

SWIM IRELAND BOARD MEETING
TUESDAY 28 JANUARY 2025
POINTS OF NOTE FOR CLUBS, REGIONS, AND STAFF

The Swim Ireland Board of Directors held its seventh meeting on Tuesday 28 January 2025. The meeting took place online. The following Points of Note may be of interest:

- Swim Ireland Athletes' Commission Chairperson, Gráinne Murphy, attended the meeting to give an update to the Board on the work of the Committee to date. Grainne also set out plans for the future work of the Commission including a target of engaging directly with grassroots club athletes.
- The Board discussed and approved arrangements for the Swim Ireland Annual General Meeting which will take place on Tuesday 29 April 2025. Information regarding the AGM will issue to Club Secretaries in the coming weeks.
- The Board noted the dates for the Region and Water Polo Annual Conferences and urged all clubs to attend their respective meetings. The dates are:
 - Leinster: 12 February 2025 (Online)
 - Connacht: 13 February 2025 (Online)
 - Munster: 15 February 2025 (In person at Charleville Park Hotel, Cork)
 - Ulster: 25 February 2025 (Online)
 - Water Polo: 25 February 2025 (Online)
- The CEO delivered an update on a range of Operational matters including an update on a staff restructuring focusing on a renewed emphasis on club support and training, and a status update on the recruitment a new Head of Swimming Activation & Participation to support the implementation of the National Swimming Strategy.
- The Board approved the final 2025 Business Plan and Budget after a detailed discussion and noted the focus on managing finances with a view to delivering for our members and the Government and raising additional external income.
- The Board reviewed the results of the Annual Board Effectiveness Survey Results January 2025. It was noted that the results were very positive in general and some areas for consideration where improvements could be made.
- The Board noted that the Annual External Audit is underway and that the 2024 Accounts will be ready for Board approval at the February 2025 meeting of the Board.
- The Board received an update on Pool Operations and noted that the Pop-Up Pool in Carrickmacross survived the recent storm with only minor damage sustained but that there had been some damage to other pools around the country. In particular it noted that Bangor Aurora had experienced some damage that would prevent one of the Water Polo Cups from proceeding at the weekend. However, it is expected that the pool will be operational shortly and that the Dave McCullagh Meet will proceed there. The Board also noted that Tralee Leisure Centre had sustained damage, and the pool remains closed at this time pending a full assessment.

- The Board reviewed the Complaints & Disciplinary Officers 2024 Report which showed that there were 18 new Cases in 2024. This represents a significant rise compared to 2023 when there were eight new cases. The Board was advised that the new Complaints & Disciplinary Officer (at the same email address as the previous office holder) is now in post and that a significant review of the process and the operations in this area is underway with a view to addressing the increase in Complaints and with making the process more streamlined. It is anticipated that some changes will be introduced at Club level with a view to providing a more effective means of dealing with matters at that level. Coupled with increased education and support, it is hoped to reduce to the number of matters escalating. The Board noted that there are currently seven cases that have been referred to SICDC and noted its gratitude to the volunteer members of SICDC, recognising the commitment that being a member involves.
- The Director of Operations delivered an update to the Board on the Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Action Plan.



Mary McMorrow
Swim Ireland Company Secretary
10 February 2025