# Regional Open Water Development Days

# Selection Guidance Document ~ 2019

**1.0 Overview and Rationale**

We aim to produce athletes with the ability to join Swim England National Talent Pathway Programmes.

The strategic goal of the programme is to have a system that will support and enhance the development of high quality senior athletes for the future, and seek to identify individuals with the aspirations to achieve Olympic podium success.

This document allows Regions to identify swimmers to attend regional open water programme activities using open water results, rankings and technical and tactical observations. Elements of the document are intended to ensure that all available information and circumstances can be taken into account in identifying swimmers relevant to the above aims.

Decisions based upon discretion will be made subjectively, with reference to what is known about the individual swimmer. This allows the finite resources of the programme to be applied in a flexible and targeted manner.

**2.0 Open Water Swimming Regional Development Days**

2.1 A maximum of 36 swimmers will be selected to attend the Regional Open Water Development Days as follows:

2.2 The top three finishers males and females born in 2006, 2005, 2004, 2003 in the comparative age groups at the National Open Water Championships. In the case of insufficient numbers from National selections further selections should be made from the Regional Open Water Swimming Championships.

2.3 The top three pool ranked (Long Course within the last 12 months) males and females born in 2007 for 1500m and 800m respectively as of 16th April 2019.

2.3 Further selections if required will be made by the Regional Open Water Lead in consultation with the Regional Open Water Head Coach. Such selections may be made on a technical, tactical, physical or performance basis.

**3.0 Coach Selections**

3.1 Selection of coaches to contribute to the delivery of camp activities will be made by the Regional Open Water Lead in consultation with the relevant Swim England National Talent Officer. Coach selections will reflect the availability of regional open water knowledge. In some regional circumstances this may require a head coach to be appointed from outside the delivery region whilst seeking to achieve a balanced knowledgeable staff to ensure quality of delivery and coach development outcomes.

3.2 Coaches interested in contributing to the camps as a member of staff should note their interest to the Regional Open Water Lead of each specific regional event in the first instance.

3.3 To promote inclusion, coaches interested in attending any camp activities on a voluntary basis to assist or observe should note their interest to the Regional Open Water Team Lead.

**4.0 General Conditions**

4.1 All swimmers participating must be a registered swimming member of an ASA affiliated club.

4.2 World Class Programme open water swimmers and England Talent Phase 3 open water swimmers are not eligible for selection.

4.3 Swimmers accepting selection must be available and make a commitment to attend all aspects of the programme. Including providing information when requested, attending the specific activity invited to (as detailed in selection letters) and maintaining a commitment to their own development in the sport.

4.4 Only swimmers selected will be notified by the region.

4.5 Any swimmer who has withdrawn or been excluded from past regional programme activities may be ineligible for selection.

4.6 Should further opportunities arise outside of this guidance document, the region reserve the right to make further selections if required these will be made by the Regional Open Water Lead in consultation with the Regional Open Water Head Coach. Such selections may be made on a technical, tactical, physical or performance basis.

4.7 Each Region shall appoint a Safety Officer.

4.9 There shall be no right of appeal if a swimmer is unsuccessful in attaining a place with the regional programme.