

CITY OF LIVERPOOL SWIMMING CLUB



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

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Life Vice President

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Chairman Mr.P.Blood

Vice Chairman Mrs L.Stuttard

Chief Coach Mr.M.Roberts

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Website: www.colsc.co.uk



Chair's Report 2018

Significant changes during the year include the continuing implementation of the Liverpool City Council Swim Training Programme sustainability plan, new sponsorship from the Co-op and the decision to withdraw from the National Arena League.

Liverpool City Council Swim Training Programme

Last year I reported on actions that had been taken to address the long standing uncertainty regarding the fee structure of the squads. This is ultimately a matter for the council and the committee has remained engaged in discussions to explore further options to build in further resilience for the future.

Progress on the three strategic elements of the sustainability plan has been good with the latest position being:

1. Increased charges for year one of the plan have been completed and year two increases have commenced.
2. Membership of the squads, driven by Swim Skills, has increased.
3. Re-alignment of resources is completed and the club continues to support gaps in coaching provision.

The Committee & Governance

I would like to thank committee members for their efforts during the year, and recognise the club is fortunate in retaining dedicated people who are committed and able to manage its activities and take necessary decisions.

Thanks also to Pat O'Connor, the Club Welfare Officer, who operates independently dealing with all club welfare issues. Her work can be demanding and for reasons of confidentiality goes on unseen by others. The year has seen reduction in the number of incidents which if occurring during a squad session should be reported to the centre duty manager. Incidents occurring during club activities, galas and other events should be reported to Pat.

I would also like to thank Julie Horman, who recently left the committee, for all the work she undertook as "Kit and Equipment Manager".

The club have taken the decision to move the end of the financial year from October to August. This is being done to accommodate Swim England requirements for the earlier payment of fees and to move this expenditure away from the busy christmas period.

The club also undertook a successful "healthcheck" to retain SwimMark accreditation.

Swimming

Thanks to the coaching team of Mike, Peter and Ian.

A full report of the year has been provided by Mike and I will just mention a few events and highlights.

2017 ended with English Winter Nationals and I would like to congratulate all swimmers who qualified. A special mention must go to Lauren Quigley on winning the Women's "A" Final 50m Backstroke and 3rd place in the 100m Backstroke.

In the Arena League the team finished second in the regional final and qualified for the "B" Final in Cardiff which was our last appearance as a decision was then made to withdraw from the league. This decision was made as it was felt the club's involvement in the league had run its course and it was proposed to take a squad of swimmers to a European competition in 2019.

There were a number of reasons for this including the new attitude to distance swimming, swimmer personal development, reduced conflict with clubs, and gaining experience of racing outside the UK. This opportunity will be available to approximately 30 swimmers who have achieved National qualification, reached a Regional Final or achieved Regional Qualifying Times. The cost will be around £300 per swimmer with the club subsidising part of this.

Congratulations also to our swimmers who qualified for the British Nationals in Sheffield.

Our swimmers qualified for a total of 14 finals with several finals hosting two City of Liverpool swimmers. Congratulations to Tyriese Smith who won a gold in the 400m freestyle, and took a Silver in the 200m freestyle and Ellis Cleworth who won a bronze in the 100m butterfly.

Further congratulations to our thirteen English National swimmers with Tyriese Smith taking a gold medal in the 200m I.M., Ellis Cleworth a gold medal in the 400m I.M., Jessica McDonough a gold medal 100m Butterfly, Silver in the 400m Freestyle and bronze in 200m and 800m Freestyle, Sam Ellis took bronze in the 100m Freestyle and Lois Keyes took bronze in the 200m Butterfly.

I would also like to thank Neil White, Christine Smith and the team of helpers for organising and ensuring the smooth running of our meets and presentation family day.

The Mallorca swim camp has just finished and this year it included early morning sessions under floodlights. I'm sure all swimmers will be looking forward to more of the same next year. Also the coaching team have awarded their squad winners of "Swimmer of the Week" Congratulations to Ellis Cleworth - National Senior Squad, Lily-Anne Ireland - National and Regional Age Group and Connie Roberts - County and regional Squad. Thanks here also to Neil White, Rachel Lawton Caroline Ashcroft and Peter Barton for their contributions organising, coaching and chaperoning throughout the week.

A full and comprehensive review of the year is available in Mike's Coaches report.

Water Polo

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

Six of City of Liverpool's women's team, Katie Hesketh, Laura Hesketh, Kathryn Fowler, Sophie Gilbert, Lauren Tasker and Kate Read were invited to participate in the England training and competition programme over the next 2 years, including a Commonwealth Games Tournament in Malta in September.

Molly Boniface Ashton, Emily Pyper and Milly Wordley were selected to represent Great Britain in the Junior Women's European Championships in Funchal on the island of Madeira.

The men's squad hosted their International Masters Tournament at Liverpool Aquatic Centre with fourteen teams from Ireland, Germany, Italy, Switzerland and the Czech Republic taking part as well as teams from all over the UK.

Masters

Steve Wall represents masters swimming on the committee and I thank him for his monthly reports. Steve has been engaged in discussions with the LAC throughout the year seeking to secure the future of training sessions and increase numbers. As part of the proposals a sports science student undertake a one month study of the squad and the training sessions. It is intended to compare with other groups in order to 'benchmark' masters' sessions and identify factors which might influence the level of membership. The report compared the Squads at LAC, Warrington Masters, and Michigan Masters USA and concluded that all Squads faced similar challenges with maintaining and increasing numbers. The report identified variances in fees and coaching provision, with the LAC only providing a Local Authority coach to work with the squad during March and April.

Four swimmers competed at the North West Masters Championships, Melanie Sayed achieved PBs in all six of her events and secured two gold and four silver medals. Greg Thomas took one gold, two silver, and one bronze medal. Steve Wall achieved gold in 100 Fly and silver in 50 FC Tony Wylie (Prescot) secured four gold and one silver medal.

This year's British Long Course Championships were held in Plymouth and Melaine Forrest made the long journey to achieve PBs in the 200m FC, 400m FC, 200m IM, and 100m Breaststroke in which she also took home a Silver medal,

The Lancs Championships in September provided a good opportunity to establish qualifying times for National Level events and secured a worthwhile medal haul.

Greg Thomas (25-19) 3 Gold medals, Lisa James (25-29) 3 Gold medals, Stephen McQuillan (25 - 29) 1 Gold, 2 silver and 1 Bronze medal and Steve Wall (60-64) 4 gold medals.

A full review of the year is available in Steve's master's report.

And finally

I would like to thank all the dedicated members of the committee and volunteers who assist in all areas of club activities and ensure the smooth running of our competitions and events.

Thank you
Peter Blood