

Swim England
West Midlands

Swim England West Midlands

Annual Report & Accounts 1 April 2019 - 31 December 2019

President of Swim England West Midlands

Last September I was honoured to be handed the role of West Midlands President, taking over from Shropshire's very own Stuart Highfield.

Since then I've been busy at a number of events starting with the Inter-County gala in Sheffield, where Shropshire were competing in Division 1 for the 1st time in our history, it was short lived but now it's Worcester's turn to move back up to Division 1. This was followed by Swim England National AGM with a gala dinner where a few swimming heroes were inducted in to the Hall of Fame, namely Sharon Davies, Duncan Goodhew and Steve Parry. I spent the following morning 'trying' to swim alongside Sharon Davies.

I presented medals to Olympians at the Midland Winter Short Course Championships then the following week I presented medals to potential future Olympians at my own Newport Club Champs Presentation Night.

Before Christmas, I watched some exciting Water Polo matches which included a very close fought match where the West Midlands team came 2nd in the Boys under 14 championship.

The New Year started early with the Midland Open Para-swimming gala on the 4th Jan, where multitasking was the name of the day.

We have now just about finished 'silly' season where all Counties throughout England are holding their County Championships in a very small nine week window. This comes with its own problems as to accessing appropriate pool time and getting enough officials and gala crew to run

the events within the licencing guidelines.

So I would like to say a big THANK YOU to everyone who has made these events happen. It takes an army of volunteers each and every session and we couldn't do it without any of you. I would also like to express my gratitude to those people who are helping even though they no longer have any children or even grandchildren swimming but they do it for the love of the sport and the camaraderie of colleagues.

Thank you for the invitations to attend all County Championships which included a trip to Worcester to witness the many officials on duty, chatting and presenting trophies with Viv. A last visit to the Old Coventry pool where it was nice to meet the Mayors of Birmingham & Leamington Spa and chat with Elaine and then last weekends' visit to Stafford with Heather and some lovely cakes.

I look forward to getting an opportunity to visit some Synchro & Diving when possible in the near future.

Mandy Garrott
President, Swim England West Midlands



Message from the Chair

For the eighth year I am delighted to write a positive annual report as we have further progressed the region this year in many ways. Can I firstly thank my hard working board who are tireless in their commitment to the sport. They are a very pragmatic group who always put the best interests of the region first. I would particularly like to thank Peter Holmes who has served the board for many years as he is stepping down as Staffordshire representative. It was wonderful to see Peter recognised at the National Volunteer awards along with a number of our hard working volunteers.

When I started as chair one of the key issues was facilities so it's exciting to see the new pool at Coventry nearly finished and the plans progressing well for the new pool in Sandwell, meaning we will have three 50 metre facilities very soon. This along with new 25 metre pools, we are starting to see an improvement in our facility stock. Although a long way still to go in fully meeting your needs as clubs and the competitions we want to run in the region.

With the Commonwealth Games comes an opportunity to develop our weakest discipline being Diving. The board along with Swim England have invested in a Diving Development Officer, former Olympian Sarah Barrow. Sarah started in June and has made considerable progress in developing new coaches and teachers as well as working with operators to deliver learn to dive. We see this programme developing as a build up to the games. We have continued to support the other disciplines through Coach and Teacher Bursaries and we continue to see a success in these areas and we will continue to fund these programmes.

We have reviewed our governance as a board and we will be putting proposals forward for the West Midlands Region board to become an incorporated body. This we feel will limit our liability and also formalise a way of working. I would strongly recommend that Clubs and Counties review their legal status as we have seen some clubs come into difficulty this year.

Thank you to our two development officers, Helen Weeks and Amanda Swan. They have worked extremely hard at supporting you, the clubs in your development and in particular supporting clubs to achieve SwimMark and a lot more. They have worked closely with the Club development

group who have been excellent in investing in Clubs across the region and I would encourage clubs to use the club development grant programme as we can see where it makes a difference to the investment in club development and in particular the training of coaches. The region are very committed to investing in clubs and a considerable amount of our budget is invested in this way as well as supporting development of Artistic swimming (Synchronised Swimming), Water Polo, Open water and Masters swimming.

You will have seen the national coach licence and registration scheme and I would encourage clubs to keep their coaches up to date on this system to make sure we are taking action to ensure we are a safe and well-regulated sport.

We have with Swim England also recognised the importance of supporting volunteers, and in particular the need for volunteer coordinators within Clubs. We have delivered a number of county-based workshop sessions and further activity will be our focus next year. As I said earlier, I attended the national volunteer awards and was delighted to see some West Midland winners which shows the strength of our volunteers' in the region.

I would like to thank you as volunteers in the region as the life blood of the sport in the region. Although we are the smallest region we really punch above our weight which is down to you, our clubs and counties.

