

Harvey Hadden Sports Village  
Wigman Road  
Bilborough  
Nottingham  
NG84PB



## NOTTINGHAM NORTHERN SWIMMING CLUB

### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

22<sup>nd</sup> March 2017 – REPORTS

#### *CHAIRPERSON'S OVERVIEW REPORT – Tony Alvey*

---

This has been a big learning curve for me as Chairperson this year & quite exciting for many reasons. Since moving to Harvey Hadden there have been a few snagging problems which have, in the main, been sorted by a Committee member speaking with the management of Harvey Hadden. I think the swimmers are very happy with their new venue & we seem to be attracting a number of new swimmers via the swim schools at Harvey Hadden, this is down to the good relationship built up by us over the year.

Nottingham Northern still seems to be the family friendly club that I joined over 16 years ago; the parents of our swimmers are always happy to help, if & when required which is a great support.

I'd like to thank my predecessor, Katie Rhodes, for her tireless work over the years in getting this club to where it is now and her efforts in trying to explain the importance of attaining the Swim 21 accreditation. We had some hard work to get through to renew Swim 21 this year & special thanks must go to Diane Williams our Secretary for taking me through the lengthy process. We had to get people through DBS checks, Child Safety & Time to Listen courses, however after some hard work & a few late nights we did get there in the end & eventually passed.

On a very sombre note, I have to mention the very sad news of Dave Ackroyd's death. He was a true friend & colleague to all at this club and he is sorely missed. Quite rightly an NNSC Trophy has been named in his honour, which will be presented at each presentation evening.

2016 was our first Open Meet at Harvey Hadden, with some very hard work by all the Committee, many parents and some of our older children. I can honestly say that NNSC put on a great spectacle which others can only follow. I think everyone agreed that although it went very well on the day, we may have perhaps had a few too many races. This has since been discussed at our committee meetings & we may well change the format to make the day go a little smoother in future.

I'd like to thank our Head Coach Sharon Hodgkinson for her tireless efforts at the swimming sessions & gala's, along with all the Coaches who do a sometimes thankless task. Also congratulations to Megan Smith and Katie Durcan who join our Coaching Team & have been helping Diane with the little ones.

Thanks to Gill Salisbury for her hard work on the finances. This has enabled the club to pay for a Ten Pin Bowling day enjoyed by so many of our swimmers & also a GO-PRO, so we are now able to film the swimmers under water which also helps the coaches give better feedback.

On a final note I would like to pass on my thanks to the Committee, the Coaches and everyone at this club for an enjoyable year.

## **SECRETARY'S REPORT – DIANE WILLIAMS**

---

My thanks go to all of the committee members for another successful year at Northern. A lot of work takes place behind the scenes with many of us taking on multiple roles including non-swimming activities such as the bowling session and nights out. Any offer of help from others is gladly appreciated.

We have set up a 'Friends of Northern' database to enable us to keep in touch with past swimmers, coaches and members by sending them an electronic newsletter or hard copy if requested. As a club we have many 'friends' who still like to help us out.

The Swim 21 accreditation format had changed slightly this year, which meant some extra work from us but all was passed after some adjustments being made. Tony Alvey and I met with the East Midlands Swim 21 co-ordinator and any issues were quickly sorted. For the next 2 years we will have fewer modules to complete, the next comprehensive check will be in three years so making it slightly simpler for the next 2 years. All policies are updated and are on our website. Thank you to Andrew Philips for maintaining our website with pool closures and other important information.

Tony and I also attend Club Network meetings held every few months at Harvey Hadden Sports Village. Clubs who swim at City pools are invited (along with Notts ASA) and it is hosted by Nottingham City Council. Clubs are encouraged to share ideas and work together to help improve swimming facilities in the City of Nottingham. Guest speakers are invited and we are asked to help out where we can. We also get the chance to air any concerns we have and listen to others who may be experiencing problems.

Kit: Northern swimming hats, priced at £5, and bags costing £20 are available from stock that we hold. Polo Shirts and hoodies are available to order on an 'as and when' service. Please order yours from the Northern table at the entrance to the group changing rooms.

On a personal note I would like to thank the committee for the trophy given to me at Presentation Evening last November in recognition of my work at the club in 2016. It could have been given to any one of the committee members or coaches as they all work tirelessly. It was an honour to follow on from Dave Ackroyd (winner 2015) who gave such a lot to the swimming club and was a pleasure to 'work' with. His vision was to help create an atmosphere and an environment where swimmers of all ages swam and competed to the best of their ability. May he be an inspiration to others – a fitting legacy.

