

**Minutes of the Coaches Forum**

Date: Wednesday 14th November 2018

Time: 11am – 2pm

Venue: Surrey Sports Park

Present: Kristie Jarrett, John Davies, Richard Garfield (RGD), David Vine, Rosa Gallop (RG), Amanda Booth, Ron Philpot, Kim Hill, Mike Lambert, Claudia Clements, Dan Cross

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| **Ref** | **Item** | **Action** |
| **1.** | **Apologies**Lindsay Dunn, Kevin Brooks, Stephen Murphy, Paul Lloyd, Roger Prior, Lee Spindlow |  |
| **2.**  | **Matters arising from the last meeting*** KB sent the information about the potential off shore open water camp, a budget is being put forward for this. Further information TBC if agreed. Still planning to work with other regions on this.
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| **3.** | **British Summer Nationals Medal Ceremonies** * RGD shared the e-mail correspondence with Tim Jones. He has been sympathetic over this and has asked for practical solutions. London has also supported this concern.
* RGD watched the meet on replay and looked at timings. There were a lot of gaps, suggestions have gone back to TJ for discussion at the PIG on the 23rd November. One suggestion was presenting all age groups at the same time, doing the interviews off poolside and sharing during the following warm up. Overall the meet needs to be run by the events team a bit slicker.
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| **4.** | **England Talent Officer Report - LD*** National event Camp selections out last week for 15/16 year olds - camps in Sheffield and Millfield Monday - Thursday after winter nationals.
* Selections for the international competition out in the next few weeks - by late November - we are going to Nice from the 7th - 11th February 2019
* County and regional combined coaching Conference only in March
* Regional meeting to discuss pathway activities on the 29th November - Kristie and Rosa invited - priority is to re-engage with the regions to ensure delivery is consistent across the country.
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| **5.** | **Regional Development Report – KJ**Coach workshops and conferences* Youth s and C and nutrition – 1st December Ashford School
* Age Group S and C and psychology – 16th February Arun Leisure Centre, Bognor Regis
* County/ Regional conference 16th March Leatherhead Golf Club.

Bookings and further information available on the website.2019 Camp dates;* 12 year olds 29th June, 7th September, 30th November
* Open water camp, Sunday 16th June.
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| **6.** | **Regional Off-Shore Camp 2019** * Assistant Coach, the ongoing policy was discussed. The situation where Kyle went as a coach was discussed, in the 2nd year the forum did not think it was appropriate at the time for him to go as Head Coach. Josh was discussed and the group was happy for him to attend as the Assistant Coach but it may not be appropriate for him to go on to be Head Coach next year as he is not working with the senior swimmers.
* Development Coach, JD asked the group to consider the justification for this coach. Not just from a personal development perspective, what will they provide to the region? DC commented that the camp is for the swimmers not the coaches so any additional input would be a more positive athlete experience. The group discussed the need for a warm up/ warm down coach, the setup of the pools in Flanders.
* DC agreed to communicate the key responsibilities in advance for the development coach and they will be asked to produce a short report on their experience.
* Candidates have been discussed and it was agreed to invite Lewis Dunsford. He has been Head Coach on the National Development Programme this year and has participated in the pathway for a number of years now.
* Phase 3 selections, coaches agreed that it is up to the club coach to decide if it is appropriate for their athlete to attend both Flanders and Nice if they are selected.
 | **JA to be invited as Assistant Coach for this year.****DC to send key responsibilities.****KJ will invite LD.**  |
| **7.** | **South East Coaches Conference – PL*** The date being considered is the 3rd Saturday in September (21st) PL has got some quotes from some hotels. Coaches like the idea of being somewhere close to the M25, Cobham or somewhere like K2. RP said bookings at K2 are difficult at the moment with the change of management. The group would ideally like morning workshops and video and or pool sessions in the afternoon, a sample program was produced.; some suggestions are;
* Swimmer progression from Age group – Youth – Senior Swimming.
* Psychological approach to swimming, looking after yourself as a coach.
* Amanda suggested something that she is working on at Oxford, is s and c on poolside – pool transfer.
* It was suggested that we survey the region on topics to be included, KJ can ask for topics then put together a survey monkey.
 | **KJ to ask forum to send topics for a survey.** |
| **8.**  | **Arena League – Documentation – dates of birth*** There was a discussion on the issues of entering the arena league teams and the manual processing. Seems to be a bit of a task for all.
* ML commented that the file needs to be acceptable for rankings and needs the DOB. A solution could only be agreed by Brian Smith, rankings and the Arena League. No conclusion was reached.
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| **9.** | **Regional Summer Championships*** ML produced a handout regarding the summer championships.
* ML proposed separate qualifying times for the 17 year old boys and 18+.
* KH had the times that qualified for the nationals over the last few years – will send to ML as a supporting guide.
* For the 14 and under on the distances can we stagger the 8 spaces, 6, 8, 10 per age group? Coaches supported the idea.
* The auto time will be no faster than the BS or English times from last year.
* RGF offered to deal with parent complaints.
* Relays – It was proposed to reduce the number of teams per club to 1 unless they have times on rankings to qualify. All were happy with that.
* Please feedback to ML once proposal is out within two days.
* The club files for entry worked well – just a couple of exceptions….
 | **Coaches to respond quickly to ML when requested.** |
| **10.** | **Regional Winter Championships*** ML commented that the meet went smoothly other than the issues around the evacuations. ML has contacted the management about their safety procedures. There was a discussion about the suitability of the venue. DC asked as there were not so many parents could SSP be an option?
* They were 8 officials short for the final session so it was decided that it would be run with 6 lanes. There was a lot of discussion on this. Some felt that the decision should have been made later and more pleas out for officials. This is often how open meets are run. If there were junior finals there would be more parents? If there were to be Junior finals it would mean 1.5 extra hours of swimming so less heat swims. Coaches asked if the distance events could be run on the Friday to make time for this. Do we need to put finals at the end of the sessions?
* There has been more discussion that the official list being used is not correct. ML reported that George Adamson and Ian Bond will be liaising to make sure that the message is going out to all. JD suggested that there are plenty of officials but it is drawing them out from club activity to get involved.
* AB asked about the availability of drinks for coaches who struggle to get off poolside. Even if passes need to be more can coaches have a drink? There are issues over non-technical volunteers too.
* RGF asked that can we please have a more flexible approach on the day and coaches were happy to consider finals at the end of the sessions.
* The group discussed the e-mail from Stuart Crowe, regarding the difficultly of qualifying when they may well make the nationals. AB commented that she also sends a team to Cardiff on the same weekend as regionals where it is more appropriate for those athletes, don’t rely on the regionals if they are border line. Kim Hill did the same this year.
 | **Items for discussion at the swimming group.** |
| **11.** | **AOB*** ML raised the issue of the 2020 window. There will need to be agreement between clubs on their level 1 meets. RGF asked KJ to lead an e-mail exchange on this. (Crawley, Guildford, Rushmoor, Wycombe, Portsmouth)
 | **KJ to e-mail relevant club coaches as a starting point.** |
| **13.** | **Dates of next meetings****2019**Tuesday 12th March- SpectrumWednesday 15th May - SpectrumThursday 11th July - SpectrumTuesday 10th September - SpectrumWednesday 13th November - Spectrum |  |