Finally, can I thank Hayley Colville for her great work in keeping the regional office running efficiently and supporting you in delivering Swimming and the other disciplines across the region and beyond.

I hope you enjoy reading the rest of this annual report and see the broad range of activities being delivered across the region.

Simon Kirkland
Chair, Swim England – West Midlands



Athlete Development

Athlete Roll of Honour Swimming

European Junior Championships Kazan Russia July 2019

Adam Metcalf – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Joel Thompson – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Charlie Hutchison – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Lauren Wetherell – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Pia Murray – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Samuel Osborne – City of Birmingham SC
Jacob Davies – City of Birmingham SC
Matthew Richards – The Royal Wolverhampton School SC

World Junior Championships Budapest August 2019

Pia Murray – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Charlotte Rigg – City of Birmingham SC

LEN European Championships Glasgow December 2019

Freya Anderson – Ellesmere College Titans SC

European Championships South Korea July 2019

Freya Anderson – Ellesmere College Titans SC

Ontario Junior International Meet – Canada December 2019

Matt Richards – Royal Wolverhampton School SC

Synchro

Swim England Training Squad

Robyn Swatman - Walsall SSC
Olivia Baker – Walsall SSC

Swim England Talent Programme

Robyn Swatman – Walsall SSC
Olivia Baker – Walsall SSC

Para-swimming

World Para-Swimming Championships Dublin London September 2019

Megan Richter – Orion SC
Rebecca Redfern – Worcester SC



Freya Anderson winning gold at the European Short Course Championships



Matt Richards Gold 100m Freestyle European Junior Championships



Rebecca Redfern winning Gold at the World Para-Swimming



Eilidh Cowe representing West Midlands at the ESSA National Diving Championships

Open Water

Swim England Junior International Squad – May 2019 Mallorca

Eleanor Bainbridge – Worcester SC
Amelia Rodd – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Oliver Duckworth – Royal Wolverhampton School SC

LEN European Junior Championships August 2019 Czech Republic

Hector Pardoe – Ellesmere College Titans SC
Amelia Rodd- Ellesmere College Titans SC

GB FINA Marathon World Series

Gordon Mason – Ellesmere College Titans SC

Water Polo

England EU Nations Senior Mens Squad June 2019

Jordan Elliot – City of Coventry & Solihull WPC
Mathias Madden – Solihull WPC

England EU Nations Senior Womens Squad May 2019

Vicki Hawkins – City of Coventry & Warley Wasps WPC
Charlotte Noble- City of Coventry WPC
Rhianne Oscrift – City of Coventry WPC

Diving

ESSA National Diving Championships

Eilidh Cowe became the first ever diver to represent the West Midlands region at the ESSA National Diving Championships.

Eilidh has spent seven years at Corby Steel Diving Club but, as she attends school in Rugby, she represented West Midlands at the annual schools competition.

British Swimming Performance Squads 2019/20

Podium

Freya Anderson – Ellesmere College

Podium Potential

Charlie Hutchison – Ellesmere College
Matt Richards – Royal Wolverhampton School

Swim England Performance Squad 2019/2020

Lauren Cox – City of Coventry

Regional Development Camps

Thirty four swimmers of the region's top aged 12 year old swimmers were selected to attend the Regional Development Camps at West Bromwich Leisure Centre.

Each camp included pool sessions, land work, swimmer workshops and parent lectures.

The selected swimmers were:

Amelia Wise, Anna Farr, Carys Higgins, Sam Kelly, William Viney (City of Birmingham SC), Annabel Crees, Teia Hendley (Leamington Spa SC), Betham Cooke (Chase SC), Brooke Fisher (Solihull SC), Caitlin O'Neil, Kenza Ajimi, Lucy Hargreaves, Molly Underwood, Jay Waite, Louka Bramwell (City of Coventry SC), Connie Palmer (Boldmere SC), Lillie Grover (Wyre Forest SC), Lily-Ann Dean, Harry Negrine (Bilston SC), Lola Wheeler, Adam Heller, Oliver Greaves (Wrekin College SC), Millie Wells, Guy Stovin, James Raw (Ellesmere College Titans SC), Blake Webb (Broadway SC), Ethan Walker (Cheadle & District SC), Harry Chandler (Worcester SC), Jake Fretwell (Northgate SC), Krystof Wood (Bromsgrove SC), Oliver Salimbeni, Zachariah Dale (Newcastle Staffs SC), Thomas Hudson (Nuneaton & Bedworth SC), William Milliechamp (Blythe Barracudas).

The camp staff were:

Head Coach – Mikey Hire (City of Hereford SC), Skills Coaches – Ian Gates (Burton SC), Simon Ward (Burton SC), Paul Wilson (City of Coventry SC), Patrick Blake (City of Hereford SC), Kim Mortimer (Stratford Sharks SC) and Joey Stanger (Boldmere SC) with Hayley Colville (Swim England West Midlands) as Lead Team Manager and Nikki Piggott (Oswestry Otters SC) and Julie Westwood (The Royal Wolverhampton School SC) as Assistant Team Managers.

