

Coaches Technical Panel Minutes

Minutes of the CTP held 29 June 2018, 1200hrs – 1400hrs
Edrom Suite, Tollcross International Swimming Centre, Wellshot Road, Glasgow G32 7QR

Present

Phil Reid (PR)	Chair
Ally White (AW)	SS Performance Director
Alan Lynn (AL)	SS National Coach
Ian Wright (IW)	Coach Representative (West District)
Gregor McMillan (GMcM)	Coach Representative (North District)
Kostas Kalitsis (KK)	Coach Representative (East District)
Mat Trodden (MT)	Additional Coach Representative
Petur Petursson (PP)	Guest Coach
Brian Dalgleish (BD)	Guest Coach
Shona McCallum (SMcC)	SS Executive Officer, Performance (minute taker)

Item

Action

- 1. Apologies**
PR welcomed everyone to the meeting with apologies from Brad Hay (BH), Additional Coach Representative; Ann Dickson (AD), Coach Representative (Midland District) along with apologies from invited guest coaches Morag Mitchell, Danielle Brayson and Scott Haxton
- 2. Notes from previous Meeting**
Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record
- 3. Actions from previous meetings**
28 November 2017
Item 8: PR provided an update and hoped to have more information for the next meeting.

All other items complete or ongoing as noted on running actions sheet.
- 4. Commonwealth Games**
AW advised that following feedback from the Commonwealth Games a review paper had been taken to the Board meeting the previous Sunday with a subsequent Executive Summary produced, providing the basis for any other forums in future.
The robustness of the process for obtaining feedback was discussed with all involved having the opportunity for input and with whom the outcomes would be shared. AW advised that a total of nineteen recommendations were made and looked to address with CTP those most pertinent to the group. Discussion took place on team values, approach, environment, performances and medals from the Aquatics Team, with 11 athletes being selected for the British Team at the Europeans. Stats were also reviewed looking at personal bests (season and lifetime) with comparisons made from previous games including number of medals with the results mirroring those of Delhi (2010), having fallen from the results in Glasgow (2014) with various suggestions put forward to account for this.
Discussion took place on the need for a strategy for the future, preparing for the Olympics in 2020 and more specifically the Commonwealth Games in 2022, looking to take forward the recommendations and addressing the Selection Policy with an approach more akin to that used for 2014, considering both the sport specific and general policy including the challenges of having an aquatics policy when comparing swimmers with divers and the need to have clarity on numbers/quotas prior to any Selection Policy being written, whilst the selection process itself was viewed as robust, fair and transparent with the recommendation to maintain the selection group.

Comment was made on the process for para selections with involvement from both CGF and IPC, changes to timeframes and resulting adjustments to the policy, making it overall very difficult. Consideration was also given to athlete/coach ratio, TM selection process including SS secondment, pre-Games preparation, exposure of sport, principles for relay selections and friends and family support.

PR thanked everyone for the discussion and AW for circulating the document.

5. National Squad Programmes 2018/19

Plan
Staffing

AL commented that the Squad selections would be made at the AHPG meeting at the end of the season, following which communication would be issued to both athletes and coaches.

AL updated on the programme of squad activities for the year including DRP, YS and YDS camps, competition opportunities for all squads and a joint training camp with Swim Wales for selected YDS swimmers, focussing on athlete development within the performance plan.

AL advised on the staffing for the squad programmes with a speculative advert for involvement having received lots of applications currently being finalised he would be in a position to advise on the staff lists at the beginning of next week. AL confirmed that Mat Trodden had agreed to work on Project Ailsa – female development through all squads, and with Project Craig now on-board looking at male development through all squads the appointment of a similar coach was in progress.

Discussion took place on the appointment of Team Managers (TMs) and their formal qualifications, with AW commenting that the process was not formalised for National Squad TMs as often it was more about personality, but noted that involvement would start with DRP, stroke camps and work through the squad pathway. AL added that the formal TM qualification was the responsibility of the Education Team and that clubs were encouraged to do this with development opportunities following, both with SS National Squads and BS competitions/camps.

6. Calendar Planning

AL requested any amendments to the circulated calendar be advised to allow him to update accordingly.

AW commented that the plan was to work through to 2022, starting with the major championships and working back however, BS do not have all their competition dates available and whilst this has been raised by AW/AL, BS have advised no decisions beyond 2020. AW acknowledged the difficulty this presented in providing a 4-year rolling calendar but would strive to provide one with as much detail as possible, with Swimming Committee looking to provide a similar calendar for SS National and District events.

Confirmation was given on the venues for SS National Open Championships in 2019 and 2020, being Aberdeen and Glasgow respectively along with two possible dates (14th or 21st April 2019) for the British Championships being held in London as the BS Trials event for the Olympics.

7. Aberdeen Camera Project update

AW confirmed that funding from all partners had been obtained in writing and that the Contemplas contract was signed with the Cinematic system scheduled for installation in September and the camera with force plates several months later. AW advised that discussions were ongoing with the various partners to drive forward the project, identifying and obtaining the expertise to use the system with buy-in from Aberdeen University to have their PhD students involved and development of an Access Agreement (currently in draft format) to ensure that the system is utilised on a regular basis.

PR noted appreciation for the amount of work put in by AW, driving forward the Technical Excellence element of performance plan.

- 8. Coach Development**
Symposium
DRP Orientation
YDS
Stroke Camp

AL provided an update on Coach Development, one of the four centre lanes of the Performance Plan, advising on the various events taking place and the coaching opportunities therein starting with coach experiences taking place over the summer at both European Juniors and Europeans. The first weekend in September will hold both the DRP Orientation Day and Coach Symposium (3rd) where topics will include female athletes and the impact of physical preparation on athletes with speakers Dr Carrie McCrea and Neil Shanks. AL spoke of the Youth Coach Development Programme, aimed at the coaches of swimmers on youth squads, with squad days tied in to the Level 3 course, along with the Stroke Camps held in April/May, adding that senior swimmers were involved throughout all squad activities.

AW commented on the stroke camps with a view to enhance for the coaching perspective by holding sessions led by outside expertise on a range of subjects, various topics were suggested with communication highlighted as a key area to be addressed given how this has changed massively over a short period of time.

AL noted that in addition sessions were held during Short Course, with Neil Shanks scheduled to present on S&C for female athletes this year.

9. British Swimming update

AL advised that the OADF document was as circulated, commenting on the non-prescriptive format with coaches of Age Group swimmers the targeted audience. AL added that the document will be published in a glossy format with the aim to formally launch at an event later in the year, potentially the Home Nations meeting in Manchester on 16th/17th November.

AW updated on the athlete review process, with SS/BS having now aligned the process to provide a seamless integrated approach and further discussions taking place with BPS and Diving to work towards a similar approach.

- 10. AOB:**
none

11. Date of next meeting:

With details for next season to be agreed, PR thanked everyone for their attendance throughout the season and to the guests for their attendance today.