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| A blue and white logo  Description automatically generated | **WILTSHIRE SWIMMING**  **(Wilts County ASA Founded 1907)**  **Affiliated to Swim England South West Region**  **President: Rebecca Smith - Executive.** |

**MINUTES OF THE COMPETITION DEVELOPMENT AND PERFORMANCE PLANNING**

**/ SWIMMING SECTIONAL COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday 6 May 2025 – 19:30hrs held by Zoom.**

1. **Welcome and Apologies**
   1. **Attending**: Andrew Ryczanowski, Diane Lee, Gary French, Geoff Pearce, Jane Hart,

Lesley Leffers, Lisa Osman, Rebecca Smith, Rob Hart, Sandra Yeoman,

Tim Sadler.

* 1. **Apologies**: Michele Greenan, Paul Robbins, Richard Smith.

1. **Election of Chairperson (SY)**
   1. It was proposed by SY that AR would serve as Chair for this year, and the motion was seconded by DL, ReS, and KM. Consequently, AR was duly elected to the position.
2. **Minutes of last meetings –** [Link to location onCounty Website](http://www.wiltshireswimming.co.uk/?page_id=503) where these can be found.
   1. Meets held on 15 May 2024, 3 June 2024, and 22 June 2024. These all were mainly concerned with delivering the County Championship is January/February 2025, so it was agreed to acknowledge the minutes and place them on record.
   2. SY propose a BIG thank you to all the people who volunteered to help ensure the Championships were a success. These thanks were noted and recorded.
   3. DL noted the minutes contain some anomalies but felt that these would be picked up as the meeting progressed through the agenda. The Chair noted this and agreed.
   4. SY commented that she saw this meeting as having put to bed last year competition to concentrate on getting the structure for next year with subsequent meetings concentrating on the detailed planning. The Chair agreed but had comments from RiS that needed feeding back to the meeting (the full version of RiS is held on the Website with the minutes of the last meets):
      1. The minutes were light compared to the conversations that were had.
      2. They were not available for the subsequent meetings.
      3. Other items covered will be pick up under the agenda points to follow.
3. **Matters Arising not on the agenda** – Having reviewed the minutes there were no matters arising that will not be covered in the agenda items below.
4. **Development Meet – 18 May 2025** 
   1. SY started by outlining her process for the 2025 Development Gala. She found it difficult to meet the needs from Swim England, County Club Coaches and others. She sent out a draft 1 and following feedback came up with a draft 2 (both Drafts on Website with minutes). This was put to the CDPP Committee and was eventually passed by email vote. SY felt this results was the best given the resources and time we had.
   2. AR asked a question as to what it is Swim England requires of us as a county to deliver for a development gala. LL answered that in 2017 Swim England wanted to encourage younger swimmers to swim multiple distances in all strokes and individual medleys. There has been no other guidance given since then.
   3. SY stated based on the time we have for a single day gala the meet has been designed around 50s, 100s for all strokes and 200 freestyle and 200 medley. It was felt the suggestion of a fast 5 type event was too restrictive and didn’t fulfil the previous requirements and would not provide the opportunities for the swimmers.
   4. AR mentioned that during the Regional Development Day in January, Mike Park from Swim England suggested counties should provide opportunities for new and younger swimmers to compete without specifying their events. The county has not held a development gala in the last four years due to low entries and support. To address this, the county is seeking fresh ideas like the Fast 5 concept to encourage participation. Currently, they are proceeding with the format outlined in draft 2.
   5. Update on numbers for the competition are looking okay, but Officials are still slow in coming forward. Discussions were had around how we could encourage clubs to provide officials and LL stated it was now allowable to stipulate numbers of officials to be supplied in relation to the number of swimmers from a club. It is still a few weeks away and it is hoped that we will get enough volunteers.
   6. DL mentioned the need for everybody to have respect for others’ opinions and for free discussions to be had without reproach. This was endorsed by all.
   7. DL gave an update on the plans for the Development Meet in Salisbury. An Announcer is still needed and due to communication issues request for timing equipment was late going in. This has been agreed but as a result RH will be needed to operate the equipment. We are hoping to run on at least 6 lanes, but this will mean a very tight finish with the pool only available to 7pm. Michele Trevithick is working hard to see if more officials can be found to run on 7 or 8 lanes which will reduce the finishing time to a more acceptable point.
   8. A big discussion was had around timing of these meetings as things are happening very late and more regular meetings would prevent issues that have been experienced with the development meet. AR stated that quarterly meets have been requested going forward and to happen as December/January, March, June and October.
   9. AR pointed out the Development Pack previously issues and sitting on the website differs to the one supplier by SY for the meeting. It contained a few updates which caused some issues. SY said it was one she had been issued and just circulated as it’s not her responsibility to produce these. RH was asked to check which version was supplied and when
5. **Selection Policy for County Representation** 
   1. ReS circulated a copy of the policy produced last year earlier (on website with minutes). This worked well for the new selector last year.
   2. Following discussions, it was agreed additional information is needed from Club Coaches about Swimmers who may be selected on times achieved in the last year, but have now stopped swimming, or are not training at current time. Also, details will need to be share if selected swimmers require additional support or special facilities.
   3. Need to include in this policy how Coaches and Team Managers are selected. This was agreed as a requirement to be added.
   4. Once the document is complete, ReS committed to having it done by the end of the week. The document will be published on the website for all to see and be aware of our selection process.

