

SWIMMING OFFICIALS REPORT

2023

I am repeating a lot of my comments from my 2022 report but for good reason.

With the On-line theory sessions fully established for Timekeepers and Judge Levels 1 and Judge Level 2 being held virtually it is pleasing to see that there is a steady flow of officials arriving poolside and keen to have their competency signed off. The level of knowledge is good and the retention number of those who commence the poolside experience is also improved.

Any qualified referee at an organised meet, preferably licenced, can sign off the sectional competence of Judge Level 1 and 2 in training who has passed the theory element. The region has agreed that either the County Officials Co-ordinator, myself, or someone appointed by them should sign the final overall competence of the trainee. I would encourage the trainees to make referees aware that they are looking for mentoring, if possible, when signing up for a competition and engaging in discussion either during a break or at the end of the session to get elements of the training signed off. The trainee must initiate this process.

There continues to be a good number of keen trainees' poolside around the county. We were able to provide mentoring for JL1 trainees in Relay take over and Chief Inspector of turns at the County Championships. This then allowed final competence signed off as a JL1. This was possible whilst having all the mandatory positions covered along with the 'nice to have' positions also covered.

We only managed to add one additional starter to the list this year so congratulations to Debs Greenhalgh for this.

Congratulations to Chris Willmott as he is now a qualified referee. Chris was the county's referee candidate I mentioned last year who had sat the referee's exam, but we did not have the results before the report had to be written. We had no candidates this year, but I am hopeful that we may well have two in 2024.

I would just like to thank all the officials who have come forward to offer their support for the Competitions run by the county during the year.

Podge

S. J. Christian