

SWIMMING REPORT 2013

GCASA GLOUCESTER COUNTY CHAMPIONSHIPS

Swimmers did extremely well at this year's county championships. With many swimmers taking part we came away with 42 medals in total. A number of swimmers achieved BAGCAT awards with 9 swimmers being in the top 8 of their age group. Some swimmers gained regional and national qualifying times also. Our younger swimmers, Will Evans, Sian Wiggins and Eleanor Lloyd had a very successful county championship as did senior swimmer Chris Powell. Well done to all swimmers who took part.

We also took part in the County Relay Day and again had a very successful day with the girls 9/10 medley team coming first. Our 11/12 year boys made the finals in both their races coming a respectable 5th place in both events. The boys 13/14 year team came 3rd and 4th whilst the boys 15/16 years team came 4th in both their races. Again, well done to all swimmers who took part.

SOUTH WEST REGIONAL ASA CHAMPIONSHIPS

Well done to Olivia Mitchell and Chloe Flitton who made the South West Regionals for the first time in their careers and to Sam Biggs, Sophie Whitehead, Chris Powell, Owen Cannon and Trinity Donohugh who also achieved South West Regional times.

CLUB CHAMPIONSHIPS

The 2013 Championships are still running. The final event takes place on Tuesday 17 December which is the 33.3 sprint. Please note that all results are now posted on the CSWPC website under "Club Championships" rather than being sent out by email.

There has been a proposed rule change to the Club Championships by the Swimming Technical Committee to make the competition fairer to swimmers who regularly compete and train for the Club. This will be discussed at the AGM to be held on 28 November. We would ask that as many parents as possible attend the AGM to discuss this important matter.

The Swimming Technical Committee are in the process of organising a presentation evening. Once details have been finalised details will be put up on the board. This will be an opportunity to celebrate the Club's success over the past twelve months.

MASTERS

We currently do not have a specific Masters training squad but we do have several Masters who regularly train with us in the morning sessions and who have been very successful.

ROSS PGL LEAGUE

Once again swimmers from CSWPC entered the Ross PGL Junior league.

For this league, events are time-banded which sets the standard of those swimming! Although by the end of the four rounds swimmers are competing in completely different stroke events or age groups from where they started!

Cheltenham made the final consisting of 8 qualifying teams. This year was even more special as it was the PGL's 25th anniversary. There was a swimmers parade where swimmers were requested to dress up. CSWPC took the decision to wear silly hats which went down really well - there were some great designs!

Cheltenham came a respectable 2nd place.

A big thank you for Jackie Gleed, Jeanette Hallam and team manager Gail Cannon for their hard work in organising this and a very big thank you and well done to all swimmers who took part.

COTSWOLD LEAGUE

CSWPC once again took part in the Cotswold league series. We had a very successful campaign and went on to win the final - again!! Well done to all swimmers, coaches and parents who helped out.

OPEN MEETS

We competed last November at the Hereford Open Meet. We had a very successful weekend and hope to do even better this year.

Swimmers also took part in the BCLSC Open Meet @ GL1 recently with some great successes. In total swimmers achieved 10 gold, 11 silver and 9 bronze medals, 120 personal best times and 57 county qualifying times. Well done to all swimmers who took part. Top girl was Ellie Dobbin with 4 golds and 1 silver, top boy was Morgan Davies with four golds and 1 bronze.

CAPTAINS

Junior and Senior Captains for 2013/14:

Senior Boys - Chris Powell

Senior Girls - Elena Hathaway

Junior Boys - Oliver Brophy

Junior Girls - Emily Sheppard

YOUNG SWIMMERS

The Club took the decision not to have a new in-take evening during the months of September and October due to the resignation of head coach Simon Cooper. I am however pleased to report that we had a new in-take evening on 5 November with 25 new swimmers joining the Club.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS GALA

In 2013 CSWPC hosted the Primary Schools Gala with around 18 schools taking part. CSWPC swimmers and parents volunteered and took part as officials on the night as time keepers, judges, runners, relay helpers, etc.; this presented a very positive image of CSWPC to all spectators. Thank you to the swimming technical committee who all played a huge part in the smooth running of this event.

SUMMER BBQ

The STC organised a summer BBQ back in July. There was a fantastic turnout from all sections of the Club and a great evening was had by all. Thank you to the main committee for agreeing that the event should be subsidised and a huge thank you to Pat Thomas and the STC for organising the event.

The STC are always interested in fund raising/social events so if you have any ideas please do not hesitate to contact a member of the STC committee.

IN CONCLUSION

2013 has been a good year for swimmers with some great successes.

However the swimming section has also had a very tough year with the loss of valuable pool time and the resignation of our head coach. Dickie Middleton spent a lot of time and meetings securing additional pool time for the swimming section for which we are all grateful. It was not an easy task! I am hopeful that we can now move forward and make the most of the pool time we now have available to us. Coaches and committee members have been working hard keeping the club running as smoothly as possible during this transitional period and I would like to thank parents for bearing with us during this time.

Coaches have been working on the movement of existing swimmers to make way for new members and also the possibility of increasing sessions for some swimmers. On this point, over the past few months swimmers who have not been able to attend their allocated sessions due to other commitments are asking for alternative sessions. The Club does not always have the capacity or pool time to offer swimmers "alternative" sessions. If your child is not able to attend their allocated session, you will need to speak to their coach. We want to be as accommodating as possible to all our swimmers, but sometimes this is not always practical or possible.

Finally, the Committee and I would like to welcome new head coach Lawrie Thomson to the team. Lawrie has been working hard since his appointment firstly as interim head coach and then head coach preparing swimmers for the Hereford Open Meet and soon he will be preparing swimmers for the county championships which start early next year. Lawrie will also be spending time on formulating a squad structure so all swimmers can see what they need to achieve in order to work their way through squads. Lawrie comes with great experience and expertise and the Committee and I look forward to a long and successful future.

If you would be interested in joining the committee, or wish to support the club in any other way, please contact any committee member. We are always looking for volunteers to help and would welcome any new volunteers. We cannot continue with the reliance we have on the same old faces.

Thank you to all the swimming committee members for their continued support. In particular thank you to Julie Ruskell and Pat Thomas who are always on hand to help me out!

The Committee and I would also like to thank Jackie Gleed, Jeanette Hallam, Brian Armstrong, Sandra Painter, Nicki Andrews, Frances McCarthy, Dee Berry, and Marilyn Barry for their continued coaching and support.

I am positive that we can make 2014 an even more successful year for CSWPC.

Richard Davies

On behalf of the Swimming Technical Committee

November 2013