



# WILTSHIRE SWIMMING

(Wilts County ASA Founded 1907)

Affiliated to Swim England South West Region

**President: Geoff Pearce (Tigersharks ASC)**

## Minutes of Wiltshire Full Executive Meeting

**Tuesday 21 April 2026 – 19:00 held on Zoom**

### 1. Welcome and Apologies

#### a. Welcome

- i. Welcome to all attendees.
- ii. Purpose of the meetings: to provide a platform for clubs to give feedback and request help.
- iii. Explanation of quorum importance due to recent committee meetings lacking sufficient attendance for decision-making.
- iv. Quorum met: 21 attendees out of a potential 35, ensuring the meeting can proceed with decision-making power.

**b. Attendees** – Andrea Christmas (Swindon & Ed Dev Sec.), Andrew Brown (RWB & Emergency Com), Andrew Ryczanowski (Chair), Anthony Clark (Swindon Dolphins), Carolyn Nicholls (Warminster), Craig Holden (Chippenham), Dave Jones (Officials Sec), Diane Lee (League Sec), Duncan Hibbard (BOA), Emma Twiner-Phelan (Melksham), Greg Emmett (Corsham), Geoff Pearce (President), Isobel Spandler (Devizes), Jaan Nellis (Trowbridge), Jo Jones (Marlborough), Karl Mutton (Treasurer), Konrad Adams (Masters Sec), Lesley Leffers (Secretary), Rebecca Smith (Competition Sec), Rob Hart (League Sec), Sam Sandiland (Open Water Sec).

**c. Apologies** - Mark Harrison (Trowbridge), Richard Morehouse (Swindon), Bethan Good (Bradford and Avon- President Elect), Laura Matthews (Open Water Committee), Kate Foxhall (Open Water Committee), Kelly Dunkley (Open Water Committee), Melanie Sweetman (Diving, West Wilts Diving Club), Malmesbury Marlins, John Tribbeck (Salisbury), Paul Honeyman (Wooden Basset), Chris Selby (Swindon Dolphins and Water Polo), Paula Rutherford (Swindon, Para-Athlete Secretary), Sandra Yeoman (Past President), Paul Robbins (Past President)

- d. **Moment of Reflection** - Remembering Dennis Yeoman and his contributions to swimming locally and nationally. A full obituary can be seen on the County Website.

## **2. Minutes of the Last Meeting**

- a. Minutes from the meeting on February 24th were published on the website and circulated to clubs.
- b. No questions or identified inaccuracies.
- c. Actions from the previous meeting will be addressed throughout the agenda.

## **3. Minutes of Sectional Committee Meetings**

### **a. Coaches Meeting (March 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026)**

- i. Covered feedback on county championships, consideration times for the next championships, discussion on entries, spearheading of heats, wall availability, facilities, and development programmes.
- ii. Updates on the Wiltshire League were provided.
- iii. New county records process for long course and short course achievements set up.
- iv. Discussion on county team requirements.
- v. No questions on the minutes, so accepted as read.

### **b. Officials Panel Meeting (April 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026)**

- i. Minutes sent out this morning so will defer approval for later meeting.
- ii. Date error noted: Devizes Wiltshire League gala date is June 21st, not June 20th. Revision required.
- iii. Backstroke relay rule suggestion from officials panel and coaches committee: First Swimmer to start as normal then it will be either a dive from starting blocks or start facing forwards in the water watch incoming swimmer, then rotating to back before first stroke is take. This is for safety and to try to avoid accidents, as there have been clashes

### **c. League Working Party/ Event Team**

- i. League working party and events team minutes circulated for information only.
- ii. These minutes need to go back to sectional committees for discussion and ratification.

### **d. Welfare Officers Meeting**

- i. Meeting was held with the Chair to discussed ongoing issues.
- ii. Also, an in-depth discussion on the process where all issues need to be referred to Swim England Safeguarding.

#### **4. Swim England South West Region Report (Andy R)**

- a. At present the Chair is covering the duties of our Regional Board Member. We are looking for someone to take this on full time, any volunteers?
- b. A brief was given on the impact of Swim England re-organisation on the regional office and its staff roles.
- c. Steve Williams (Regional Manager) to take on a more day-to-day role.
- d. Regional championships are starting this weekend.
- e. Vacancies on the Regional Swimming Committee (Swimming Manager, Events Coordinator) are hampering the delivery of the Championships.
- f. The Region are seeking volunteers to fill these roles and support championships, development programs, and other regional events.
- g. County routes will continue as they are for the present.
- h. AGM postponed from April 19th to May 6th due to incomplete financial information.

