

**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of Swim England Suffolk held via zoom on Sat 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025, commencing at 10.00am**

**SUBJECT TO APPROVAL AT THE NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**ATTENDEES:**

Ian Cotton	IC	Chairman	Caroline Cofield	CCo	President/Trophies
Chris Vinter	CV	Secretary	Nikki Hall	NH	Deben
Sarah Elmer	SE	Championship Sec	Rob Garry	RG	Mildenhall
Peter Elmer	PE	Website	Sarah Tait	ST	Open Water
Vicki Emmerson	VE	Leiston	John North	JN	Records
Alison Vinter	AV	Past President	Wesley May	WM	Team Manager
Tanya Mason	TM	Stowmarket	Debs Greenhalgh	DG	West Suffolk/MB rep
Chris Cawood	CCa	Pres Elect/W. Polo	Louise Boyt	LB	Felixstowe
Chris Bellwood	CB	MB. Rep.	Sam Garnham	SG	Team Ipswich

**1. WELCOME**

IC welcomed everyone to the meeting

**2. APOLOGIES**

Lesley Beevor	LB	Treasurer	Stephen Christian	SC	Officials Coord
Sue Purchase	SP	Past President	Ann Byrne	AB	Disability
Alison Edwards	AE	Team Waveney	Ashley Buck	ABu	Newmarket
Tim Millet	TM	Development Sec	Jeremy Dusynski	JD	Past President

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 1<sup>st</sup> March were agreed subject to the change of Top Boy medal to Top Boy Trophy in item 8.

**4. MATTERS ARISING:**

None

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

CV advised that Swim England had sent out information on the 2025 National Awards. Clubs were encouraged to put forward nominations as they would also be considered for Regional and County awards, where appropriate.

East Region had requested a copy of the Counties current Constitution which has been sent.

Following a request by an official in the East Region all officials have now been advised of the insurance provided by Swim England for members who are over 70 years old. It is believed that this lesser cover has been in place for some time. Consideration to be given to approaching Swim England on behalf of all members who are over 70.

## 6. FINANCIAL UPDATE

IC advised that the County reserves are back to pre-pandemic levels with a circa £38K bank balance.

County funding to Clubs has been slower than usual with only £4.5K of the £11K budget having been allocated. The latest funding rules to be circulated to all.

## 7. SEER COUNTY FORUM

IC attended the recent meeting. East Region will be issuing a new Strategy document by the end of the month. The document will align to the Swim England document which was released earlier in the year. Stuart Murray was appointed Regional Chair at the recent AGM. Four of the six counties in the Region have completed the governance process and it is expected that further details of the next stage will be available later this year. The Swim Mark remains suspended whilst under review and is likely to become a development tool. It was good to hear that Cambridgeshire now have new county officers in place.

## 8. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNTY OFFICERS:

Championships - SE referred to the documents that had been posted and pointed out that the date of the long distance events should be the 10<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> January. The suggested alterations to the conditions have been shown in red. Any comments should be sent direct to SE. The possible use of fines has not been implemented at this time but may need to be considered in the future. SE commented on the difficulties setting QT's and stated that the proposed times are a compromise to ensure that a reasonable number of swimmers are able to qualify in each age group without devaluing the competition. Comments would be appreciated before the 1<sup>st</sup> August so that the final version can be published on 1<sup>st</sup> September. IC to share QT's with Club Coaches. SE confirmed that the qualification period starts on the 1 January.

Records – JN confirmed that there was nothing to report.

League Report – CB referred to his submitted report and confirmed that the final is in two weeks and 8 teams will be competing.

Open Water – ST confirmed that the closing date for the Regional Open Water event is this weekend. Entries are individual and not club this year and the entry seems to be working well. ST will also be helping to set up the event this year and support on the day would be very much appreciated. CCo confirmed that she has a trophy that can be repurposed as a Para award. ST also said that a number of trophies that were won last year have not been returned. Please can these be sent back as soon as possible so they can be engraved before this year's event.

Disability – IC referred to AB's report and confirmed that it is proposed that the event will be held on 11<sup>th</sup> April in 2025. RG expressed his thanks to AB for all the hard work that she puts in to running this event, a sentiment that was endorsed by all.

County Competition Meeting – IC thanks those who attended the recent meeting and expected a follow up meeting in September. Feedback from clubs regarding competition dates is currently being reviewed and it's hoped that championship and development meet dates can be agreed very soon.

National Team Championships – IC advised that Swim England had informed Counties that the £1,000 accommodation subsidy will not be paid to qualifying Counties in 2025 and beyond.

Masters – CV pointed out that Miles Turner from West Suffolk had achieved a 400m IM, GB Masters Record at the Championships, currently taking place at the London Aquatics Centre. Good luck was wished to all Suffolk swimmers competing at the event. The Regional Masters event is planned for 7<sup>th</sup> September with a closing date for entries on 27<sup>th</sup> August. The Regional intercounty masters event is planned for 9<sup>th</sup> November.

#### **9. AOB:**

VE reported that Jessie Knight had achieved top boy in the 11/12 age group at the recent Regional Champs. A fantastic achievement.

PE confirmed that the website hosting fee had been paid.

LB confirmed that no welfare issues had been received following the recent Panorama programme reporting on historical issues within swimming.

The meeting dates for the remainder of 2025 are:

20<sup>th</sup> September – League AGM and Executive Meeting

29<sup>th</sup> November - AGM and Executive Meeting