum standard required for Swim England membership. Both Swim England and the Region has publicised this initiative and our staff are now making personal contact with the clubs who have yet to load the required evidence on the Swim England Portal, to advise, support and encourage them to make progress as soon as possible. If clubs are unable to re-affiliate it will mean that they and their members will be uninsured and their members will be unable

to train, compete, coach or officiate. We really want to support clubs to get the evidence they need in place well before the deadline, so please respond to our staff when they make contact. Those clubs with SwimMark accreditation have already submitted the required documents and need to take no further action, apart from maintaining their accreditations.

Stronger Affiliation

If your club is not SwimMark accredited, or has not completed Stronger Affiliation by the end of November, your swimmers will not be able to train or compete in 2021.

If your club does not have a login for the portal, please email clubdevelopment@swimming.org and they will provide one for you.



Artistic Swimming

The discipline, traditionally known as 'Synchronised Swimming', has formally had the name changed in the Region to 'Artistic Swimming'. We will be updating our website, and formwork, in the coming weeks.

Data Collection on Return to Training

If your club has not done so yet, please complete the data collection on the status of clubs returning to training. It is essential for Swim England to build a picture on where extra support is needed.

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



Available Workshops

WORKSHOPS

We have a number of online workshops available for booking.

[Stronger Affiliation Workshop](#) (A guide through the process)- 14th October
6.30pm- 7.30pm

[Safeguarding Workshops](#)- There are multiple courses available online. All teachers, coaches, welfare officers, and team managers must attend this course every 3 years.

[Team Manager Workshop](#)- 17th October, 9am

[Team Manager Workshop](#)- 5th November, 7pm

Club Personnel Report

The new [personnel report](#) will ease the workload on club officers and also help clubs meet the requirements of Stronger Affiliation and SwimMark. Clubs are urged to review their personnel through OMS now to ensure all their information is up to date. Club Membership Officers should have an OMS guide. If yours doesn't, please email east@swimming.org.

Regional Awards

Congratulations to the recipients of our Regional Awards 2020! Full citations can be found on our [website](#). These awards are presented to volunteers that make a real difference to our sport in the region.

Jeff Cook Salver- Joan Wheeler (Modernian SC)

Silver Pin Recipients- Amy Bryant (Hatfield SC), Dave Champion (Team Ipswich), Simon Gee (Team Luton SC), and Ben Negus (City of Peterborough SC).



New Parent Resource Available



As a parent of an athlete it can sometimes be daunting, and very hard to know what to expect from the journey. We have worked with Caroline Peaty, to produce a resource for parents to listen to, in order to help them in their child's journey through which ever discipline they chose.

It is available to [view on our Youtube](#) channel.

Water Polo gets green light to return to action

Water polo clubs have been given the green light for a return to training and competitive action after the Government approved Swim England guidance however only in groups of 6 for over 18's, which was the latest announcement by the Government in recent weeks.



Further detailed information can be found on the [Swim England website](#).

Club Chairs' Forum



The next regional Club Chairs' Forum will be taking place on 5th October, 7- 8pm for any Chairperson interested in hearing key updates from the Swim England Return to Training Guidance, and a chance to listen to like-minded Chairs about how other clubs are dealing with the impact of Covid-19.

To sign up, visit [our website](#)

New office contact details

The Swim England East Region new generic phone number is now 07583 694233. Our previous office landline will no longer be in use. Direct mobile numbers can be found on our [website](#).



Regional Staff Contacts

Leanne Brace - East Region Development Manager
leanne.brace@swimming.org

Kevin Pickard - East Region Swimming Talent Officer
kevin.pickard@swimming.org

Jo Stalley - East Region Administrator
jo.stalley@swimming.org