

Coaches Technical Panel Minutes

Minutes of the CTP held 4 March 2020, 1030hrs – 1230hrs
 NGB2, Emirates Stadium, 1000 London Road, Glasgow G40 3HG

Present

Phil Reid (PR)	Chair
Ally White (AW)	SS Performance Director
Alan Lynn (AL)	SS National Coach
Kostas Kalitsis (KK)	Coach Representative (East District)
Ross Douglas (RD)	Additional Coach Representative
Brian Dalgleish (BD)	Guest Coach
Samir Ahmed Fernandez (SAF)	Guest Coach
Lewis Smith (LS)	Guest Coach
Shona McCallum (SMcC)	SS Executive Officer, Performance (minute taker)

Item

Action

1. **Apologies**
 Ian Wright (IW), Coach Representative (West);
 Morag Mitchell (MM), Coach Representative (Midland);
 Brad Hay (BH), Additional Coach Representative;
 Gregor McMillan (GMcM), Coach Representative (North)
2. **Notes from previous Meeting**
 Minutes agreed as a true and accurate record.
3. **Actions from previous meetings**
28 June 2019
 Item 7: AW advised a meeting of the group was taking place the following week following which the document would be progressed.

6 November 2019
 Item 5a & b on Agenda for this meeting

8 January 2020
 Item 5: AL updated that meeting was scheduled for 13 March with invites being issued later this week.
 Item 6: Swim Committee meeting takes place tomorrow (5th March) when feedback will be provided.

 All other items ongoing or complete as noted on Actions document.
4. **National Squad Selection Policy 2020/21**
 AW summarised the various changes made to the policy with the addition of a contents page, providing more structure to the document, and an overall athlete selection process followed by appendices containing discipline specific details, noting that both context and selection principles remained as before.
 AW proceeded to review the document, seeking to obtain feedback from CTP.
 AW highlighted the aspect of eligibility with the potential for this to change in the coming months with CGF rules currently undergoing review.
 AW commented that the main change related to athlete selection with greater clarity and transparency of the process, being provided. AW confirmed that selections for Senior Gold, Silver, Youth and Youth Development squads would be completed through AHPG with details of

the composition of the group contained within the policy. AW added that any conflicts of interest would be noted. Selections for DRP and Senior Bronze will continue to be made by the Performance Director and National Coach. Athletes will be nominated for selection primarily on the basis of having met the criteria set out in the selection policy with a few being nominated on a discretionary basis, details of which are outlined in the policy.

The appendices for each of the disciplines were outlined along with that for the Appeals process which had also been made clearer.

Discussion took place on the document, particularly around the process for discretionary nominations, with a few suggested amendments to be made as noted;

- Numbering to be updated
- Eligibility to contain reference of having to be resident in Scotland to be considered for DRP
- Discretionary Nominations to make clear the purpose of the conversation with athlete's coach
- Selection Process to reflect coaches being advised of athlete selection prior to athlete

AW

AW gave thanks to IW for his work on the selection times and welcomed any further feedback prior to the policy being published.

AW referred to the document on world ranking stats and average ages for events with discussion following on distance events taking into consideration ages within other sports, volume of work, psychology of training with others for same/different events, the need for a gradual long-term approach and coach education to take this approach with age group swimmers as well as retention of swimmers beyond university age.

AW presented details on the proposed pilot for the Midlands District around discretionary selections for DRP, as referenced in the Selection Policy. AW highlighted that the main focus was coach development with guidance being provided on identifying swimmers, confirming that numbers would be limited. CTP thought this was a positive step with slight concern raised on the setting of a minimum standard of performance and discussion on how the process may work with the possibility of coaches, as part of the nomination process, providing footage of swimmers with commentary. Potential to further develop was also discussed with suggestions being made for different incentives within the DRP for consideration in the future.

AW advised on the timeline with nominations being made at beginning of June and selections made at the time of DRP selections with a review of the effectiveness and efficiency of the process taking place throughout the DRP days.

CTP were in favour of the pilot with feedback from AHPG and Swim Committee being sought prior to progressing.

AW/AL

5. Coaching Awards

AL confirmed that the the comments from previous CTP meeting will be taken forward to the Editorial Board.

AW/AL

6. Commonwealth Games

AW provided an update advising that rules on Eligibility were likely to change from 5 years residency and /or parent's birth in Scotland to 3 years residency and/or parent's/grandparent's birth in Scotland. AW added that whilst the Generic Selection Policy was agreed with CGS, quotas were yet to be confirmed. AW commented that the policies would need to be in place by January 2021.

7. Calendar Planning

AL advised the most recent update was on HIVE and following tomorrow's Swimming Committee meeting any further updates would be added.

AL

8. Coach Development

AL reported on the coach development opportunities that had taken place both at the YS competition experience in Geneva and the YDS competition experience in Bangor, as part of the joint initiative with Swim Wales. Both LS and BD commented on the learning opportunities and positive development from working with a different group of coaches from another home nation.

AL updated on several workshops scheduled over the coming months including CTP one item agenda meeting and mental health workshop during Edinburgh International, parents meeting during SNAGs and a series of coaching forums being held within each of the Districts.

AL advised that a separate section for Coach Development would happen during Stroke Camps, being held at ASV, with a focus on the camera system.

AL noted potential opportunities for development at Euro Juniors and looking further ahead to the Home Nations Conference with Framework consultation and new Coach Development forum.

9. **Updates**
S.N.O.G
Performance Centres
British Swimming

SNOG

AL to circulate DR's report.

AL

Performance Centres

AW updated on the progress with the camera system at ASV, highlighting that it was now working with testing currently taking place of which Stroke Camps would be part of. AW added the intention was to continue testing with further calibration and modification required on certain elements whilst noting the positive direction that the project was now moving in.

British Swimming

AL commented on the recent GBR1 with both professional staff and invited guests in attendance, with a smaller group on the first day than second. AL considered there to be good attendance, along with positive contributions being made to the discussion around support and approach being taken to the Olympics, with a few resulting actions.

AW requested thoughts from CTP on the opening of times for BS Trials with general consensus that it was a positive move with complicated times, simplified. AW encouraged coaches to feedback to BS should the opportunity be given.

10. **AOB**

The subject of Coronavirus was raised with questions for SNAGs, particularly around external clubs. AW advised that consideration was being given to all aspects, noting that the situation was ever changing and that at present, business would continue as usual. AW acknowledged that external factors may dictate what happens next. PR added that the sporting world was having to respond to what was evolving on a daily basis.

PR enquired as to the Performance Plan review group, with AW advising that this would form part of the discussion at the wider group meeting taking place at the Edinburgh International, following which further details would be circulated.

AW

PR extended his best wishes for the upcoming British Swimming Trials.

11. **Date of next meeting:** 22 April 2020, 1030hrs – 1230hrs
Room B11, Airthrey Castle, University of Stirling,
Hermitage Road, Stirling FK9 4LA