## **TREASURER'S REPORT – GILL SALSURY**

---

During the period 01/01/16 to 31/12/16, income exceeded expenditure by £7,081.38 leaving NNSC with an available bank balance of £47,142.03

### **FEES**

Fees were increased by £2.00 per swimmer per month in Jan 2016 – there will be no price increase in 2017

### **MEMBERSHIP**

Membership fees have been kept at the same rate to our swimmers for another year:

Cat 1 = £24.00 a year

Cat 2 = £42.50 a year

We ask for a minimum donation of £1.50 per year for Cat 3 (helpers) membership but the actual cost to the club is £11.25.

We paid the ASA considerably more for membership fees in 2016, mainly due to the large number of swimmers who changed from Cat 1 to Cat 2 in order for them to swim at the Northern Open Meet in June.

## NORTHERN OPEN MEET

This was our first Open Meet at Harvey Hadden - our costs increased, but so did our income due to us being able to accommodate more swimmers. The event went very well and we made a profit of £5,138.07

## SPONSORED SWIM

We raised £810.88 – thank you to all involved.

We purchased a Go-Pro and also paid for the bowling trip for the swimmers with some of the money.

## ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED

The swimming club has budgeted £300.00 to be used by families if they are finding it difficult to pay the fees due to unavoidable circumstances. Please speak to the treasurer if this is an issue.

- **The accounts have been audited by Stephen Rice of SAR Accountancy Services.**
- **Appendix 1 Income/Expenditure**
- **Appendix 2 Budget**

## *JUNIOR OPEN MEET SECRETARY REPORT – ANDREW PHILLIPS*

---

Many thanks to all involved for a very successful open meet in June 2016.

Following on from our last Open at Beechdale in 2015, where we had to cut off entries after reaching 1,200 (and in the event we had 1,187 entries actually participating) we had our first Open in June 2016 at the new pool at Harvey Hadden. Taking advantage of the extra capacity provided by having 8 lanes we accepted 1580 entries, with more turned away after we had to close entries. This was also our first ASA Level 3 Licenced meet, which incurs a fee of 20p per entry, and the venue hire was more expensive, but the committee agreed to increase the entry free from £4 per event to £4.50 per event to keep it affordable.

As this was the 40<sup>th</sup> Northern Junior Open we celebrated by issuing each swimmer with a branded water bottle to remember the event.

The event was very successful, with a great atmosphere, although it proved to be a long day! 359 swimmers competed (up from 284 in 2015) with boys swimming in 694 events and girls in 886 events (so 56% female entries).

In terms of numbers of swimmers, Sutton has the most swimmers (52) followed by Calverton and Bingham (45), Arnold (43), Northern (40), Radford (37), City of Derby (31), Bramcote (26), Long Eaton (25), Burton (15), Falcon (15), Matlock (9), Leander (7), Lichfield (6), Swadlincote (2), Market Harborough (2) and one each from Cheadle, Ellesmere College Titans, Hucknall and Linby Dolphins and Satellites of Macclesfield. Sutton came top for the fourth year in a row with 378.5 points, followed by City of Derby with 165 points and Calverton and Bingham with 145 points.

A very big thank you to all the volunteers who helped on the day.

I received emailed feedback from Burton Swimming Club:

*"We loved it and had more swimmers again for 3rd year on trot. Nice new venue mate - let us know about 2017!!!!"*

And from the mother of a swimmer who represented Ellesmere College Titans (near Liverpool!):

*"Well where do I start? I have to commend you and your lovely team for such a fabulous meet. I think it was one of the best Meets we have been to, not only the location and facilities but the friendly yet professional manner in which all your colleagues assisted to make it such a seamless operation. From the friendly welcome by Tony on the door to the lovely ladies who manned the "coaches" desk in front of the pool door to Clare (spelt correctly!), the lovely Medal lady! Everyone was so helpful and friendly. It made it so much more enjoyable.*

*I know how long and time consuming it is to manage and arrange a Meet and you will have all been planning it for many months now and that showed ..... from the lovely commemorative water bottles (always useful) to the delicious variety of cakes on the cake stand to the great commentary, accurate results board and motivating music. The crème de la crème was the appearance of each Club's logo on the scoreboard, what a lovely personal touch.*

*Asha loved the Meet & said she wants to return next year so please do keep us on your database (for ALL future open events) as am sure there will be more swimmers from our club who will come as well next year."*

Thanks to:

- David Fortescue (Arnold) and David Anderson for helping me on the day and beforehand on the IT desk.
- All the Officials
- Linda Alvey for coordinating the buffet
- Clare Soar our club president for organising the trophies
- The teenagers who acted as runners on the day
- Jodie Adams and her team of raffle and door volunteers

And many others who shouted swimmers, manned cancellations, fed and watered the officials, and helped with our huge group of swimmers.

