

# Middlesex County Amateur Swimming Association

## Minutes of the Swimming Committee Meeting held on 19 January 2022

### via Zoom

**Those in attendance:** Leah Pullen (LP), Gillian Neal (GN), Chris Reekie (CR) (County Coach), Pam Crofts (PC), Sofia Marcal-Whittles (SMW), Karin Vazirani (KV), Brian Kapp (BK)

**Apologies for absence:** Jeanette Edmiston

No:	Matter:	Action:
1	<p>Agreed that it would be a good idea to nominate a Vice Chair.</p> <p>GN nominated SMW and KV seconded.</p> <p>Unanimously agreed.</p> <p>As Wayne Hirst was not present, agreed SMW would Chair the meeting. Meeting opened at 7.30pm.</p> <p>Minutes from previous meeting were agreed</p>	
2	<p><b>Wayne Hirst</b></p> <p>It was suggested that GN send WH a note to check up on his welfare and to make sure he is OK. GN sent an e-mail after the meeting but heard nothing. GN later sent a text message and received a response from WH to say that he was waiting to hear from the hospital. Further text received from WH to say that he had received the all clear from the hospital but that his wife was still very nervous about Covid and allowing WH to mix especially with children.</p>	GN
3	<p><b>Matters Arising</b></p> <p><u>Hats</u></p> <p>LP confirmed that these had been ordered: 3 colours – blue, pink and white.</p> <p><u>Trophies</u></p> <p>PC confirmed that the trophies were to be taken around the clubs by the 4 County Coaches after the Championships. CR confirmed that he had not spoken to the other Coaches but he was happy to do it in any event.</p>	
4	<p><b>Hire of Equipment</b></p> <p>LP said that it was proving very expensive to hire equipment from clubs within the County. She will try to see if there is a company (a bit like Richard McGonagle) who will hire timing equipment etc. Hillingdon Swimming Club is charging £2,000 for 2 days' use of ARES and 2 operators; Enfield Swimming Club is charging £200 per day for use of their blocks. LP will look for alternatives for next year.</p> <p>PC said that we should use Southbury Road's blocks for the development meet – no need to pay for the new blocks. CR said that the old blocks would be fine.</p>	

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	<p>KV commented that the clubs should not profit from the County. SMW said that Chelsea &amp; Westminster have recently bought blocks for 2 of the pools which they use and they let others use them without charging.</p> <p>PC said that she understood clubs charging as they are trying to recoup lost income but she felt that the prices being charged were very high. She asked whether Hillingdon SC would re-consider their pricing. CR confirmed he had a meeting scheduled with the Chair of the club in a few days' time. GN asked if he could put a request in to see if the price could be reduced at all. CR said he would ask but he had no control over that side of things.</p> <p>PC confirmed that she had a meeting with Christopher Parker of Hillingdon Pool today and that he was a nice man although he does not have a swimming background. He came from Barnet. PC reported that CP</p> <p>said it was not their decision that the pool could not be used for competitions – it was the Council's. The person who was in charge at the Council has now gone and the new person seems more accommodating.</p> <p>GN raised a query about car parking. PC said that LP will send an e-mail round as we will have to give an idea of numbers in order to get permits for parking.</p> <p>CR asked PC whether CP had said anything about the new blocks that were supposed to have been in situ in December. PC confirmed that nothing had been mentioned about new blocks, just confirmation that there would be blocks.</p> <p>PC was concerned that one of the fire exits might not be usable as there was, at that time, a big hole in the ground. There are plenty of other exits which are viable.</p>	CR
5	<p><b>Development Days</b></p> <p>SMW thanked CR for his detailed e-mail and update from Swim England.</p> <p>LP confirmed that no pools had been booked for development days as yet.</p> <p>CR said that there had been a lot of talk about what should be run this season – Swim England wants everyone to be on the same page by the summer of 2022. He is hopeful that we will be able to sort out pools by the summer and run a Zoom meeting. Ideal is to have 6 swimmers per lane – 36 swimmers. CR commented that ideally need the whole pool for the day to be effective.</p> <p>PC stated that we could consider pools that we do not normally use. We do not need spectator space or much room around the poolside. School pools may be an option.</p> <p>CR said he would be looking to run a Zoom meeting and then a face to face sometime between September to December.</p> <p>LP questioned whether it would be 1 or 2 days from Sept to Dec. CR confirmed that the face to face would be Sept / Dec; Zoom in Jan / March and then a further face to face April / July.</p> <p>CR said that he wants to look at involving long distance swimmers as</p>	

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	<p>he feels they get a raw deal. Swim England is trying to promote distance swimming. It may be that this is aimed at 13-16 yr olds.</p> <p>SMW said she would ask at Kensington Pool – it is 8 lanes with new blocks and classrooms. She thought a Sunday would be a better day to be able to hire the pool.</p>	SMW
6	<p><b>County Championships</b></p> <p>LP was putting a second warm up into the session after the long distance events. Idea is to announce it on the day and not beforehand as Ealing Coach had commented that there would be too many swimmers arriving at the start and then having to sit around for a few hours before their swims.</p> <p>Decided after the meeting to change the programme slightly and put a break in after the long distance swims to allow a proper warm up before the 50s. Did not work too well as 17 officials did not turn up on Sunday. The programme needs to be looked at again.</p>	
7	<p><b>Len Badcock</b></p> <p>LP confirmed that details have gone out. A few clubs have enquired already.</p>	
8	<p><b>Overseas / British Isles Team Trip</b></p> <p>PC said she had asked the Exec if they would approve the Swimming Committee going ahead with a team trip if a suitable one was found. PC confirmed that the Exec had agreed with this approach.</p> <p>CR said that he had looked at Scotland and Ireland as possibilities. He did not think Isle of Man would have anything as those swimmers come onto the main land to compete.</p> <p>PC said that due to Covid, travel arrangements abroad could be cancelled. We still have a voucher with British Airways from 2020.</p> <p>SMW stated that we need to look at logistics. There are no hotels near to the pool in Dublin, for example. If we have options, then we need to ensure that it is feasible to have a large group.</p> <p>CR confirmed he would keep checking and would report back with a proposal as soon as he had one.</p>	
9	<p><b>Autumn Development (County Qualifier)</b></p> <p>LP will go back to Southbury Road. She asked if CR wanted to make the times faster. CR confirmed he wanted to have just one time – no upper and lower. It was stated that we need to make sure the times are set for the age group above as the swimmers will be competing a year older at the Counties.</p> <p>CR and LP will get together in April / May to set 2023 County times.</p>	
10	<p><b>Inter-Counties</b></p> <p>We are hoping that the competition will go ahead this year. We need to provisionally book both the accommodation and transport. LP will let the coach company know once a date has been confirmed. She will</p>	LP

<b>No:</b>	<b>Matter:</b>	<b>Action:</b>
	also contact Loughborough (for a training session) and Premier Inn. SMW will contact Helen Weeks to see if dates have been booked as last time they clashed with Swim England Talent Camps.	<b>SMW</b>
<b>11</b>	<b>County Records</b> Following on from comments in the Exec meeting, it was agreed that a definition of “eligible” was required.	
	<b>There being no other business the Vice-Chair closed the meeting at 8.50pm</b>	
	<b>Date of Next Meeting:</b> <b>Wednesday, 9 March 2022 @ 7.30pm via Zoom</b>	

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Vice Chair