

CITY OF LIVERPOOL SWIMMING CLUB - CHAIRMAN'S REPORT 2013.

I have now completed three years as the club chair and am now up for re election, how time fly's! As I said in last year's report and this year has been no different, I have had to face and deal with some difficult challenges throughout the year but we have managed to deal with the issues, learn from them, and move on.

I reported last year that we had lost the swim 21 accreditation but I can now report that following a lot of work. We are now waiting for the national body to approve our new application. I would like to thank Ian Ingman and Julie Pettener for all their hard work on this task.

Water Polo.

Anyone who follows our water polo teams will be well aware of the success of our water polo section! The ladies have continued from strength to strength and our men are continuing to improve. Please read Gordon's report for the complete story. Well done again Gordon on another successful year!

Swimming.

I cannot complete this report without congratulating Georgina Evans on what has got to be her most successful year to date, in particular finishing 7th in the world Junior championships, an absolutely fantastic achievement, congratulations very well done Georgina!!! Mike Rock and Georgina Evans have been recognised and rewarded for their hard work and are on the world class programme!

Our trip to Cardiff for the National Arena league "A" Final cannot go without mention. The swimmers were fantastic finishing in 8th Position, but our parents were not to be out done. George Warriner led the way, we had three drums and a bugle, we made some music!!!! These efforts were rewarded by winning the "Best Supporters" award. Well done and thank you very much for making the effort to travel down and support our swimmers, it is much appreciated.

We held a presentation evening at the pool in July this year which is something we would like to repeat every year. I'm sure all who attended enjoyed themselves, I would like to thank everyone who helped organise and run the event and a special thanks to Julie Lloyd-Hazel greaves for providing the awards for the swimmers.

I should also report that it was a sad day for swimmers in the Swim Skills South Squad, when, Meg Langley had to step down as their coach. I can say that as I had the pleasure of reading all the cards and seeing all the leaving gifts she received, quite overwhelming. I believe Nick Boylan is doing a great job as the new coach, well done Nick. The swimmers lost their coach but the committee gained a very keen hard working committee member as Meg then joined the committee as the meet manager/ gala secretary.

Now only recently Emma Neary has resigned from her coaching position, I now reiterate our swimmers have now lost another very good young coach, thanks for all your hard work and support Emma. I hope Emma will stay involved with the club by staying on our event team.

Once again we ran a very successful Echo Cup competition which culminated in a very exciting final held at Everton Park on the 27th October with some interested VIP's from British Gas and also Liverpool City Council. Once again I thank Peter Barton for all his effort, in fact I'm sure it was a family effort from Abbie, Tom , Andrew and Rebecca so thank you to you all. I'm sure everyone who was there could not have failed to enjoy the gala.

I would like to say we cannot run any of our galas without the support and hard work of the officials who assist us and I would like to thank them all and Lynn Stuttard of course who has the job of ensuring that we have enough officials to run the galas. So a big thanks to you all.

Committee.

This year has seen a few personnel changes on the committee. We have co-opted four new members. Meg Langley as I have mentioned but also Neil White as our Kit Manager who is doing a great job, also Julie Pettener, as I mentioned earlier, as Swim21 Co-ordinator and Mike Pettener as our Sponsorship Secretary, all of whom are up for nomination at this years AGM, thank you all for your hard work. I would like to say a big thank you to all the committee members for your hard work and support. We are all volunteers and I know that at times it is like a full time job without the pay, so once again thank you.

Event Team

The event team has continued to work really hard to organise our galas and presentation evening and again I would like to thank you all for your hard work, support and time that you have all given. We could not do what we do without our great team work!. As you may already know we are currently working hard to arrange a new event in February, The Splash "N" Dash open sprint meet in partnership with the Liverpool City Council. Watch this space for the entry pack. I would like to thank Diane West for her continued support for the club in helping us set up our new events!

Swim Camp.

Once again we have held our swim camp in Majorca and I would like to thank Peter Barton for all the hard work and sleepless nights arranging this year's camp. I have received a full briefing but I, like some of you I'm sure, are a little concerned with some of the very dodgy onesies. The swimmers looked great but I'm not so sure about the head coach! I have only received positive feedback from swimmers and chaperones. So thank you everyone, swimmers for your hard work and commitment, coaches and chaperones for you hard work and effort both in and out of the pool during the camp!! I should also like to thank George Warriner and Mike Lloyd-Hazel greaves for the financial support you have provided for the swimmers.

Finances.

This year I would like to say that as a committee, we have worked extremely hard to improve our financial position. We have run three very successful events however, the Winter Meet and the 50m sprint club championships continue to be a challenge for us. That is why, as you are probably aware, we are changing these events and so hopefully will generate more interest from far and wide. The coaches have also agreed to run a fundraising event each year to support our efforts. So please make every effort to support this fundraising event. This coming year is going to be no different than the last in that we will continually have to work hard to maintain financial stability.

Website.

Mathew is doing a brilliant job running our website; however we do continue to have some restrictions with its flexibility so we are exploring our options at the moment. Things have still not changed but if we do have an IT guru in our club please step forward if you would be willing to support Oli in any advisory capacity. Thanks again Oli for all your hard work and also your new sideline Gala Announcer!!

Finally, I would like to say a big thank you to our out-going swimming captains, Tom Barton and Georgina Evans. They have been a great example for everyone to follow and a credit to the club. I hope you have enjoyed the experience. Our new captains will be presented at the AGM.

That just leaves me to say, the very best of luck for the coming year to all our swimmers and water Polo teams.

Best Wishes

Bryan Langley.