West Midland Championships

The West Midland Championships took place at Coventry Sports Centre on 4th, 5th 6th, 11th & 12th May 2019.

A total of 759 competitors and 3084 swims from 55 clubs.

Thirty Seven regional records broken

Matthew Richards (Royal Wolverhampton School SC)
– 11 Senior records

Freya Anderson (Ellesmere College Titans SC)
– 13 Senior records

Charlie Hutchison (Ellesmere College Titans SC)
– 5 Senior records

George Smith (Ellesmere College Titans SC)
– 2 Junior records

Adam Metcalf (Ellesmere College Titans SC)
– 2 Senior record

Lauren Cox (City of Coventry SC)
– 2 Senior records

Lauren Wetherell (Ellesmere SC)
– 2 Senior records

David Corbett
Regional Records Officer

"I just wanted to say a huge thank you to all of the staff who worked on the delivery of the Regional Development Camp. My daughter had a really positive experience; the sessions were engaging, and it was also a great opportunity for her to get to know swimmers that she regularly competes against."

Parent



Swimmers at the West Midlands Regional Development Camp

County Pathway Programme

Shropshire ASA held another very successful Development Camp, this was the third year of following the Swim England Programme. Their Camps were held on 31st March, 21st July & 20th October 2019 for 36 swimmers.

It was also their Head Coaches final year in delivering this Programme. That had two returning Skills Coaches and four new coaches involved from different clubs and a new Assistant Team Manager who will be stepping up to Lead Team Manager for the Camps in 2020.

All swimmers and parents very much enjoyed the days and we had excellent feedback.

In 2019 Worcester County camps were spread across the county, using pools in Malvern and West Bromwich. 40 swimmers representing 12 clubs were invited to take part in two packed days of swimming, led by Head Coach, Alastair Wright. Athletes looked at the technique involved in all strokes and then put this into practise in the pool. Swimmers were also shown exercises and drills to help improve aquatic alignment and posture, both in the pool as well as out of it. The county received plenty of positive feedback from swimmers and parents.



Swimmers at the Shropshire County Pathway Camp

Licensed open meets

The level of licenses issued reflect last year with some club's changing between level three and level four licenses. Several more clubs have taken up the opportunity to license their club championships giving opportunities for their swimmers to have their personal best times credited onto the National Rankings data-base.

You will see there is a good balance of licensed meets, at all qualifying levels, across the region providing ample opportunity for our swimmers to obtain qualifying times to meet their ability requirements.

Region/county	L1 licence	L2 licence	L3 licence	L4 licence
West Midlands	2	1		
Clubs		1	39	132
Shropshire			1	
Staffordshire		5		
Warwickshire	1			
Worcester County		3	2	
Leagues				6
WM County	1	8	3	
Total	4	18	45	138

Tony Green
Licensing Officer

Coach Development

SE Pathway Coach Development Programme

Jon Fletcher – Worcester SC
 Mikey Hire – City of Hereford SC
 Paul Wilson - City of Coventry SC
 Danny Proffitt - Ellesmere College Titans SC

Coach 2024 Programme

Carl Grosvenor - City of Birmingham SC
 Adam Ruckwood - City of Coventry SC

Performance Foundation Programme

Dave Painter - The Royal Wolverhampton School SC

Coach Advisors – Mark Spacman (RWS) & Alan Bircher (Ellesmere College Titans)

Coach Advisors provide technical and non-technical coach development support to front line coaches within the talent pathway.

Masters

The total records broken for the 2019 are:

	Male	Female	Mixed	Total	Previous
Individuals	29	29	-	58	64
Relays	5	3	4	12	5
Total	34	32	4	70	69
Previous	21	47	1	69	69

Surprisingly, there were more records broken in this nine month period than in the previous 12. As you can see, this is mainly due to 12 relay records being broken, compared to 5 last time. The main successes here were Birmingham Masters 100 and 120 age groups (ladies and mixed), and Kenilworth 160 age group (men and mixed).

Within the individual events, a large number broken were in two age groups – 11 in 35 – 39 (mainly Anna McCall of Birmingham with 5) and 21 in 65 – 69. Eight of these were ladies (Di Nash and Anne Bourne of Camp Hill had seven between them), and 13 men (12 Trevor Clark, swimming for either Kenilworth or Birmingham). The 65 – 69 age group were all helped by swimmers moving into that age group this year.

