

CITY OF LIVERPOOL SWIMMING CLUB

(Affiliated to the Swim North West A.S.A.)

President Mr.N.Wilkinson

Life Vice President Mrs.D.Jameson

Life Vice President Mr.T.Tunstall

Chairman Mr.P.Blood

Vice Chairman Mrs L.Stuttard

Chief Coach Mr.M.Roberts

Secretary Mrs L.Stuttard

Website: www.colsc.co.uk



Chair's Report 2016

I would like to start this report by thanking the Committee for offering me the opportunity to take on the role of Chair of City of Liverpool Swimming Club. I feel privileged to be here and will do my best to always act in the best interests of the club and its members.

I took up the role in March and the words of Brian Langley in his 2015 Chair's report "*This coming year the swimming club is going to be entering uncharted waters. We are going to be challenged with changes that we are going to have to face head on and deal with if the club is to continue from strength to strength*" remain equally valid today.

The Committee

I would like to thank the committee members for their support and recognise the club is fortunate in having dedicated people who are committed and able to manage its activities and will not shy away from making tough decisions. I would also like to thank Pat O'Connor, the Club Welfare Officer. Pat is not a member of the committee as she operates independently to deal with all welfare issues.

During the year a number of people have stepped down and I would like to thank, Vickie Stackpoole, Julie Pettener, Simon Hardy, Stuart Ryland, Steve Kirkham and also Mike Pettener who will be standing down at the AGM, for their contributions.

Swimming

Thanks to the coaching team of Mike, Ian, Peter and Dave who have overseen an excellent year for the club. Having won the Arena National Swimming League- North West Region Final. The team then went on to finish seventh in the National Arena "A" in Cardiff. Amongst an outstanding team effort of particular note were the "Most Improved Performance" awards achieved by Toby Rylands and Ellis Cleworth.

Congratulations also to our qualifiers in the "North West Regional Age Group and Youth Championship", "British Nationals", "English Nationals" and "British Nationals" relay teams.

There is much more I could comment on here but I will finish in congratulating Ian Ingman on his selection as head coach for the level 1 England Programme North West 2017 season. A full and comprehensive review of the year is available in Mike's Coaches report.

Water Polo

A lot to familiarise myself with here, and thanks to Gordon Dacre and his team for their speedy responses for information which enabled the completion of the club's "Swim21 Essentials" accreditation submission.

A full review of the water polo year is available in Gordon's report and I will just pick out a few highlights here.

The senior women's team retained their British Championship title for the third year running and has now completed over two full seasons, and 38 matches undefeated.

The junior women's team were runners up in the ASA u19 Age Group Championship with Grace Rowland being the tournament top scorer.

The club continues to have players selected for regional, England and GB squads.

Masters

Steve Wall represents masters swimming on the committee and I thank him for his monthly reports. It's not been an easy year as coaching was withdrawn in September 2015, however training sessions have continued and Anthony Willey has now taken on a lead coaching role. Swimmers from the training squad competed in various events throughout the year with the highlights being GB Long Course in April, European Championships at the Olympic Park in May, and GB Short Course Championships in October. A full review of the year is available in Steve's master's report.

Liverpool City Council Swim Training Programme

City of Liverpool Swimming Club is the competition outlet for the Liverpool City Council Swim Training Programme. I have noted that there can be some confusion as to the relationship between the two. One issue is the perception that in joining the programme swimmers also become members of the Club. This is not the case and membership of the Club should be applied for separately if and swimmers wish to represent the club in competitions or are selected to swim for the club.

There has also been uncertainty regarding the fee structure of the squads, and while this is ultimately a matter for the council the committee have engaged in consultations regarding future options. At the present time no actual proposals have been put forward by the council and we await further developments.

Code of Conduct

The code has been updated and summarises the expectations of swimmers who train in the Liverpool City Council Swim Training Programme and compete for the City of Liverpool Swimming Club. It should be read in conjunction with the "ASA Code of Ethics and CoL Codes of Conduct" which have also been updated to Wavepower 2016-19, which is the latest Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) Child Safeguarding Policies and Procedures.

All members must sign the code on joining the programme or the Club and will be required to renew it annually.

Swim21

Swim21 is the ASA's recognised kite mark for clubs and offers national recognition that the club is providing quality services to members. This year's reaccreditation has now been approved by the region and will go to the national panel in mid December. Accreditation also brings with it £500 to support coach and volunteer development, and this year the funding contributed to a level 2 water polo coaching course.

I am also pleased to advise that the club has been invited to apply for Swim21 Performance accreditation which is the benchmark for coaching high level athletes, and is awarded to clubs who can demonstrate that the pathways, physical environment, coaching practices and support services are in place for swimmers to reach the pinnacle of the sport. This is a challenging undertaking and offers a rewarding journey in the coming year.

And finally

I would like to thank all who assist in the smooth running of competitions and events and I would particularly mention Diane West, Sue Bedford, Avril Jennings and Gail Williams.

Thank you
Peter Blood