



British Swimming Water Polo Leadership Group Meeting Thursday 14th May 2020

Zoom Call 1000-1200

Attendees:

Alan Anderson:	Chair of the Scottish Water Polo Committee
Toby King:	Chair of the Swim England Water Polo Leadership Group
Maxine McKinnell:	Chair of Swim Wales Water Polo Working Group
Julian Knight:	Finance and Policy portfolio holder with the Swim Wales Water Polo Working Group
Jack Buckner:	CEO of British Swimming
Sharon MacDonald:	Director of Development at Scottish Swimming
Simon Clarke:	Swim Wales Head of Aquatic Development
David Meli:	Consultant to British Swimming and Swim England
Victoria Waters:	Regional Development Manager for Swim Wales with oversight of Water Polo
George Wood:	Sports Development Director for Swim England
Rachel Bayley:	Head of Performance Operations for Swim England
Fergus Feeney:	CEO Swim Wales, British Swimming Board Member and Chair of the British Water Polo Leadership Group

The meeting was chaired by Fergus Feeney.

Agenda was as follows:

- 1) The Terms of Reference (ToR) for the BSWP Leadership Group which are being developed (AA & FF)
- 2) The newly created England WP Strategy (TK & GW)
- 3) The latest update on the UK Sport funding submission process (DM & JB)
- 4) AOB



1) Terms of Reference (ToR) for the BSWP Leadership Group (AA & FF)

- JB is open to responsible delegation of power and address areas of accountability to group.
- The group will need to respect and adhere to the cultures and behaviours of British Swimming.
- AA provided a draft of ToR for the group and questioned title for group and responsibilities.
- It was acknowledged that BSWP Leadership Group TOR will evolve over time and strategy needs to reflect effective performance focus. Governance of group is essential.
- The TOR will be finessed in a further meeting, but the document was agreed in principle and will need to be signed off by Home Nations CEO's and presented to British Swimming Board for approval.
- **Action:** FF to request TOR to be added to British Swimming Board Agenda for September 2020 (Manchester)

2) The new England WP Strategy (TK & GW)

- The strategy focuses on participation, competition, coaches, officials and the talent pathway.
- New strategy sets the clear ambition to compete and not just to participate at the elite end.
- The majority response has been positive from across the WP community in England.
- As a result there has been interest in some sponsorship.
- **Action:** RB & DM to investigate how the Swim England programme interacts with Great British programme to produce an executional model.
- **Action:** A service level agreement detailing who will lead on certain areas to be created.
- **Action:** Proposal will be supplied to this group and agreed by HC CEO's and BS board.

3) The latest update on the UK Sport funding submission (DM & JB)

- Due to COVID-19 and current climate there is uncertainty about UK Sport funding in general but the application has been acknowledged (Phase 1) and it has been communicated back that there is a lower level, but longer term investment potentially available that could support building the sports infrastructure in Britain.
- Phase 2 will develop ambition and goals through to 2024 and longer term aspirations to 2028/2032 with a focus on coach experience and knowledge, more data collection and analysis and more opportunities to train and compete.
- The group agreed that this could open access to support services such as strength & conditioning, nutrition and psychology.



- This group will support the application to confirm needs of the sport across the full British landscape and ensure it is aligned to the British strategy.
- Any strategic plan developed for WP to support the application will include ambitions to improve standards and measures, coach knowledge and to test in competitions.
- **Action:** JB to keep liaising with UK Sport & decisions are expected in December.

4) AOB

- Minutes of the Last Meeting: The Minutes had been circulated prior to the meeting. The Minutes were accepted as a record of the prior meeting.
- An approved set of minutes will be created from each meeting with key actions and progress.
- Return to Operations/Water, all HC's are focussing efforts on their individual Return to Water and which clearly includes WP clubs, participants and facilities.
- The group agreed that the next meeting would be 1st July 2020 where we would dedicate the session to reviewing the Strategy document.
- **Action:** DM & FF to circulate draft doc.