Water Polo

Key achievements:

- Over 22 players have attended the National Academy Camps.
- A team of 17 boys travelled to Serbia for a training camp in April for 5 days.
- Worcester Crocodiles won the Midland League U16 and Warley Wasps won the U18 league.
- All clubs in the West Midlands have a least one club member attending the Regional Training Camp.
- In May a tournament was organised for over 90 kids.
- Swim England Under 14 Boys Inter Regionals - Walsall December 2019.
 - West Midlands Team – 2nd
- Swim England Under 16 Boys Inter Regionals – Blackpool June 2019.
 - West Midlands Team – 2nd in Division 1
- Swim England Under 16 Girls Inter Regionals – Walsall November 2019.
 - West Midlands Team – 9th

Nigel Greenwood Chair West Midland Water Polo



West Midlands boys training camp to Serbia



U 16 West Midlands Inter-Regional Team



Diving

Key achievements

- Sarah Barrow appointed as West Midlands Diving Development Officer.
- Stage 8 -10 Diving Launch with 12 different West Midland operators in attendance.
- Diving programme implemented in two key centres; Everyone Active Tudor Grange, Solihull and Serco Wyndley Leisure, Sutton Coldfield.
- 30 teachers attended the CPD for Stage 8-10 Diving.
- 12 coaches attended the Diving Assistant Coach course in Tudor Grange, Solihull.
- 3 coaches attended the Diving Coach course in Plymouth.
- Established relationship with Sandwell Leisure Trust and Sandwell Council with recommendations of their diving pool programme.

Sarah Barrow
Diving Development Officer

Synchro

Key achievements

- Three successful grade days
- The Midlands had their first Beacon Development Squad who competed at the Beacon games in Crawley and won.
- A successful 2nd Midlands Summer Camp with coach Gabriel Bosivert from Canada.
- Robyn Swatman and Olivia Baker from Walsall competed in the first FINA World Championship.
- Hannah Secher was awarded West Midlands Coach of the Year and Rugby received Club of the Year award.
- Swim England National Awards - Hannah Secher came received bronze in Swim England Coach of the Year Rugby Synchro received bronze in the Club of the Year category.
- Robyn Swatman (Walsall) received Synchro Talent Athlete of the Year at the Swim England National awards.
- Teagan Smith received Youth Achievement Award at the Swim England National Awards.
- Robyn Swatman and Olivia Baker have been selected for Junior/senior GB programme 2020.
- 5 swimmers from West Midlands have been selected for England Youth Development programme 2020.
 - Magdalena Townsend (Birmingham)
 - Olivia Tyers (Rugby)
 - Georgia Baker (Walsall)
 - Louise McDonagh (Birmingham)
 - Lola Dudkowsky (Rugby)

Alison Ravenhall
Synchronised Swimming co-ordinators

Synchro Summer Camp 2019

The second residential Midlands Synchro Summer Camp took place at the start of the school summer break. Thirty eight swimmers had four days full of synchro focused activities at the fabulous David Ross Sports Village at University of Nottingham.

There were 3-4 hours per day in the pool, led by visiting Head Coach Gabrielle Boisvert, supported by other coaches from the region. Gabrielle is a former international level synchro swimmer, having represented Canada at two FINA World Championships. She brought a unique style coaching to the camp, enthusing swimmers and coaches alike.

Swimmers commented, "I have enjoyed learning new figures and how to do them properly", "The best thing was focusing on our spins and support scull as I now find figures easier", "The coaching was really beneficial", "I liked how interesting and different the pool sessions were".

The pool sessions were complemented by land sessions, some led by Gabrielle's but others led by guest specialists including cheerleading, dance, gymnastics, strength and conditioning, yoga and athlete nutrition.

Swimmers were accommodated in university halls and had sociable evening activities including hula hooping and craft activities. Swimmers commented, "Loved the activities on land! Especially dance and cheerleading" "The best thing was making new friends and doing cheerleading".

The region plan to run the camp again in 2020 so watch this space!

Geraldine Lally
Midlands Synchro Camp Coordinator



Midlands Synchronised Swimming Summer Training Camp 2019



Midlands Synchronised Swimming Summer Training Camp 2019

Para-Swimming

British World Class Programme

Rebecca Redfern – Worcester SC
James Brown – Royal Wolverhampton School SC

English Development Programmes

Eva French – Nuneaton & Bedworth SC
James Brown – Royal Wolverhampton School SC

Development

- Evesham Swimming Club became the first START Para-Swimming club in the Midlands.

Tom McManus
Para-Swimming Officer

Competitions

- Midland Para-Swimming Championships in October 2019 at Rugby.
- Midland Winter Championships in January.
- Swimmers competing at Swim England Summer Championships, World Series and World Championships.

Regional Para-Swimming Training Programme

The Midlands Regional Para-Swimming Programme was set up during 2019 by the East Midlands, West Midlands and Swim England Para-Swimming to engage and support swimmers across the Midlands with an impairment that can be classified under the World Para-Swimming categories to develop their skills, experience and knowledge through their journey as a Para-Swimmer.

