



**Swim England East Region**  
**Minutes of the Artistic Swimming Leadership Group Meeting**  
**13<sup>th</sup> April 2024 @ 10am**

<b>Present</b>	Amy Davis (AD)	East Region Artistic Swimming Manager
	Amy Bryant (AB)	Hatfield
	Karen Brennan (KB)	Aqualina
	Tom Brennan (TB)	Aqualina
	Kerri Clewlow (KC)	Aqualina
	Emily Gower (EG)	Norwich
	Sheila Mackenzie (SM)	Regional Operations Committee (ROC) Representative
	Suzanne Rushe (SR)	Dacorum

Also present Emma Winter, Regional Administrator (EW)

**24/11 Apologies**

- 24/11.1 AD welcomed everyone to the meeting and thanked all who had attended.
- 24/11.2 Apologies received from Laura Neary (LN) Chelmsford but she will try to attend if possible.

**24/12 Declarations of conflict of interest**

- 24/12.1 There were none.

**24/13 Previous minutes**

- 24/13.1 Minutes from the meeting held on the 20<sup>th</sup> January 2024 were circulated prior to the meeting there were a few changes which have been amended and the minutes were agreed.
- 24/13.2 AB asked with the coach cards at Regional level where does the difficulty come into it. AD suggested asking KC.

**24/14 Grading Day Dates/Venues for 2024**

- 24/14.1 AD informed the Group that she has in her plan to hold grading days in May, July, October, November and December.

- 24/14.2 Emma Chapman had previously said about hold a grading day in May at Helmel Hempstead. SR confirmed that the only day that would be free would be a Sunday. KB informed AD that Aqualina train on a Sunday until 1:30pm.
- 24/14.3 AD suggested doing one in July but Combo Cup is held then. KC suggested not doing one in July as all clubs will be concentrating on Combo Cup.
- 24/14.4 EG informed AD that Emma Chapman had put on a chat that she may be able to get Helmel Hempstead on the 11<sup>th</sup>/12<sup>th</sup> May. AD asked the Group to keep the dates in their dairy as a potential date and she will confirm.
- 24/14.5 AD asked the Group if they are happy to miss July. KB suggested holding grading days in September, October and November and she is also concise of that there are many Norfolk swimmers at the grading days so may be worth holding one closer to them for one of them.
- 24/14.6 AG agreed that they do not tend to attend the grading days but they do hold their own but struggle to get judges. She also confirmed that the autumn term would be better for them as they would be happy at looking into using their pool again. AD and EG to liaise and look at dates.
- 24/14.7 AB asked for the May grading day will it be figures and routines. AD asked the Group what they need in terms of the grading day. AB confirmed that she needs routine grade one.
- 24/14.8 AB asked if anyone would have an issue with a 12 and under swimmer swimming at a regional competition so that they can take part in a routine. AD said that they may have to enter as a grade one and enter figures and routine.
- 24/14.9 SM asked is there a restriction on being able to swim up in the competition. AD confirmed that in the Regional conditions it states that if they haven't got a grade to enter them at the level they think they are at, but at a National competition they have to enter at the grade they have qualified for.
- SM asked does age matter. AD confirmed that in the figure section the ages are put into age groups. At Regional level it shouldn't stop the swimmer from entering.
- Action: AD to confirm the date for the May grading day on if it will be the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> May.**

**24/15**

**Competitions 2024**

- 24/15.1 AD updated the Group regarding the May competition, she is unable to get a referee. She has contacted the venue and they are able to do October.
- 24/15.2 AD asked what people would like at the competition. The June competition is ungraded figures and combos.
- 24/15.3 AB suggested maybe holding a figure competition as mast clubs will just be getting teams together and most of her swimmers would like to do more figure competitions.
- 24/15.4 EG has a mix of swimmers who like doing figures and some who don't.



