

Soundwell Swimming Club

Committee meeting minutes

Location: Zoom **Date:** 25th May 2023

Present: Jon Wills, Sarah Taylor, Emma Dodd, Sue Long, Claire Kerslake, Alison Dodd, Louise Philips, Matt Chubb, Andrea Brown

Apologies: Emma May

Agenda items:

1. Welcome, Updates & News – Sarah Taylor
2. Treasurer Update – Sarah Taylor
3. Welfare Update – Claire Kerslake
4. Head Coach Update – Jon Wills
5. LTS Update – Emma Dodd
6. Fundraising update – Sarah Taylor
7. Disputes & Complaints
8. AOB

Key Discussion Points from 25.05.2023

Ref	Key Discussions
1.	• Sarah welcomed the meeting and thanked everyone for attending. National News • Sarah attended the regular SE National Chairs' Forum. Main topic was new policy on Team Managers, Coaches and Chaperones, which caused concern particularly for smaller clubs. Guidance from Swim England was that Clubs were responsible for complying when attending competitions and that it was not for the host club to enforce. Policy has been taken down from SE website temporarily, and will be reinstated with updated name (above). • Swim England's 10 year strategy has just been released, with an emphasis on removing the barriers to participation and ensure its sports and activities are 'accessible, inclusive and safe for everyone'. More information was available on the SE website. Regional News • Clubs received an update on changes to SwimMark requirements. The majority were coming in after November 2023, but there were some minor changes which impact us. There is an increase in training requirements for Welfare Officers and Chairs, as well as a change to Safeguarding training requirements which would require training to be done through Swim England only. There is a substantial burden of governance for SwimMark, and we are already preparing for our October submission. • Additional safeguarding and Team Manager courses are being put on in the coming months to meet the demand due to changes in supervision ratios from September. Counties • Grant of £1,000 awarded to the Club from GCASA. There are a number of provisions on its use, but it will provide valuable support to help with training and development. Club • The work the Club has done with Andrea Brown on Mental Health Awareness was going live. Thanks to Claire Kerslake for participating in the video panel discussion. The supporting material was really useful for parents and clubs and Sarah said she would circulate to all parents. • The new Club laptop and printer have been purchased, with a grant from OneYou South Gloucestershire. This will allow us to continue to run our Open Meets and avoid a lengthy trip to borrow the County printer. • Financial Hardship policy has now been circulated to parents and put on the Club website.

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2.	Treasurer Report - Matt took the meeting through the latest financial summary. Squad numbers at the lower end are still lower than preferred. Jon mentioned that the work Ashley was doing with local swim schools was progressing well and this should enable us to make offers of squad places to Learn to Swim swimmers at Active Longwell Green. - Cash flow remains a challenge, particularly at this time of year, and reserves are low, however income is due from our Club Champs which will help.
3.	Welfare Update • A couple of ongoing issues which are being dealt with. • Attending Time to Listen course over the Half Term Break. Will let Club know if there are any follow up actions as a result. • Looking well ahead to ensure DBS renewals are started in plenty of time. Continuing to review Safeguarding training renewals and remind everyone. Two volunteers with outstanding Safeguarding training, who will not be participating poolside until resolved. • JW – Outstanding Action to give pool side safety talk, across ALL squads • Arranging meeting with Manager of Kingswood Leisure Centre to ensure we understand our respective reporting obligations and work closely together to ensure swimmer welfare.
4.	Head Coach Update – Jon • Regional Championships most successful every, including qualification in 3 events at Nationals for the boys 14-16 year old team. Well done to everyone who qualified and competed. • National qualifiers looking to break last year's record. Final list will be published in a week, but at the moment we have 13 qualifiers for a total of 37 events, as well as 3 relay entries. Fantastic achievement for the Club – well done to all of the swimmers who qualified. • Currently coming to the end of Endurance, which will taper to Nationals. Some adjustments made to training to support swimmers taking GCSEs and A Levels, but overall attendance is good. • Regional Age and National Potential swimmers who haven't qualified for British and English Nationals will be targeting Welsh Nationals so that all squads have a Meet to focus on before the Summer Break. Lower squads focussing on Club Champs and Ange Marling Meet in June. • Mini development gala on 8th June will be held at Kingswood, with our LTS swimmers, Active Longwell Green LTS and SwimKidz Swim School all attending. Approx 60 swimmers expected. • Ashley is working hard to develop the LTS Pathway, with strong links to Longwell Green Active. Looking to increase links with other local swim schools. • Junior Arena League Round 1 was hosted by Bristol North. Strong performances all round by our young swimmers. • Squad trials night gave us 2 x LTS swimmers, 2 x Skills Development, 2 x Competition Skills and 2 x Regional Potential offers.
5.	Learn to Swim • Need to prioritise filling teacher gaps from September. Will be looking at that in the next couple of weeks. • Most spaces filled. Will continue to review and move swimmers when teachers feel they can go up.
6.	Complaints • None.
7.	Camp • Final payments due in July. • Additional volunteers undertaking Team Manager and Safeguarding courses and DBS checks – we will be meeting SE requirements for coaches and TMs for Camp

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	• Few spaces left – will be offered to other Clubs. • Fundraising focus to minimise final costs – cake sale at Club Champs and Club BBQ. Look for sponsors, and explore more fundraising activities.
8.	AOB • None

Date and location of next meeting: Thursday 22nd June 2023