These sessions also served as a vehicle for swimmers to be signed off ready for classification along with being a great development opportunity for coaches.

Over 30 swimmers from across the Midlands attended each session offered during the programme with the West Midlands also supporting with coaching and team managing.

Lead Coach: Tim Hastie (Oswestry Otters SC)

Coaches: Sam Holland (Shrewsbury SC), Karen Watson (Orion SC)

Team Managers: Nikki Piggott (Oswestry Otters SC), Dave Marsh (Orion SC)

Open Water

Regional Open Water Development Camp 2019

Thirty swimmers between the ages of 12 and 15 from the East Midlands and West Midlands attended a day at the Coventry Pool to develop their skills and knowledge around open water. Swimmers were selected from pool and open water results. A number of swimmers went on from previously having no open water experience to gaining qualification to the National Open Water Championships via the Regional Championships.

The selected swimmers were:

Ava Griffiths (Wolverhampton SC), Bethany Smith (RWS), Brooke Frost (Stafford Apex SC), Eve Tinsely (Newcastle Staffs SC), Ezra Lambert (Lichfield SC), Hannah Swift (Ellesmere College Titans SC), Harry Negrine (Bilston SC), Isabelle Aspinall (City of Birmingham SC), Kyle Offer (City of Coventry SC), Lola Wheeler (Northgate Bridgnorth SC)

Programme staff:

Assistant Coach – Sam Holland (Shrewsbury SC)

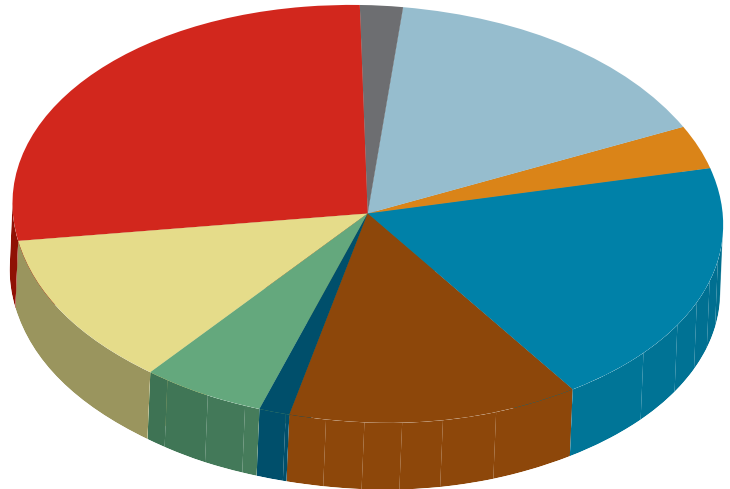


Para-Swimming training Programme land work

Workforce

Regional grant aid of £15,375.50 awarded to 29 clubs.

- SE L1 Swimming Assistant (Teaching) - £2,432.50
- SE L1 Swimming Teaching - £510.00
- SE Swimming Assistant (Coaching) - £2,969.00
- SE Swimming Coach - £2,075.00
- L2 Open Water Coach - £1875.00
- CPD's - £880.00
- SE Water Polo Coach - £1,788.50
- SE Senior Coach - £4,200.00
- SE L1 Synchro Assistant Coach - £330.00



Volunteer Workshops

The Region has run various workshops for club volunteers during April 2019 – December 2019:

- 3 Safeguarding and Protecting Children workshops for 39 candidates.
- 4 Team Manager Module 1 workshops for 63 candidates.
- 1 Team Manager Module 2 workshop for 10 candidates.
- 1 Time to listen workshop for 15 candidates.
- 6 Online workshops for 26 candidates

Helen Weeks and Amanda Swan
Club Development Officers

	SE L1 Swimming Assistant (Teaching)	SE L2 Swimming Teacher	SE Swimming Assistant (Coaching)	SE Swimming Coach	SE L1 Open Water Assistant (Coaching)
Number of courses	32	20	7	2	1

Regional Young Volunteer Programme 2019

Two full young volunteer programmes were run across two days in the region. One being held at Holiday Inn, Stafford and the other at Royal Life Saving Society, Worcestershire. The programmes engaged a total of 56 young people between the ages of 14 and 17. The programme consisted of an Aquatic Helper course, Timekeeper course and a Core Skills First Aid Course. In addition each young volunteer was required to complete 10 hours of volunteering in their home club and to volunteer at a local county event or development meet. Each young volunteer was appointed a mentor within their club to support them on their volunteering journey. On completion of the course each young volunteer received a t-shirt.

