



East Midlands Regional Updates – 12.12.2024

All regional updates and other regional information can be found on our website
www.eastmidlandswimming.org

Interest Registers/Course Requirements

Do you need a course or workshop? Let us know below!

Assistant Coach/Coach Courses: [Register](#) currently being updated.

Land Training (Swimming): [Interest Register](#)

Workshops (including Time to Listen and Team Manager): [Interest Register](#)

Key contacts and links

Contacts

- [Regional Welfare Officer - Ursula Beck](#)
- [Regional Manager - Fiona Conway](#)
- [Club Development Officer - Helen Bickerstaff](#)
- [Sport Development & Events Officer- Matthew McNicholas](#)
- [Regional Administrator - Melissa Lock](#)
- [Swim England Safeguarding team](#)
- [Swim England DBS team](#)

Links

- [Coaching courses and club offer booking process \(all disciplines\)](#)
- [Reporting a safeguarding concern](#)
- [Swim England Safeguarding courses](#)

New Updates

Swim England Coaching Policy.

<https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/coaching-teaching-policy-for-clubs/>

We have recently had a few questions regarding the Swim England coaching policy and just wanted to provide a gentle reminder to clubs.

“For club coaching and training sessions, Swim England expects that there is at least one active Coach / Level 2 equivalent as a minimum on poolside who is responsible for the activities taking place... Having one Swim England Coach / Level 2 equivalent for all sessions is viewed as a minimum expectation. There may be activities that require higher level coaches or more than one coach at the session. In this instance, the club must ensure that the appropriate number and quality of coaches are present for the activity being undertaken.”

There has recently been some confusion as to whether level 1/assistant coaches can take sessions, provided the session is written by a level 2 coach. To clarify: An assistant coach can cover a session in exceptional circumstances but the club must conduct a risk assessment to determine the level of competency and qualifications for those supervising the session. This should also include safety cover in place for the coach during the session. This should be used in exceptional circumstances only. Sessions should not be planned with the expectation that only an assistant will be in attendance – i.e. holiday cover would not count as an exceptional circumstance.

A Level 2 Teacher may be appropriate to independently lead a club session but must deliver within the scope of their qualification. A level 2 teacher would have the skills and knowledge to deliver sessions based around stroke and skill development. A teacher would not be an appropriate qualification to cover county level swimming sessions and above. The exception to this would be the delivering of specific skills sessions.

Does our club need a coach if we are an Adult only club?

For non-competitive, adult only clubs that turn up and play / swim socially on a weekly basis, a robust risk assessment should be in place to mitigate the need for a Level 2 coach or teacher leading the session. It is vital that the club assesses the risk posed by this situation and adheres to the safety cover supervision requirement of the venue being used. Failure to do this may mean the club insurance could be invalid. Clubs or teams who swim / play more than once a week and take part in regular competitions will not be seen as a social activity and therefore the coaching policy requiring a Level 2 coach or teacher on poolside should be adhered to for all sessions.

Can I coach the session from within the pool?

No, the coach should remain on the poolside at all times when coaching a session.

Please note, not adhering to the Swim England Coaching Policy would invalidate your Swim England insurance. If you are unsure about anything relating to the policy, please contact eastmidland@Swimming.org, or clubdevelopment@swimming.org



Codes of conduct concerns/Behavioural Policy

Our safeguarding team have recently received a few concerns that have in fact been behavioural/code of conduct issues. We would encourage clubs and club members to ensure they have familiarised themselves with club codes of conduct – which all members, and parents (for under 18s) should be signing to agree to each year – so as to ensure that any complaints or concerns are dealt with appropriately. For copies of the Swim England codes of conduct, behavioural policy and behaviour template, please click [here](#). For more information on club complaints please click [here](#).

Safeguarding concerns.

A safeguarding concern is an allegation that harm has, or may have, occurred to a child or adult as a result of a form of abuse by another individual or group of individuals. If you have a safeguarding concern then in the first instance this should be taken to your club welfare officer. If you are unable to gain support from your club welfare officer then you can contact your county welfare officer or failing that, your regional welfare officer. You will be advised and supported if this complaint should go directly to Swim England.

If the concern is urgent and about a child at risk, and you cannot contact your Welfare Officer or the Swim England safeguarding team, you can call the NSPCC on 0808 800 5000. If it is an emergency because a child or adult is at immediate risk, then call the police or children's social care (if appropriate) in your area. If a child or adult is in immediate danger contact the police on 999. For non-emergencies 101.

Masters Club and Section Requirements - a reminder

A reminder to Masters clubs, and those clubs with Masters sections, earlier this year Swim England updated the requirements for Masters clubs, particularly regarding Welfare Officers, DBS checks and Safeguarding training. As of the 1st of August 2024, all Masters clubs should have a Welfare Officer in place and all Masters coaches, teachers and welfare officers should now have a basic DBS check, and have attended Swim England safeguarding training.

We appreciate that the DBS requirement comes with an additional cost, which volunteers within non-masters clubs do not have to pay, so in the interests of equality and fairness, as a region we have agreed to reimburse the cost of DBS checks for any Masters welfare officers or volunteer coaches and teachers.



Team Manager workshops

Time to Listen

Foundations of Inclusivity

Competitive Starts



Good Governance Workshops - Mandatory for Chairs and Welfare Officers

Club Chairs Workshop

Club Welfare Officer Workshop

Club Secretary/Membership Officer Workshop

Safeguarding

Swim England Safeguarding Course

Swim England Safeguarding Refresher

Only for those who have completed the full Swim England course in the last 3 years



Forums

Welfare Officers Forum

Chairs Forum

Course booking reminder - 4 ways to save money!:

1. Ensure you use the [club offer booking process](#) - this heavily discounts the price:

Level 1 Coaching course reduced from £375 to £221.25 (41% discount)

Level 2 Coaching course reduced from £660 to £455.40 (31% discount)

2. If you are a SwimMark club then each year (in line with your reaccreditation date) you will have a £100 IoS voucher which can be used for courses or CPDs.

3. After the member has completed the course and received their certificate, the club can claim a [regional bursary](#) (criteria dependent) of £50 towards assistant coach courses, or £100 towards coach.

4. After the course is completed and certificated, look into the [county bursary funding](#) available.



Officials and Event Volunteer Opportunities



National call for Technical Officials for all sports

Swim England are looking for more technical officials to participate across our sports. If you already have an officiating qualification, apply here:

https://eastmidlandswimming.org/?ff_landing=18

To add opportunities to this page please submit the details [here](#)

Date	Location	Event	Official Sign Up	Volunteer Sign Up
21st December 2024	Pingles Leisure Centre, Nuneaton	Leicester Sharks Christmas County Qualifier	https://swim-meet.com/Availability/?m=3657	https://swim-meet.com/Availability/?m=3657
15th and 16th March 2025	Harvey Hadden Sports Village	Ernehale Open Meet 2025	https://www.swim-meet.com/OfficialsSignup/Arnold/	https://www.swim-meet.com/OfficialsSignup/Arnold/