#### **5. Finance Report (Karl M)**

- a. Cash on hand: £78,403 (as of today).
- b. Accounts in a simple cash basis format.
- c. Biggest income: entry fees from counties.
- d. Second: Swim England fees.
- e. Biggest outgoing: pool hire. £6,912 in the third quarter is pool hire for Bath Uni.
- f. Year to date profit: £9,000 (expected to change).
- g. Full finance executive meeting next week with more detail.
- h. Wiltshire League fees all received, first round done, finances in net position of £6.85 (event run at a loss overall).
- i. Development Gala: Cash received from Chippenham, Trowbridge, Warminster, and Bradford. Treasurer is chasing remaining clubs.
- j. Counties: one pool hire bill outstanding from Salisbury (chasing required).
- k. Trophies and medals cost included and will be split across different events.
- l. First Payment from Swim England was just over £9000

#### **6. Education and Development (Andrea C)**

- a. There is a committee meeting next week, so will send meeting minutes out following this.
- b. Nothing major to report

#### **7. Open Forum - Feedback on County Championships**

- a. Craig Holden (Chippenham) suggested medal presentations at the event to enhance swimmer recognition. Discussion regarding the scope of the

presentation, whether it should include all age groups or just championship categories followed. This is being referred to the Swimming/CDPP committee for their consideration.

- b. Anthony Clark (Swindon Dolphins) suggested that a commentator and music be used at Championship events to add some hype. Craig from Chippenham supports commentator idea.

## **8. Open Forum - Club Support and Requests**

- a. Isabel Spandler (Devizes): Coach needs help getting access to the development meet information; Rob to follow up.
- b. Discussion around regional bursaries - underutilized by Wiltshire clubs. Only £300 was used out of £1,500 available.
- c. Andrea encouraged county bursaries to be claimed also, lots of money going unclaimed.

## **9. Sectional Committee Reports**

### **a. Swimming and CDPP Committee**

- i. Development Meet
  - 1. Entries still open until 24th April (this weekend)
  - 2. Few entries received so far.
  - 3. Urgent call for clubs to support the event.
- ii. Development Pathway Programme
  - 1. Rebecca reports successful face-to-face session in March with 33 swimmers.
  - 2. Online session with Henry (sports psychology).
  - 3. Second session in June with Chloe.
  - 4. Looking for nutritionist for future session. \*Rebecca advised that new coaches should attend.

### **b. Wiltshire League**

- i. Dates for the second round sorted
- ii. Document with clarifications on backstroke takeovers coming soon.
- iii. Results not input into software yet. Rob to address.

### **c. Water Polo**

- i. Chris Selby not in attendance but passed on details.
- ii. Struggling with numbers, seeking ways to promote.
- iii. Offer to hold fun/introductory water polo sessions at club sessions.

### **d. Diving**

- i. Melaine Sweetman not in attendance but passed on details.

- ii. West Wilts Diving Club struggling due to pending closure of Trowbridge Pool.
  - iii. One diver got onto the National Skills Programme.
  - iv. Exploring alternative facilities.
- e. **Para-Swimmer**
  - i. Paula not in attendance but sent some details.
  - ii. Last development day on July 18th in Plymouth. Two lanes for those 18+
  - iii. Low numbers from the County attended the last session, so would encourage them to do so.
- f. **Open Water** - Sam Sandland (Secretary Open Water Committee).
  - i. Regional combined open water event opened for entries on June 21<sup>st</sup>
  - ii. Looking to encourage Wiltshire swimmers to participate and award Wiltshire awards as part of the Southwest event.
  - iii. Concerns about Southwest region not being responsive.
- g. **Masters** – Konrad Adams (Secretary Masters Committee)
  - i. Successful first round at Salisbury.
  - ii. Meat pack for the next round at Link Centre on May 30th has been sent.
  - iii. Praise to Tigersharks for holding a Masters Open Meet.
  - iv. Dave Hayward compiling missing masters' records.
  - v. Need to determine synergy between age group and master's records.

## 10. Any other Business

- a. **Congratulations** – The Chair Congratulated Devizes Swimming Club for celebrating their 130th year. They are wished well with their celebrations, and a brief history of the club was read out.

## 11. Date of Next Meeting

- a. Management Meeting: May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 7:00pm.
- b. Full Executive Meeting: September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 7:00pm (after Wiltshire League finals).
- c. AGM: November 24<sup>th</sup>, 2026 @ 7:15pm.

## 12. Closing Remarks

- a. Gratitude to attendees for participation.
- b. Encouragement for continued feedback and ideas.

### **13. Action Items**

- a. The date error for the devises gala to be resent (June 21st, not June 20th).
- b. Feedback from county championships to be taken through to the Swimming/CDPP team for a discussion.
- c. Determine synergy between age group and master's records (Master's Committee)
- d. Sam Sandland needs the Open Water Committee to determine synergy for this year's events

**Meeting closed at 8:05pm.**