

## Coaches Technical Panel Minutes

Minutes of the CTP held 22 April 2020, 1030hrs – 1230hrs

Zoom meeting - <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86369511756?pwd=RTdUVVJzazVway9rb1ZxQ1h3cHRqdz09>

Meeting ID: 863 6951 1756

Password: 591848

### Present

Phil Reid (PR)	Chair
Alan Lynn (AL)	SS National Coach
Kostas Kalitsis (KK)	Coach Representative (East District)
Gregor McMillan (GMcM)	Coach Representative (North District)
Ian Wright (IW)	Coach Representative (West District)
Morag Mitchell (MM)	Coach Representative (Midland District)
Brad Hay (BH)	Additional Coach Representative
Ross Douglas (RD)	Additional Coach Representative
Brian Dalglish (BD)	Guest Coach
Samir Ahmed Fernandez (SAF)	Guest Coach
Lewis Smith (LS)	Guest Coach
Robyn Methven (RM)	Guest Coach
Lorna Whike (LW)	Guest Coach
David Haig (DH)	Guest Coach
Michal Adamek (MA)	Guest Coach
Bruce Halloran (BHn)	Guest Coach
Shona McCallum (SMcC)	SS Executive Officer, Performance (minute taker)

### Item

### Action

#### 1. Apologies

None. PR welcomed everyone to the first CTP virtual meeting.

#### 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 document was complete and would be circulated on HIVE.

##### 6 November 2019

Item 4: Item currently on hold – would be chased at later date.

##### 8 January 2020

Item 6: AL updated that Swim Committee considered CTP request, however they agreed that both events should be included and had requested CTP to provide ideas on how they should sit within the SC program.

Item 10: Currently ongoing no feedback received to date. Agreed to leave opportunity open until next meeting.

##### 4 March 2020

Item 5: AW advised drafts have been compiled to be taken to Editorial Board. AW highlighted that SS Board likely to confirm no awards night this season.

Item 9a: AL commented that he would need to check and if not already done would circulate the report.

Item9b: AW updated on the meeting held in Edinburgh with initial thoughts captured and a paper being submitted to SS Board tonight looking to postpone any progress of the Corporate plan until lockdown measures are over given the longer term implications that will arise as a result.

PR updated on the position of sportscotland, reviewing governing body timelines with regard to funding and financial implications, adding that UK sport were looking to continue with Paris guidelines as previously indicated with potential to develop a strategy around this, advising that he would update as details emerge.

All other items ongoing or complete as noted on Actions document.

#### 4. **National Squad Selection Policy 2020/21**

AW presented on several options being considered to revise the selection policy given that currently no competitions were taking place nor would be prior to the end of the season. In addition feedback had been received suggesting removing the selection process from the Sept-Dec part of the season with activities done on an invite basis rather than having Squads. AW commented that he would be interested to hear any additional or alternative views.

Discussion took place on the Squad structure and the importance to swimmers of being selected for a squad having worked to attain this, whilst on a practical level invites could still be sent for specific activities on certain days rather than the traditional squad camps/competitions. The option to delay selections was also discussed with the possibility of using a competition to set selection criteria. Questions were raised around the numbers making the current selection policy with AW advising work was taking place to ascertain these numbers which would then be used as a starting point to guide the best way forward. Difficulties relating to the future and knowing when the start of the season would be were raised along with identifying timeframes for responding to different situations Nationally and at both District and Club levels with consideration for adding timeline to the principles given.

SMcC/  
AW

#### 5. **National Programme 2020/21**

Following on from above, an outline of what the squad programme for next season could look like was presented with acknowledgement that this would be determined by government guidance on social distancing, travel etc., and the need to establish realistic minimum lead-in times.

Discussion took place on the alternative squad activities given the current environment, commenting on the opportunities for change in the future, noting the uncertainty and restrictions at present, suggesting options for some activities to be delivered regionally.

#### 6. **Commonwealth Games**

AW updated on the events being included for both swimming and diving noting the addition, for swimming, of mixed relays both medley and freestyle. AW commented that the programme of events was yet to be agreed but was likely to follow the format of 2014 and 2018.

AW advised on the proposed para-swimming events highlighting that they would not be multi-classification events. AW confirmed that numbers for para-swimming were considered separate to that of aquatics.

