

**Minutes of the Executive Committee Meeting of the Swim England Suffolk held via Zoom  
on Saturday 25<sup>th</sup> February 2023 at 10.00am**

**ATTENDEES:**

Ian Cotton	IC	Chairman	Lesley Beevor	LB	Treasurer
Chris Vinter	CV	Secretary	Sue Purchase	SP	St Felix
John North	JN	President/Records	Jeremy Duszynski	JD	Past President
Nikki Hall	NH	Deben	Rob Garry	RG	Mildenhall
Alison Vinter	AV	Past President	Tanya Mason	TMa	Stowmarket
Peter Elmer	PE	Pres. Elect/Website	Vicky Emmerson	VE	Leiston
Sarah Elmer	SE	Championship Sec	Stella Day	SD	Team Ipswich
Bobbie Wilson	BW	Welfare Officer	Jessican Adcock	JA	Team Waveney
Paul Bowman	PB	Newmarket	Dan Pilbrow	DP	Coach Liaison
Caroline Coffield	CCo	Trophy Secretary	Dave Whelan	DW	Hon Life Vice President
Ann Byrne	AB	Disability	Chris Bellwood	CB	Man. Board Rep

**1. WELCOME**

IC welcomed everyone to the meeting and advised that before business a minutes silence would be observed in remembrance of Dave Robinson.

**2. MINUTES SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF DAVID ROBINSON**

**3. APOLOGIES**

Nick Thompson	NT	Team Manager	Debs Greenhalgh	DG	West Suffolk
Tim Millet	TM	Dev Meet Sec.	Sarah Tait	ST	Open Water

**4. MINUTES OF THE LAST MEETING**

The minutes of the last Executive meeting and AGM held on 26<sup>th</sup> Nov 2022 were agreed.

**5. MATTERS ARISING:**

None

**6. CORRESPONDENCE:**

CV stated that the annual return to Swim England had been completed and returned.

All other items had been circulated to all or will be discussed within the agenda.

**7. FINANCIAL UPDATE**

As circulated. Circa £37K in both accounts. Three clubs are yet to pay entry fees and pool hire fees are still to be paid.

**8. COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS**As circulated. SE currently looking at QT's for 2024 and is aware that some times need adjustment. It was agreed that the QT's will be made available to coaches for comment prior to publishing via DP and the Coaches Forum.

RG asked if consideration times could be used to help ensure full finals for each age group. SE advised that this was allowable immediately post Covid but is now not acceptable under their guidance.

There was much discussion regarding the allocation of spectator seating. The pool is limited to a maximum of 200 and alternative options will be considered in 2024. SP suggested that Clubs should be allowed to allocate their own clubs allocation and SD would be happy to offer assistance in coming up with a workable solution.

SE asked for feedback from Clubs on preferences for County Hoodies, either basic design or more information including listing of all entrants.

## 9. OUTCOMES FROM SE COUNTY ROADSHOW

IC reported that 6 members of the Management Board attended the session on 11 February. It is SE intention to have a County affiliation process similar to clubs as of 31 December 2023 for consistency across all counties and regions. It is pleasing to see that Suffolk already has most requirements in place.

## 10. SEER COUNTY FORUM

CV reported that the last forum was held on 17 January 2023 and was not very well attended. The purpose of the forum is to for Counties to have a two way mechanism of communication. It was confirmed that the Suffolk representation on the East Region Members Forum will be remain at four. Counties were reminded that athlete bursary scheme is still available and that it will be promoted in the February newsletter.

## 11. MATTERS RAISED BY COUNTY OFFICERS

**League** – As circulated. SE reported that only one club entry had been received and that the closing date is 28 February. The first round does clash with a Regional Champs but available dates were limited and had previously been agreed by clubs. Hopefully more entries will be received before the closing date.

**Records** – As circulated. JN confirmed that Matthew Baker had achieved a senior record in the 100m freestyle and that JN currently reviewing the results from the Counties. JN agreed to look at and trial a system of Masters records on a similar basis to the region. Any record would have to be claimed.

**Trophies** – CCo reported that following agreement by the Management Board medals have now been purchased for 3 years of competition. Following a request a quote has been requested for officials lanyards using the SE County logo. CCo asked whether we should consider trophies for para events at the Counties. It may be possible to recycle an existing trophy. CCO mentioned that some of the medals had a different sports logo. If any competitor is unhappy with their medal can they let her know. CCO reminded clubs that all trophies will need to be returned at the AGM in November.

## **12. COUNTY OFFICERS - VACANCIES:**

IC reported that a number of posts are vacant, and more information can be made available to anyone who is interested. Further thoughts on options will be discussed by the Management Board.

## **13. POSSIBLE COUNTY CONFERENCE:**

IC asked if there was an appetite for running a County conference/ training day again in 2023. A number of courses are now online but there may be possible subjects such as equality and diversity. Any thoughts would be welcome.

## **14. AOB:**

SE stated that she would be going to do the Diversity CPD and will report back on her thoughts on suitability for others.

AB reported that the Swimability Gala will be taking place at Lowestoft on 15 April. CV thanked AB for all her hard work.

RG asked if information could be made available on where to go for Para classification.

JD asked if any thought had been given how the County can honour David Robinson. IC said that a number of options were being considered including renaming the Development Meet or League Competition. Any thoughts gratefully received and options will be discussed and agreed by the Management Board.

VS mentioned that her Club had a safeguarding issue earlier in the year and she was disappointed at the support provided by Swim England. SD said that it would help if a basic DBS check was required for all involved in the sport. IC stated that DBS was not administered by SE so the options are limited.

BW reported the sad passing of Joan Chambers on 20 February. She had been a competitive swimmer in the 50's and 60's and had been a County Champion in a number of events.

DP reported that the last SE Coaches forum had been cancelled and the next meeting is planned for 13 April.

IC reported that a SE Competition Transgender policy effective from 1 September will be published by SE in the next 4/5 weeks.

### **The dates of future meetings as agreed by the Management Board:**

- 10/6/23
- 16/9/23 – League AGM and Executive
- 25/11/23 – AGM and Executive