



Points of Note from Swim Ireland Board Meeting held on 4 July 2023 for Clubs,
Regions, and Staff

SWIM IRELAND BOARD MEETING

TUESDAY 4 JULY 2023

POINTS OF NOTE FOR CLUBS, REGIONS, AND STAFF

The Swim Ireland Board of Directors held its second meeting post AGM on Tuesday 23 May 2023. The meeting took place virtually. The following Points of Note may be of interest:

- Swim Ireland Head of Education, Aisling McKeever presented the draft Education Strategy to the Board for approval. The Vision for the Strategy is 'Empowering an island of swimmers, aquatic professionals and volunteers through education'. There are 4 strategic pillars which are:
 - **Career in Aquatics** – this pillar includes the development of clear career pathways; the establishment of a register of aquatic professionals; an apprenticeship programme; and the development of enhanced partnerships with 3rd level institutions.
 - **Innovation and Technology** – a pillar based on the premise that this is not just a nice to have but something that enhances everything that we do.
 - **Aquatics Academy** – includes Pre-School (0-5years), Junior Aquatics (4-8 years) and Senior (7-13 years).
 - **Market Leading Education** – including internal and external verification; research opportunities; conferences; annual calendars; and communication.
- The Co-Chairs of the Swim Ireland Athletes Commission, Grainne Murphy and Nicholas Quinn, presented a report to the Board and outlined their plans centred on a strategic vision which is for **Irish Swimmers, Divers and Para athletes to be the best represented within Irish sport and for our athletes to have a positive experience**. They articulated the mission of the Athletes' Commission as being to support and represent the voice of Irish swimmers, divers, and para-athletes through:
 - Understanding and communicating the needs of our athletes without judgement
 - Supporting our athletes through the different career transitions (school, college, retirement)
 - Advocate for the athlete's voice and welfare at all levels within Swim IrelandThe Board endorsed the work of the Commission unanimously.
- The CEO advised the Board that the Water Polo Athletes Commission has also now been constituted and meetings will begin shortly.
- The Board reviewed the Finance Report and Management Accounts for May 2023 and was satisfied that the finances are being managed prudently. It was noted that we have some financial challenges in relation to particular projects/areas of the organisation and we are considering our actions going forwards in this regard. A detailed discussion also took place regarding the primary operational risks facing the organisation.



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- The Board received an update on a mix of operational matters including detailed plans for the European U23 Swimming Championships, an update on the summer activity and on the National Swimming Strategy which is still under development.
- The Board discussed the Transgender Policy which is under development and reviewed the results of a member consultation survey. Our work in this area will continue.

The next meeting of the Board will take place on Tuesday 19 September 2023