

**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of Swim England Suffolk held via zoom on Sat 20<sup>th</sup> September 2025, commencing at 11.15am**

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

**ATTENDEES:**

Ian Cotton	IC	Chairman	Caroline Cofield	CCo	President/Trophies
Chris Vinter	CV	Secretary	Ashley Buck	ABu	Newmarket
Sarah Elmer	SE	Championship Sec	Rob Garry	RG	Mildenhall
Peter Elmer	PE	Website	Ross Wilson	RW	Team Ipswich
Vicki Emmerson	VE	Leiston	Katy Whittaker	KW	Team Waveney
Alison Vinter	AV	Past President	Tanya Mason	TM	Stowmarket
Chris Cawood	CCa	Pres Elect/W. Polo	Wesley May	WM	Team Manager
Chris Bellwood	CB	MB. Rep.	Debs Greenhalgh	DG	West Suffolk/MB rep
Lesley Beevor	LB	Treasurer	Louise Boyt	LB	Welfare/Felixstowe

**1. WELCOME**

IC welcomed everyone to the meeting

**2. APOLOGIES**

John North	JN	Records	Helen Karki Chattri	HKH	Hadleigh
Sue Purchase	SP	Past President	Ann Byrne	AB	Disability
Sam Garnham	SG	Team Ipswich	Jeremy Dusynski	JD	Past President
Tim Millet	TM	Development Sec			

**3. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> June 2025 were agreed.

**4. MATTERS ARISING:**

None

**5. CORRESPONDENCE:**

CV reported that nothing relevant has been received that hadn't been previously circulated.

**6. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

Current balance at circa £34K. IC advised that the financial year ends at the end of the month.

CCo reported that she will be shortly placing an order for the next 3 years of County medals. These will be funded next year.

**7. UPDATE ON COUNTY GOVERNANCE**

IC advised that the County are awaiting further guidance which is expected soon. We will be aiming to have the County Constitution updated for approval at the AGM.

## 8. SEER COUNTY FORUM

IC advised that no recent Forum had taken place so nothing to report. At the next Forum the County will chase for confirmation of future Regional competition dates.

### 8. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNTY OFFICERS:

#### Championship Report

SE referred to her report, see below.

#### **Qualifying Times**

*QTs and Para QTs have been circulated and confirmed.*

#### **Dates**

*Long distance events are to be held at UEA on 17th and 18th January. The remainder of the events will be at Crown Pools, Ipswich on 24th, 25th and 31st January, and 1st February with the final events on 8th February.*

#### **Closing Date**

*The closing date for the main championships will be 31st December. The closing date for the long distance events will be 15th December. All entries should be received by noon on the given day. We will be operating on-line entries again this year but this will be individual rather than by club.*

#### **Long Distance Qualifier**

*Two long distance qualifier event will be held on the weekend of 29th & 30th November. In the west, this will be at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre, on Saturday and Sunday afternoons. We are waiting for confirmation of the venue for the east of the county. More details will be circulated shortly.*

Adjustments have been made to some qualifying times and hopefully the process will be easier in future years. If we have too many entries in certain age groups some entries may need to be rejected.

For relays it is proposed that we have 10/11 Mixed Relays, medley and freestyle. The other proposed relays are 12 and under, 14 and under, 16 and under and open. Medley and freestyle in all age groups. *This proposal was agreed unanimously.*

SE has contacted Podge regarding the Long Distance qualifier and it is planned for the event to be licensed at level 3.

**Development Meet** – It is planned that entries will be at the same time as the main championships.

**Disability** – As submitted by AB. IC highlighted that the Swimability Gala will be taking place on 11 April. It is also good news that the Regional Disability Meet, including classifications, will be taking place 20th/21st September at Newmarket.

**League** – As agreed at the League AGM, CB will contact Licensing to look at the implications of licensing all 3 rounds. Clubs have indicated that they would like to see all rounds being licensed. CB will arrange to issue invitations to clubs. It was agreed that Clubs from outside the County would be welcome to apply but we may need to restrict numbers if there is a lot of interest.

**Team Manager** – WM reported that 29 swimmers had accepted selection, hotel and coach all sorted and all support are in place. WM advised to contact LB as the county safeguarding lead and to help with preparation of the risk assessment. CV thanked WM on his efforts.

**Website** – PE reported that there had been a very small increase in the website domain charge.

**Records** – Nothing to report.

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

LB asked for funding forms. IC to sort

SE tabled the recent notification that Ben Proud has had all funding removed and was banned from all traditional competition. There was mixed feelings but a general consensus that his decision would not send a good message to young athletes.

CCo reported that invites were going out to swimmers for the Masters Intercounties gala.

ABu advised that he had recently attended a Club Chairs meeting and he would encourage other Chairs to attend. It's good to know that you are not alone.

CV mentioned the sad dissolution of St Felix SC. The swimmers have moved to other clubs including Team Waveney. IC confirmed that there were no outstanding fees from St Felix or their members.

IC advised that he had taken on the role of Interim Chair of Dive London. It is hoped to be a short term role.

The meeting dates for the remainder of 2025:

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