AND A VERY BIG WELL DONE FOR THE ENORMOUS NUMBER OF PERSONAL BESTS THE SWIMMERS ACHIEVED.

This year's Northern Open will be on Sunday 25th June 2017 at Harvey Hadden. The entry fee is being kept at the same level, and interest is expected to be high again. The committee has agreed to restrict the number of entries to a smaller number than last year to get everyone home a little earlier!

The club also held our second licenced Club Championships during the autumn of 2016, and are planning for licenced Time Trials for club members in March and May 2017, to give all swimmers the chance to obtain entry times for use in licenced meets.

## **COACHES REPORT & GALA REPORT, SHARON HODKINSON**

---

The start of last year was one of the hardest that I have ever had to get through with the sudden loss of a coach and friend; David Ackroyd.

David was a great help to me and was a calming influence during stressful times. He had taken on coaching roles for Northern and his confidence was increasing with extra responsibility. David was a big support to all the coaches and officials in the club, we will all miss him dearly.

**Qualified Swimming Coaches in 2016** Three new coaches have joined our team in the last 12 months; Emily Venkatesan, Katie Durcan and Megan Smith. They have all passed their Level 1 Teaching in swimming; I will be on hand for a while until they have settled in to coaching.

Calvin Houldsworth undertook and passed his Level 1 Coaches qualification and is doing a great job with the main pool swimmers, taking over the session on a Wednesday night.

We have decided to withdraw from the Notts and Derby galas this year as we could never get a full team to them. This is disappointing as it was a good chance for our younger swimmers to take part in competitive events.

We have also seen a drop in Open Meet entries. We are licensing Time Trials this year with the hope that it will encourage our swimmers to take part in other galas.

### **Galas 2016-2017**

- Stage 3 Gala, 19th March 2016, Sutton: It had been a few months since I attended a gala but it was great to be there again with the team still working together and great support from parents. A brilliant 15 pb's were achieved. Thank you to all that took part and helped.
- Notts & Derby Gala, 16th April, Eckington: It was the first time at this venue and there was not a lot of parking. As it was Easter Holidays we had a very small team and some of the other teams were very fast for this type of league. All our swimmers swam their best with 18 pb's .
- Stage 1 Gala, 23<sup>rd</sup> April, Hucknall: 22 pb's were achieved which is brilliant for a young age group gala.

- Arnold Gala, Saturday 7th May, Hucknall: Nice gala to attend. We had 11 races in which we came in the top 3 placings which was great. It was a shame again that we did not have a full team so we missed out on 7 races. There were 21 pb's which is brilliant for our younger swimmers.
- Notts & Derby Gala, 21st May, Hucknall: Very exciting gala with a lot of closes finishes. We were 3 points out on 3rd place. Just think what we could do with a full team. 21 pb's were achieved.
- Stage 1 Gala, 11th June, Bramcote: We nearly had a full team for this gala which was good but there were a few disqualifications with 23pb's being achieved.
- Notts & Derby Gala, 18th June, Hucknall: We had some good races at this gala but very short on boy swimmers. We missed out on 6 races. Another great gala for pb's where 18 were achieved.
- Stage 2 Gala, 10th September, Sutton: 12 pb's achieved.
- Stage 2 Gala Round 2, 15th of October, Hucknall: There was some great races with very close finishes, 16 pb's.
- Stage 2 Gala final round, 26<sup>th</sup> November, Worksop: This gala was hard with a lot of fast clubs competing but our swimmers swam their hearts out. 14 pb's were achieved.
- Stage 1 Gala, 3rd December: It was with regret that we could not attend this gala due to not getting a team.
- First gala of the year Stage 1 Gala, 28<sup>th</sup> 2017, Mansfield: It was a shame we did not get a full team, things could have been a lot different. There were a few new swimmers at this gala and they all did very well and 19pb's achieved.
- Stage 3 Gala, 25<sup>th</sup> February, Retford: The races were 100m so a good chance in achieving pb's. We did not quite get a full team but our swimmers swam really well. 15 bp's were achieved.