The numbers attending from each county were:

- Staffordshire – 28
- Warwickshire – 2
- Worcester County – 20
- Shropshire - 5

Amanda Swan
Club Development Officer



Swim England National Awards 2019

Swim England Long Service to Aquatics Gold Award – Peter Holmes MBE (Wolverhampton SC)
 Swim England Youth Achievement Gold Award – Tegan Smith (City of Birmingham SC)
 Swim England Technical Official of the Year Silver Award – Tony Ward (Wolverhampton Masters SC)
 Swim England Volunteer of the Year Bronze Award – Mandy Garrott (Newport & District SC)
 Swim England Club of the Year Bronze Award – Rugby SC Synchro
 Swim England Coach of the Year Bronze Award – Hannah Secher (Rugby Synchro)
 Swim England Talent Athlete of the Year Masters – Hayley Bettinson (Camp Hill Edwardians SC)
 Swim England Talent Athlete of the Year Synchronised Swimming – Robyn Swatman (Walsall Synchro SC)
 Swim England Youth Volunteer of the Year nominee – Tom Piggott (Oswestry Otters SC)

Regional Aquatics Awards Winners 2019

Mandy Garrott (Newport & District SC) – Volunteer of the Year
 Tom Piggott (Oswestry Otters SC) – Young Volunteer of the Year
 Hannah Secher (Rugby Synchro) – Coach of the Year
 Rugby Synchro Swimming Club – Club of the Year
 Peter Holmes MBE (Wolverhampton SC) – Services to Aquatics

Peter Holmes MBE

Peter Holmes MBE was presented with the Long Service award, alongside recognition of 48 years of service to the West Midlands Region.

Peter said “I am both sad and proud. Sad that I realised I’ve given 48 years and that I couldn’t have managed another two, but I’m delighted with what I have done.”

Peter has devoted many hours and years to aquatics and his swimming club Wolverhampton, where he celebrated 73 years as a member. The West Midlands Region thanks Peter for his time and dedication to aquatics within Region.

World Para-Swimming Championships

The West Midlands Region would like to congratulate Tony Ward (Assistant Technical Delegate), Jean Childs & Susanna Carden (National Technical Officials) in their selection and attendance at the recent World Para-Swimming Championships that were held at the London Aquatics Centre from 9th – 15th September 2019.

A proud moment for both their clubs and region.

Volunteers in 2019

During 2019 the region had over 150 volunteers, who gave up their time to volunteer at events and committees within the region. The region would like to thank all their volunteers for their hard work, dedication and ongoing support throughout the year.



Susanna Carden, Tony Ward & Jean Childs at the World Para-Swimming Championships



Tegan Smith receiving the Youth Achievement Award



Tony Ward receiving the Technical Official of the Year Award



Mandy Garrott receiving the Volunteer of the Year Award



Rugby Synchro Club receiving Club of the Year award



Hannah Secher receiving Coach of the Year award



Peter Holmes left, receiving his award

Clubs

Club Development

Throughout 2019 the Region has continued to provide support to clubs through the efforts of the Club Officers, Helen Weeks and Amanda Swan. In addition to general club matters and enquiries, more specific support has been provided during the year including questions about SwimMark accreditation, coach and teacher bursaries for educational courses, talented athlete support, club membership growth funding and club/network development grants.



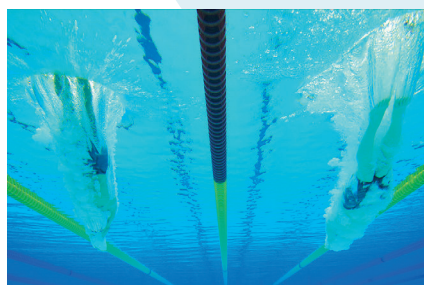
As of 31 December 2019, 53 clubs were accredited with SwimMark Essential and four networks accredited with SwimMark Network.

Swim England is bringing in new guidelines for its affiliated clubs in a bid to show they have the highest standards of safe and effective practice in place. The Stronger Affiliation process will enable clubs to provide further assurances that they are implementing the right governance standards, showing strong leadership and employing personnel who have the necessary qualifications and Safeguarding/DBS checks. By introducing a Stronger Affiliation process, Swim England will be able to:

- Support clubs to ensure they are implementing the appropriate governance and meeting minimum operating standards
- Demonstrate its commitment to ensuring the safety of all affiliated clubs and members through stronger governance
- Enhance the experience of club members
- Provide stronger leadership for the sport
- Strengthen sustainability for future generations
- Align to Sport England's direction of travel for community sports clubs

Those that do not currently hold SwimMark will now have to provide six pieces of evidence to ensure they stay affiliated to Swim England from January 2021.

Steve Prosser Chair Club Development Committee



Club Development Grants

During the year the Club Development Committee approved grants to the value of just over £14,281 to 10 clubs in the region.

The effect of the backstroke ledges that were purchased were quickly used on our junior swimmers. The swimmers were no longer scared to use the backstroke wedges at competitions.

