

CITY OF LIVERPOOL SWIMMING CLUB – CHAIRMAN’S REPORT 2014.

Once again another year has passed so very quickly and it’s been a fabulous year for our club both in the sport of swimming and also water polo. It’s not really my place to give you the full details that pleasure goes to our head coach Mike Roberts and our water polo coach Gordon Dacre. But I am sure it will make very good reading.

Water Polo.

This has been another very successful year for our water Polo teams. Bearing in mind the personal challenge that Gordon has had to face and overcome. I am sure he would join me in thanking all his team of coaches for all their hard work and dedication throughout this past year and you all deserve the success that you have enjoyed. I wish everyone involved in the Water Polo Section the very best for the coming year.

Swimming.

This year has been a very challenging year for our coaching staff due mainly to the financial constraints that have and are being forced upon our swimming programme. We have also had to restructure the squad system and have also lost two very good young coaches. In, Sam West and Craig Langley. Sam has had to step down for educational reasons. Craig has moved down to Plymouth for a twelve month internship. You may see him back for the Arena league competition. We wish them both the very best of luck and thank them for their hard work and success. Yes, they did produce national swimmers in the short time with the SSN Squad. Thank you very much.

On the subject of Nationals I think it is fair to say that considering the pressure our coaching staff have been under they have had a very good year our swimmers have performed outstandingly well at regional and national level and yet again in Cardiff at the National Arena Final. I would guess that nobody would have predicted the success our swimmers have enjoyed Semi Finals, Finals and Medals outstanding performances by our swimmers please take the time to read our head coaches report for the full details. Well done to the swimmers and coaches.

Parents, again everyone that attended the arena final in Cardiff to support our swimmers you were all brilliant and for the second year in a row we won the best supported club! So thank you all for making the journey and all your support on the day.

Committee.

Following last year’s AGM the co opted members were voted on as committee members and the committee positions have not changed all year until September.

Unfortunately our secretary Peter Skeggs has had to stand down for personal reasons and I would like to say a big thank you Peter for all your hard work and effort throughout the

year.

We are also about to lose our Treasurer, Theresa Cook. Theresa has done an amazing job for many, many years, far more years than I can say! Theresa was the Treasurer at the club when we first arrived some fourteen years ago. Theresa is retiring and moving to Australia and she goes with our very best wishes and a huge thank you for all the years of hard work and commitment. She may reveal how long she has been the treasurer at the AGM. On behalf of everyone connected at the club I wish you the very best of luck on your next chapter in your life. We have also lost our welfare officer during this year, Emma Caton had to stand down which was a real shame Emma was a very committed welfare officer and has done a brilliant job this year my thanks to Emma from myself on behalf of the club.

I know that the nomination forms for the committee looks pretty short but can I just say that a third of the committee have to stand down each year I am aware that some of our current committee members are going to volunteer for some of the positions that have been vacated. It is always a concern to me that we need to recruit parents to help run the club it is a continual process so if anyone is able to help us out please step forward whether it's to help on the club committee or to help us on the event team to run our galas. Or to assist with our teams when we need poolside assistance.

On a financial note I can also report that for our members who are not aware we have invested heavily in equipment for the gym and also poolside equipment has been purchased to help improve our swimmers land work. This investment comes from the money we raise from the events that we organise.

Event Team.

Following on from last year our event team, which consists mainly of committee members, and Diane West and Sue Bedford whom I'm sure most people know, has continued to work very hard organising the swimming galas and the Presentation Evening and the Christmas Bowling Night. We also ran a new event a Development League Gala which proved very successful and a big demand to run it again next year. I have to thank my daughter Meg for organising that event pretty much on her own. But a big thank you to one and all in the event team for your very hard work and dedication. None of these events could happen without our committee and event team and anyone wishing to get involved with either of these groups please feel free to contact myself or any of our committee or event team.

Website.

The website continues to be looked after by our webmaster Mathew Oliver. He does a great job and please use the website to update yourselves with information you need. With the

assistance and support from Liam Deveney we now have a lot more colour and lots of photographs of our swimmers on show. Thanks very much to Mathew.

LD Photo.

Just in case people are not aware Liam Deveney is our club photographer he has worked really hard covering all our galas and please feel free to check out his website to see the quality of his photographs and purchase any that you want. He is always happy to take photographs poolside you just have to ask. For everyone at the presentation night I am sure you will have had your photograph supplied by Liam as a memento of the evening. Thanks very much Liam for your support.

Swim camp.

As some people will be aware we are preparing to organise a swim camp this coming year and Mike and Ian are currently working with Peter Barton to make the plans and arrangements. Fortunately we are lucky enough to have Peter Barton who is prepared to organise the camp which, is no easy feat and my thanks to Pete for doing it again.

That just leaves me to say thanks very much to our outgoing club captains Sam West and Emma Grayson. I hope that you have enjoyed the experience. Our new captains will be announced at the AGM by our head coach.

Finally I will just wish you all a very Happy Christmas and prosperous new year. To all our swimmers and Water Polo players I wish you all the success for 2015.