## Open Meets

What a great day at Northern's Open Meet on the 26th of June 2016: our 40th event.

Our swimmers did very well with a 110 personal best achieved. We had 5 swimmers in finals; Samuel Mackay, Solomon Rose, Eoin Byrne, Grace Phillips, and Lara Phillips. Some of these swimmers achieved 2nd pb's on their finals.

Ripley Rascals Open Meet, 3rd July: It went very well for the 6 Northern swimmers competing, they achieved 17pb's and lots of medals. Lara Phillips won 6 medals including 2 firsts and 2 seconds whilst Grace Phillips won 4, and Eoin Byrne, Chloe Austin and Aiden Savage also winning medals, what a great day for them.

We had 4 swimmers compete at Leander Open and ASA Summers Gala. There were 4 pb's achieved.

Matlock Open 24th September: 5 swimmers attended with Daniel Fritz coming 4th in his age for the fly and Eoin Byrne getting 6th in 200m free and 5th in 100m back and Tammy Abdillah achievibg pb's in all 4 of her races. 9pb's were achieved in total.

Falcon Open Meet, 25th September, Hucknall: 8 swimmers attended this open. Grace Phillips came 6th in her 50m breast stroke, Eoin Byrne came 2nd in both 50m butterfly and free and 1st in his age for the 100m IM and Samuel Evans, his first Open Meet, getting in the final for the 50m back coming 6th. 13 pb's were achieved.

## Club Championships

These were in October and November 2016 and this year were licensed. This enables our swimmers better chance to record an official county time. We had great results with 371 pb's and 8 swimmers with time for counties.

## Nottinghamshire County Championships

Well done to all the swimmers that took part in counties this year; Madeline Mackay, Grace Phillips, Matthew Anderson, Daniel Fritz, Harry Atkinson, Christy Byrne, Thomas Bethea and Eoin Byrne. It is always great to take part and to achieve a county time. A big well done to Thomas Bethea who achieved pb's in all of his races and Matthew Anderson on achieving 1<sup>st</sup> in his 50m backstroke. We hope we can get more swimmers next year.

## Finally

The Coaches and I are working very hard towards getting Northern higher in the league this year. We have increased the 50m swim to once a month and have 2 lanes; we feel that this will help the younger swimmers as well as main squad swimmers.

I would like to say a big well done to all of our swimmers that have taken part in the galas and the opens.

## **MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY'S REPORT – SHEELA LAKHMAN**

---

2016 has seen a change in the way the ASA charge for their membership fees. ASA membership fees are now payable throughout the full membership year from 1st January - 31st December. Previously it was from 1st January – 30th September. This means any new members joining in October- December will have to pay the full year's membership fee.

The club has to pay ASA, Region and County membership fees. The table below shows the fees payable for 2016 and the increase for 2017.

At present, these fees are included into the swimmers monthly standing order payments.

Category 1 swimmers pay £24 per month and Category 2 swimmers pay £25.50 per month.

For Category 3 members (Adult poolside and Club helpers) we ask for an annual voluntary contribution between £1.50 -£11.25

### **Number of Club Members**

March 2016 – 164 members

March 2017 – 152 members

Category 1 – 83 members

Category 1 – 59 members

Category 2 – 42 members

Category 2 – 54 members

Category 3 – 39 members

Category 3 – 39 members

The renewal membership list has been updated and completed. All members are promptly registered onto the ASA online membership system ensuring they are registered for the correct category. For swimmers who wish to enter Open Meets, must be registered as a Cat 2 member before they enter.

### **Medical list**

The Disabilities/Medical information list is kept up to date and a copy given to the Head Coach each time it is updated.

## **WELFARE OFFICER'S REPORT – ALISON NURSE**

---

All helpers that are directly involved with the swimmers are DBS checked before coming onto poolside. They are renewed every three years. I receive a list from the DBS advising whose check is due and the member also receives this advice. These are all up-to-date.

Child Protection Courses have been attended by those that require it and 2 more are attending later in March 2017.

Swimmers have been reminded that no telephones are allowed in the changing rooms.

Swimmers have been asked to be aware of other members' possessions whilst getting changed.

Team captains often monitor the changing rooms to make sure all's okay.

Risk assessments are up to date.

Any issues that have risen throughout the year have been dealt with but if anybody has any concerns please approach me during a session. Alternatively, approach the swimmers' coach or our Head Coach after a session.