Perry Beeches

Ledbury & District	Pull up banners
Perry Beeches	Backstroke ledges
Shrewsbury	J1 Training, Room hire, Safeguarding & Aquatic Helper training, backstroke ledges, medicine balls, I-Pad with case, ankle buoys, backstroke flags, go-pro with pole
Redditch	Backstroke ledges, crosstor 4KHD, tablet, tablet case, camcorder pole
Worcester	Backstroke ledges and storage
Evesham	Tablet, HD cam & wifi, polo and memory card
Ludlow	Workforce training and polo shirts, promotional flyers, underwater camera & tablet, 2 PA speakers
Wyre Forest	Training App
Newport & District	Replacement cupboard, GoPro, GoPro hand grip, laptop
Cannock Phoenix	Safeguarding Workshops

Officials

The list of officials in the West Midlands Region as at 1st Jan 2020

County	T/K	J1	J2	J2S	R	RS	Grand Total
Not Licensed	575	70	43	22	1	13	724
Shropshire ASA	159	15	5	2		1	182
Staffordshire ASA	132	13	14	5		3	167
Warwickshire ASA	109	21	11	8	1	7	157
Worcester County ASA	175	21	13	7		2	218
Licenced		163	95	63	4	38	363
Shropshire ASA		22	25	9		4	60
Staffordshire ASA		37	27	21		4	89
Warwickshire ASA		54	27	14	2	16	113
Worcester County ASA		50	16	19	2	14	101
Grand Total	575	233	138	85	5	51	1087

List of Training sessions started in 2019

County	T/K	J1	J2	J2S	R	Grand Total
Shropshire ASA	29	21	1	3		54
Staffordshire ASA	43	24	8	1	4	80
Warwickshire ASA	2	30	3	3		38
Worcester County ASA	9	4	8	2	4	27
Grand Total	83	79	20	9	8	199

We were quite active during the last year in Training Officials. From November 2019 J1 training was suspended as British Swimming moved to an on-line J1 training process which became active 22nd Jan 2020. Any existing J1 in training have until Jul 31st 2020 to complete their J1 under the old process. If they wish to continue to become a J1 official, they must restart using the on-line process.

Qualified during 2019

County	J1	J2	J2S	T/K	Grand Total
Shropshire ASA	5	4	3	30	42
Staffordshire ASA	17	5	1	29	52
Warwickshire ASA	33	5	1	17	56
Worcester County ASA	10	3	4	1	18
Grand Total	65	17	9	77	168

We had 12 Officials who have renewed their Licences during the Period, and 41 Officials who have applied for their 1st licence. We still increasing the number of Licenced officials each year. Under the new system of J1 on-line process they automatically become licenced when they qualify. This should help maintain the level of licenced officials.

Ian Lamb
Swimming Officials Co-ordinator



Finance

Swim England West Midland Region – Accountants’ report to the Management Board

9 month period ended 31 December 2019

As described, you have approved the financial statements for the 9 month period ended 31 December 2019. In accordance with your instructions, we have compiled and reviewed these unaudited financial statements from the accounting records and information and explanations supplied to us.

Garratts Wolverhampton Limited

Chartered Accountants
29 Waterloo Road
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Swim England West Midlands Region – Finance Manager’s report

9 months ended 31 December 2019

These are the first accounts since changing our year-end to 31 December (in line with Swim England) and accordingly cover a 9 month period instead of the usual one year.

I am pleased to be able to report another satisfactory outcome with a small surplus of £3.9k for the period which increased our general reserves from £207.9k to £211.8k. The surplus was achieved after allocating £47.0k to development. Net spend on development was £45.0k so ring-fenced reserves increased from £65.0k to £67.0k. In summary, total reserves increased from £272.9k at 1 April to £278.8k at 31 December.

We were again very active in developing our sport (see note 3) and it is worth noting that this period includes for the first time our contribution towards the cost of the West Midland Diving Development Officer who started her role in July 2019. Note also that synchro is managed jointly with the East Midland Region and they actually made a surplus on their activities hence the figure in brackets.

Our cash reserves are spread evenly to minimise risk and we now have deposits in 3 Building Societies as well as our current account with NatWest. Note also that we are now holding a loan with ASA Swimming Enterprises Limited which is a wholly owned subsidiary of Swim England. Each of the regions is holding a similar loan and they replace a bank loan that ASASEL was previously holding. The rate of interest that we are receiving on the loan is much higher than is available from any Building Society.

The immediate future is more in doubt world-wide than at any time in living memory. However, the Region’s finances are sound and we should, be able to deal with whatever problems are thrown up over the next few months.

