

**National Water Polo Committee Meetings****Points of Note - 30<sup>th</sup> April 2026****For Clubs, Regions, and Staff**

- Damian Ball provided the committee with an operations and education update which included:
  - A report on the number of fixtures effected by the fuel protest and challenges the office have encountered with re-scheduling fixtures
  - Facility booking progress for 2026-2027 season
  - Progress with the referee course – 10 people completing theory elements
  - Coaching course dates and costs set for Ulster and Leinster (since the meeting these courses have been postponed until Sept)
- Treasurer (Joan Hynes) provided a short treasurer's update
- Treasurer (Joan Hynes), Chair (Brian Mongey) and Damian Ball, will meet on 13<sup>th</sup> May to review WP finances
- The committee discussed how they can better engage with regions and how the flow of information can be improved through National – Regional – Club levels
- Chair (Brian Mongey) asked each regional representative to provide a brief update on the key activities happening in their regions, this will become a regular feature at each NWPC meeting
- Damian Ball provided the committee with a redacted overview of reported incidents of unacceptable playing tactics in recent events. A small working group has been established and will meet on Sat 9<sup>th</sup> May, to develop an action plan to address the issues. The group consists of:
  - Kate Hills (Swim Ireland - Head of Safeguarding)
  - Damian Ball (Swim Ireland – Aquatic Sports Development Manager)
  - Brian Mongey (NWPC Chair)
  - Oonagh Gary (NWPC representative on the Competitions Committee)
  - Goran Sablic (National Head Coach)
  - Decky McKerr (Referee Representative)

**Competitions Committee Updates**

- The Irish Senior Cup working group met on 22<sup>nd</sup> April to review progress with the event management plan
- The Competitions Committee met on 6<sup>th</sup> May to review the following items:
  - The remaining fixtures for the season – These were prioritised by level of importance, dates identified mid to late May to play remaining fixtures.
  - A proposal from a club to adopt a new league structure – This was considered at length and extensive data collated on the age profile of players across various leagues. The outcome reached was that the league format will remain unchanged for the 2026 season

**The next meeting of the National Water Polo Committee will be held in person during the Irish Senior Cup**