1. **Calendar**
   1. SY said she had issued an updated Calendar 6 weeks prior to this meeting.
   2. SY Raise the question of the Regional January weekend clashing with the first weekend of the County Championships. A request was put to the region to move their dates, but this was turned down. AR stated that only Board members supplied by the county, County Executive Officers and Welfare Officers would be involved. So, the impact on the Championships would be minimal and the issues can be managed. DL is the one person most involved in both but has made the decision to support the County Championship and have told the Region of this decision.
   3. AR asked where the County Licencing Officer post did sit, is it with the County, Region or Swim England. LL clarified this as a Regional Post, and that they did a very useful job in helping her as Regional Licencing Officer.
   4. ReS asked if League dates could be added to the Calendar as they were having great difficulties getting clubs in their group to agree dates and pools. It was stated that clubs need to work together to find suitable dates, and to try and be flexible.
2. **County Consideration Times 2026** 
   1. RiS has circulated a draft copy of the County Consideration times for 2026. A lengthy discussion was had about trying to get more Swimmers to enter the Championships and whether easing some of the times would encourage more to partake. The main Championships at Bath were full and it would not help with easing times as the slower entrants would be scratched. It was agreed to leave things as they are and for feedback to RiS on the times produced by the end of the week. SY stated these times were the best set of times she had seen in the last 4 years and had told RiS this. Well done, Rich, a big pat on the back.
3. **Report From the SW Region Swimming Committee** 
   1. SY reported the last meeting was a bit of a non-event as everyone was busy trying to organise the Regional Championship. At one point these were in danger of being cancelled as no one was prepared to help manage the weekends. A very big thank you must go to Rich Smith and Rachael Costello (Tigersharks) for stepping in at very short notice. The County what to highlight the big role they took on. They have done the County proud and they deserve a big thank you from all of the County, THANK YOU and well done.
   2. The region has been and still are trying to recruit a Swimming Manager and a Swimming Co-ordinator.
4. **Any Other Business** –
   1. There was no other business
5. **Date of Next Meeting**
   1. Tuesday 3rd June 2025 – 7:15pm at Ridgeway School
   2. Thursday 17th July 2025 – 7:30pm on Zoom
   3. Wednesday 8th October 2025 – 7:30 venue to be decided
   4. Friday 5th December 2025 – 7:30pm venue to be decided
   5. Monday 9th March 2026 – 7:30pm venue to be decided

All dates will be confirmed in the run-up to each.

**Meeting Finished at 21:07**