Mike Beard

Finance Manager – Swim England West Midlands

Swim England and West Midland Region

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT for the 9 months ended 31 December 2019

	December 2019 (9 mths) £	December 2019 (9 mths) £	March 2019 £	March 2019 £
INCOME				
Membership fees		85,281		102,454
Licensing of Open Meets		13,869		14,894
Midland Championships		-		-
West Midland Championships		3,708		7,983
		<u>102,858</u>		<u>125,331</u>
EXPENDITURE				
President's expenses	711		1,322	
Printing, postages and stationery	1,304		1,375	
Annual Report	775		1,216	
Web-site	29		1,020	
Rooms for meetings	2,332		1,204	
Travelling to meetings	2,591		3,243	
Accountants' fee	500		500	
Sundry payments	841		702	
Donation: Swimsafe	1,000		-	
Development Plan	46,964		57,101	
Staff and office costs	49,078		61,014	
Swim England subsidy	(4,500)		(6,000)	
Depreciation	-		3,043	
		<u>101,625</u>		<u>125,740</u>
NET SURPLUS / (LOSS) BEFORE INTEREST AND TAXATION		1,233		(409)
Interest received (gross)		<u>3,350</u>		<u>2,200</u>
NET SURPLUS BEFORE TAXATION		4,583		1,791
Taxation		<u>637</u>		<u>418</u>
NET SURPLUS AFTER TAXATION		<u>3,946</u>		<u>1,373</u>

SWIM ENGLAND WEST MIDLAND REGION

BALANCE SHEET as at 31 December 2019

	December 2019 £	December 2019 £	March 2019 £	March 2019 £
FIXED ASSETS	<i>note 2</i>			
LOAN ACCOUNT: Swim England		45,000		
BANK ACCOUNTS				
NatWest current account	39,586		103,388	
Coventry Building Society	71,050		70,000	
Nationwide Building Society	78,246		77,548	
Teachers Building Society	81,399		80,473	
		<u>270,281</u>		<u>331,409</u>
DEBTORS AND PREPAYMENTS		<u>15,492</u>		<u>37,673</u>
TOTAL ASSETS		330,773		369,082
CURRENT LIABILITIES				
Accruals	51,936		36,095	
Income received in advance	-		60,073	
		<u>51,936</u>		<u>96,168</u>
TOTAL NET ASSETS		<u>278,837</u>		<u>272,915</u>
RESERVES RING-FENCED FOR DEVELOPMENT	<i>note 3</i>			
GENERAL RESERVES				
At beginning of year	207,873		206,500	
Net surplus for year	3,946		1,373	
		<u>211,819</u>		<u>207,873</u>
TOTAL RESERVES		<u>278,837</u>		<u>272,915</u>
Approved by the Board				
28 March 2020				
Note 1:	These accounts have been prepared under the historical cost convention and in accordance with all other applicable accounting standards.			
Note 2: FIXED ASSETS				
Starting blocks				
Cost to date		12,172		12,172
Deduct Depreciation to date		12,172		12,172
		<u>-</u>		<u>-</u>
New balance at end of year		-		-

Swim England and West Midland Region

DEVELOPMENT INCOME AND EXPENDITURE for 9 months ended 31 December 2019 (Note 3)

	Education grant aid	Club Development	Membership growth	Other workforce	Para-swimming	Synchro	Water polo	Open water	Talent	Athlete bursaries	Diving	TOTALS
Balance at 1 April 2019	14,987	8,521	3,500	794	10,306	-	6,407	1,625	5,746	3,156	10,000	65,042
Investment Plan	5,000	14,000	3,000	2,000		(1,036)	2,500	3,500	5,000	5,500	7,500	46,964
Swim England support				1,500	1,000							2,500
Young volunteers				1,450								1,450
CPD				75								75
Assistant Swim Coach courses	7,788											7,788
Swim Coach courses	10,170											10,170
Safeguarding and TTL courses				1,290								1,290
IR WP programme sales							1,052					1,052
Training days and camps							4,234		3,460			7,694
Sundries												-
Total income	17,958	-	-	4,315	1,000	-	5,286	-	3,460	-	-	32,019
Allocation to Midlands synchro						(1,036)						(1,036)
Course grant aid	7,384											7,384
Assistant Swim Coach courses	5,695											5,695
Coach courses	8,840											8,840
Assistant Water Polo Coach course	3,308											3,308
Safeguarding and TTL courses				1,812								1,812
Athlete bursaries										2,200		2,200
Coach advisors									2,000			2,000
Training days and camps					1,570		6,367	312	4,592			12,841
Festival							395					395
Open Water champs grant								3,595				3,595
CPD				566								566
Conferences				10	130							140
Inter-regional competition							3,009					3,009
Young volunteers				1,738								1,738
Club development grants		14,827	2,190									17,017
Diving development officer											5,712	5,712
Officials licence fees				610								610
TM course				100								100
Equipment				459			417					876
Sundries				185			20					205
Total expenditure	25,227	14,827	2,190	5,480	1,700	(1,036)	10,208	3,907	6,592	2,200	5,712	77,007
Balance at 31 December 2019	12,718	7,694	4,310	1,629	9,606	-	3,985	1,218	7,614	6,456	11,788	67,018

Notes

For further information please contact the region office

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