

**Minutes of the Coaches Forum**

Date: Wednesday 23rd March

Time: 11am – 1pm

Venue: Surrey Sports Park

Present: Kristie Jarrett, Richard Garfield (RGF), Sean Bailey, Paul Hogg (Chair), Dan Cross, Rosa Gallop (RGP), Greg Buck, John Davies, Kevin Brooks, Amanda Booth, Tony Smith.

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| **Ref** | **Item** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Apologies**  Ron Philpot, Roger Prior, Lawrence Northover, Nigel Willis, Mike Lambert, Lindsay Dunn |  |
| **2.** | **Matters arising from the last meeting**   * ML adjusted times * GB attended England talent meeting. * Symposium link on website * RTC selection policy – outstanding * K2 room booking added for parent talk * June workshops have been arrange, thank-you to Greg Buck and Josh Williamson for supporting. | **LD to circulate selection criteria.**  **ML to confirm booking** |
| **3.** | **Regional Summer Championships**   * RGF wanted to stress the value and thank the volunteers that run the regional championships. However there is a feeling in the group that both the provision of relay events at U14 and the limit of 2 teams per club are not elements that are supported. * There was a discussion on these two points and coaches wondered which clubs are asking for relays at U14 as none of them were in support? The feeling in the group was that the fastest teams should be accepted based on PB rankings and not restricting the individual club numbers. * Concerns were around, sending the wrong message about regional standards, having U14 competing more and missing training, the regionals not fitting in with the county – regional – national progression stages and the time taken away from individual events. * Coaches on the forum stated that none would enter teams and asked that the U14 relays could be removed. | **JD to feedback to ML.** |
| **4.** | **Geneva Off-shore camp review**   * Reports from TM and Head coach have been issued. * KB’s swimmers enjoyed the experience * GB negative experience with one ill swimmer * Selection worked better – group gelled well * Various positive and negative points were discussed about logistics and the quality of the event. * One suggestion was a job description for the Team Manager. * JD spoke about the Team Manager Forum, technical meetings and protests were discussed. This might need to be done again. * The appointment of coach selection was discussed, it was agreed that Vince should move into the Head Coach position if he would like to and the assistant coach will be the coach with the most swimmers selected and then FINA points if there is a tie. Taking a development coach would be nice but the budget is restricted. * The time of year and meet was discussed. On the whole January/February is the most appropriate time and follows the Regional Championships for selection. The range of meets will be discussed at the next meeting. There were a few issues over disqualifications. * KJ notified the group that the budget for this year is £10,000, Geneva was £2000 over spent, we hope to arrange flights earlier to save money but we may well need to increase the swimmer contributions. * Having an age limit for the swimmers selected was discussed and it was agreed to not put a limit on it. Considerations need to be made for hotel rooms though. * RGF asked if he could nominate a replacement if he was selected as coach and not to attend. The group did not have an issue with this. * All were happy with the selection criteria, winners then the highest FINA points scores from second place. * Coaches all agreed that they welcome the opportunity of an off-shore camp. | **KJ to draft a JD for TM.**  **KJ to invite Vince to be Head Coach.**  **KJ to bring the list of meets to the next meeting.** |
| **5.** | **England Programme Officer Report – Lindsay Dunn**   * To follow. Main point is to raise any issues with KB for the coaches panel. |  |
| **6.** | **Feedback – England Programmes Meeting**   * GB provided a summary of notes from the meeting. * One area discussed in particular was a coach mentoring scheme. The region has lots of informal work taking place but nothing formalised. * The group agreed that it would be nice to discuss this area in more detail going forward. The group also agreed that on being part of the forum they should be available to mentor in their own programmes, it is difficult to come away to mentor. * A suggestion for a starting point was for the coaches on the forum to have their details on the website for other coaches to come and visit. * GB highlighted that they hope to have another team going to an off-shore meet, possibly France – more details in Grant’s presentation. * Coaches discussed the selection of the team for the Italy meet. Coaches were keen for a transparent selection criteria. * The England Programmes team would like the Regional Winter Champs to stay Short course despite the ASA 2017 Winter Champs being LC. * Only 15-20% of the commonwealth team will be selected at the Winter Champs. * The coaches forum would like the regionals to stay short course. * The regions have been asked to put on a pool and lake open water camp each year. The lake session will be considered for 2017, the pool camp will hopefully take place in September/ October 2017. | **KJ to set up a section for mentoring on the website.**  **KB to feedback to coaches panel.**  **JD to feedback to swimming committee that coaches would like a SC winter regionals in 2017.** |
| **8.** | **Beacon Report – Paul Hogg**   * As issued, coaches would like the workshop presentations. | **PH to send KJ the presentations to put on the website and then e-mail the forum the link.** |
| **9.** | **Input for Coaches technical panel and BSCA – Kevin Brooks**   * KB produced a report as distributed. * KB feels that there is a good route now for having the coaches views heard and the panel was a two way communication process. * Main concern is around licensing conditions, this is shared by other coaches. New restrictions are going to make it difficult for clubs to get volunteers/ officials. * Coaches are concerned about the lack of level 1 and 2 meets in June. * Any feedback from coaches to KB please. | **Coaches to give KB any points to raise at the panel.** |
| **11.** | **AOB**   * JD suggested that coaches should make more protests to get used to what questions they should be asking – we will look to cover this at the TM forum again. * Keith Barber joined the group and said that on the current officiating courses they are stressing the need for correct completion of the forms. * GB was concerned about teaching swimmers to protest whenever they get disqualified. * KB – Open water, there are now 3 places per region for the nationals so please encourage entry to the regional champs. 9th July in Chichester. |  |
| **12.** | **Dates of next meetings**  25th May  13th July  14th September  9th November  All at Surrey Sports Park |  |