

Water Polo Report

January 2024

Stage Awards - December 2023

Our COL development section (8-12 years) continues to recover and regain numbers. The Thursday session, implemented in March 2023 is filling up nicely, and we are assessing players at the end of each term against the SE LTS Water Polo Stage awards – in the Winter Term five players achieved Stage 8 and seven players Stage 9.



City of Manchester Festival – January 2024

COL took two teams to this festival - one of the biggest in the calendar with 29 teams in attendance and games across 5 polo pitches.

Our born 2010-11s girls dominated their event, taking the gold medal with convincing wins against Tyldesley, Bolton School, Cheltenham Sedgefield / Rotherham and Birmingham.

Our mixed 2012-13s had a fabulous day also – for much of the team it was their first tournament, and they improved with each match – great preparation for the season ahead!

HABAWABA '24 – January 2024



Congratulations to COL players Lily, Issy, Frankie and Poppy who went out to their first HaBaWaBa tournament in Barcelona this week with England Talent and Head Coach, Alice Byrne (COL), gaining invaluable experience against International Club teams from across Europe.





GB Secured 7th at the Euros and Katie's off to the WORLD CHAMPIONSHIPS – January 2024

Our COL Women's Club Captain, Katie Brown (née Hesketh) represented GB at the European Championships in Eindhoven 5 – 13 January.

Katie and the GB team had a superb tournament, with wins against Slovakia, Bulgaria, Germany, Israel and Croatia taking them to a 7th place finish overall and qualification for the World Championships in Doha!

<https://www.britishswimming.org/news/water-polo-news/britains-water-polo-players-creating-buzz-world-championship-return/>

COL are U15s National Champions - December 2023



CONGRATULATIONS to our Under 15 Girls who were crowned National Champions at the National Age Group Championships in December 2023.

An outstanding team performance throughout weekend saw them beat Sheffield 16-1, Manchester 10-3 and Rotherham 16-1 in the group stages to set up a gold medal match against London Penguin.

A composed and determined display in both attack and defence saw the girls win the final 11-6 and our goalkeeper, Issy Taylor, took the Top Goalkeeper award after a string of excellent saves.

<https://www.swimming.org/waterpolo/city-of-liverpool-win-2023-u15-female-national-title/?fbclid=IwAR1iPi-Wd6wv8geutXS6zgKuE3mLFyOrEO4ruM0Jcr4rVWzeDvdLh4bQYJk>





North West Thunder win Inter-Regions – December 2023

Congratulations to COL players Poppy, Sophie, Lily, Frankie, Francesca, Issy and Jess on their selection to represent the North West Region at the U14 Inter-Regional Championships. North West Thunder beat London Sharks 14-8 in the Final to take the gold medal.

Led by Head Coach, Laura Hesketh (COL) and supported by team managers Sian Freeman & Gemma Halliwell (COL).

Top Goalkeeper: Issy Taylor (North West Thunder)

Overall MVP Award: Lily Watson (North West Thunder)

<https://www.swimming.org/waterpolo/north-west-thunder-u14s-girls-inter-regional-champions/>



British Water Polo League Success – December 2023

Both our Womens British Water Polo League teams finished in the Top 5 of their respective divisions qualifying for the second phase of the season in the New Year.

<https://data.bwpl.org/web/results/bwpl1dF1>
<https://data.bwpl.org/web/results/bwpl1dF2>