- 24/15.5 KB suggested that doing a figure competition but for the swimmers who are in the top 5 and would like to do a solo or duets have the change to do them at the competition.
- 24/15.6 KC agreed that doing solo and duets as well as figures would be a good idea and maybe do it so that 12 and under and don't put a limit on the grade so that everyone gets the opportunity to compete.
- 24/15.7 AD suggested that maybe the swimmers enter the figure competition at the grade then each club is allowed to enter 2 swimmers each age group to compete in the solo and duets.
- 24/15.8 AD confirmed that she has booked the venue for the 19<sup>th</sup> October so that it is just before half term.
- 24/15.9 AB suggested about getting Stevenage booked for February and March 2025 now so that we have the dates and it is all booked.
- 24/15.10 KC has a team doing an acrobatic at champs and she was wondering if it would be possible for them to do a display before or after the teams just so they can practise in an environment with spectators. AD agreed that it should be fine.
- 24/15.11 SM asked where is the competition going to be held on the 19<sup>th</sup> October, AD confirmed that it will be at Stevenage from 2pm – 8pm. SM also confirmed that Easter 2025 is on the 20<sup>th</sup> April 2025.

## 24/16

### Officials Courses

- 24/16.1 AD updated the Group regarding the Judge Level 1, she is currently unable to get hold of Jenny Gray to arrange a date.
- 24/16.2 AB asked is there anyone in London who could deliver one and suggested working with London to set a course up.
- 24/16.3 AD to contact London to see if it was possible to work with them to set up a Judge Level 1 course.
- 24/16.4 AD also confirmed that there is a scorer's course which she can deliver. AD to get a date booked.

## 24/17

### Regional Games

- 24/17.1 TB gave an update on the Regional Games. As the Region are taking a squad of 15 we need to provide 3 judges preferably grade 2 and above, we need to provide a scorer and we will need at least 2 team mangers as well, and at least 1 if not 2 coaches on the day.

The biggest problem is finding a scorer for the day. TB confirmed that the date of the competition is the 31<sup>st</sup> May. AD confirmed that she will book the day off and will come along as the scorer.

24/17.2 TB also confirmed that they have not received the official terms and conditions for the event. TB has been chasing for it but asked AD if she could also chase for the Terms and Conditions as there is one element that they need to submit prior to the event.

24/17.3 TB has set out the budget so far and will share with AD. AD confirmed that she put in the budget to cover the regional games but didn't take into account the amount of people they will need to send.

24/17.4 AD to also order the swimming hats from the Region, EW confirmed that if she can let her or Jo Stalley know how many they need EW can collect them from the storeroom while she is there doing the kit run for Regionals.

24/17.5 TB asked EG if she would be available to attend, EG confirmed that she has booked the day off and is happy to help but she will be only able to come as a coach.

AD asked what team managers have we got, TB is going to check which parents have their team manager. EG confirmed that one of her swimmers parent has their team manager.

24/17.6 SM asked where the competition is. TB is confirmed that it is in Bristol.

24/17.7 TB confirmed that he will put himself forward as a Judge and that KB also said she will attend.

24/17.8 KB updated that she has looked into T-Shirt and has got 3 quotes. The swimmers will have to purchase these themselves.

24/17.9 AD asked if she can have the list of names who are on the squad. AD also asked if we can keep a record of the cost of everything so next year we have a better understanding and be able to budget better for it.

AD also confirmed that all fuel expenses for the volunteers will be covered. TB confirmed that he has included that into the budget.

24/17.10 SM suggested to TB that if they are struggling for Judges they could always ask another Region to see if we could borrow their Judges. TB will look into seeing if another Region could help with Judges.

## **24/18**

### **Any other business**

24/18.1 AB updated the Group on the Level 1 Assistant Coach Course where there were 4 people from the Region on the course as well as people from outside the Region. The Institute of Swimming (IoS) has asked AB to hold another Level 1 course.

AB asked the Group what is the need for another Level 1 on course later in the year. AD confirmed she defiantly has 1 and EG may have a couple.



AB will confirm dates once grading day dates have been confirmed so that there are no clashes but will try to get one in before Christmas.

24/18.2 AB asked how you include the difficulty onto the coach cards at Regional level.

24/18.3 KC confirmed that she is unsure what was agreed for the Region on coach cards but the reason for the coach card for combo cup is that they can check you are doing the correct number of hybrids.

24/18.4 AD asked would people like the difficulty included into the competitions. KC suggested that it is worth starting now as next year it will be included.

**24/19 Confidential items**

24/19.1 There were none.

**24/20 Next meeting**

24/20.1 The next meetings will be:  
Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> September 2024 at 10am  
Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2024 at 10am

These will be all held via Zoom.