With no questions relating to the proposed programme AW continued, providing details on selection principles, looking at objectives for the policy and aquatics team along with areas for consideration.

Discussion followed on where to set the qualifying standard with various views held on how difficult to make the qualifying time ranging from setting the standard high to challenge swimmers to perform better through to making it more attainable, encouraging a greater number to strive to achieve the times promoting a greater depth and strength within the sport.

AW advised on a further meeting scheduled with CGS to ascertain numbers for which he would aim to negotiate the maximum possible and have broken down by disciplines to avoid having to compare swimmers with divers.

With the postponement of the Olympic Games until 2021, consideration was given to other major championships in the busy 2022 calendar, acknowledging the differing needs and priorities of athletes with a view to build in a good level of flexibility to the Selection Policy to avoid restrictions. PR highlighted the importance of CG in 2022 to both UK Sport and BS.

AW confirmed he would update the document and circulate to CTP in advance of the June meeting where feedback would be sought. In addition, AW to circulate depth stats providing a brief review of current rankings.

AW  
SMcC  
AW

## 7. Calendar Planning

- **District Competition review/planning**

AW advised that some thought had been given on both return to competition following lockdown and on the longer-term aspect of how the calendar could be organised. AW provided initial thoughts on return to competition with several areas for consideration including, social distancing, process for returning to water, facilities, clubs and events, requesting feedback from CTP. Discussion took place on each of the areas for consideration with potential scenarios and their implications taking into account ongoing work, financial constraints, different types of facilities and their approaches to re-opening, capacity levels, effect on clubs and members, competition framework, engagement and acceptance that this would be an ongoing process with no return to normality for the foreseeable future. In addition, it was noted that Coaches were an integral part in driving the process forward along with help and guidance being provided by the coaching community and should be included within the areas for consideration. It was agreed AW would circulate the presentation slides and for any further feedback questions to be directed to AW/AL.

AW

Acknowledging that Competitions, in their current format, may be some time in the future AW looked to set out some principles for returning to Competition, sharing initial thoughts for feedback. AW commented on the need to establish a timeline for decision making, consideration of a consistent approach across all Districts with a degree of flexibility given geographical differences, the requirement to address the needs of athletes, clubs and the sport in the current environment along with the type of approach to be taken for the future.

Following a brief discussion on the co-ordinated approach across all Districts, the following of Government guidelines and the opportunity to review existing competition structure, CTP were supportive of the principles and approach being outlined. AW added that the information would be presented to a wider coach audience the following day for further input and welcomed any other contributions.

## 8. Coach Development

- **HIVE content**
- **Development opportunities**

AL reported on the current Coach Support with a variety of webinars taking place producing a detailed sheet of the ongoing work, calling out for any ideas and volunteers to be involved to ensure everyone in the sport is catered for. AL confirmed that the sessions already taken place have been popular with good attendance at all, adding that the content of each session is being uploaded to HIVE afterwards with a view to encouraging awareness within the coaching community. AL noted that these opportunities were only available to SS members with PR providing congratulations to all those involved in keeping people engaged and motivated. AL advised that an updated calendar would be available on HIVE, highlighting there were very few confirmed events with the landscape constantly changing, updates would be notified on an ongoing basis.

All

AL

## 9. Updates

### **S.N.O.G**

### **Performance Centres**

### **British Swimming**

#### SNOG

AL advised that the recent meeting had been focussed on the provision of support to athletes during the lockdown period with ongoing work to establish principles and guidelines for returning to the pool and training with input from all SIS practitioners.

#### Performance Centres

AW commented on returning to pool and training with the likelihood that it would initially be at this level of programme, with clubs following at a later date, confirming that SS were liaising with BS and following guidelines set by the government.

#### British Swimming

AW requested feedback on the recently sent e-mail regarding the format of the 2021 British Championships and period for the qualifying window.

Discussion took place with agreement that the format should remain as per 2020 format with the selection window going back to the summer of 2019, as a minimum. Points were raised around junior meets and on the possibility to consider swapping the morning/evening heats to reflect that

of the Tokyo programme. AW noted e-mail feedback from SAF and requested others do likewise should they have any further feedback.

**All**

**10. AOB**  
none

**11. Date of next meeting:** 3 June 2020 1030hrs – 1230hrs  
Venue: TBC but most likely Virtual in nature