

BIRMINGHAM MASTERS

July 2014 Newsletter

Edited by Steve Langford (stvelangford@blueyonder.co.uk)

Coach's message

Hi all... Just wanted to say to all our members that, while we are thinking of going on hols etc, if you can get an extra session in, this will - 1: Keep you nice and fit for your holidays and 2: (Most importantly) Get you ready for the Nationals. While some of the members do not attend the Nationals, for the ones who are going, this summer period is important to keep that fitness level up...or even improve. The Nationals last year was for me a fantastic weekend, when I watched all our swimmers pull out times that they hadn't achieved for a long time. I would love to repeat this again this year...but this can only be done with you swimmers putting in that extra work. So if you can get some extra swim sessions in - great! Even more if you fancy doing the Nationals for the first time...fantastic...give yourself a goal.

All the best...IAN...aka "Coach"

KE Pool Closures and Parking restrictions

Swimming sessions on the following dates have been cancelled by the school:

- Sunday 6th September - School event
- Saturday 4th October - Open Morning
- Wednesday 15th October - Founders Day
- Saturday 15th November - Open Morning
- Sunday 16th November - CCF Scuba Event

There will be no training over the Xmas period Tuesday 23rd December 2014 until Sunday 4th January 2015, inclusive.

Parking on school site

The school has confirmed that members are once again welcome to park on the Parade Ground, just by the swimming pool. This is accessed via Park Vale Drive, the entrance being on the Bristol Road. The gate closes on a timer at night and at weekends, so you may find yourself unable to get in on Tuesdays and on Saturdays and Sundays. However if you are on site and the gates then close, they will automatically open when approached by vehicles exiting the site.

Some members may nonetheless still prefer to park on the main school drive, and this is still acceptable, apart from certain dates set by the school.

There is no parking permitted on the main drive on the following date:

- Sunday 7th December - KES Xmas concert

The Chief Master has specifically stated that under no circumstances should any person park their vehicle on the double yellow lines throughout the site, at the Ruddock Performing Arts Centre and most definitely not on the grass verges. When no parking is allowed on the main school drive or the Parade Ground, club members may park at:

- Sports hall
- Parking bays leading up the Chief Master's drive (but not in front of the CM's house and garage)
- Playing field off Bristol Road (please remember although it may look like the gate is closed, it is not)
- Birmingham University car park, Edgbaston Park Road, Saturdays and Sundays and after 4pm Monday to Friday

Forthcoming Meets

The Club is targeting the following meets next year and urge members to enter. We will seek to put together relay teams as well. If you are entering one of these meets, please inform Luke Swain (swain@pbworld.com) or Claire Potter (claire_j_potter@yahoo.com), who will arrange relays if there are enough swimmers available.

Arfon Masters 28th Annual Gala (Llandudno) - Saturday 4th October 2014

Closing date: Friday 5th September 2014

Website for entries:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/arfon-masters-28th-annual-gala-2014>

This was a great event last year, with many Birmingham Masters swimmers attending. It is also ideally situated on the calendar as a warm up for the Nationals in Sheffield at the end of the month. The Arfon Gala is only a one-day meet, but manages to cover a wide range of events, including the 400m, 800m and 1500m Freestyle! Personally, I'll be entering the 25m Sprint Challenge. To make a very pleasant weekend of it, many members will be staying at one of the number of B&B's in Llandudno, within walking distance of the pool. However, even though the closing date is not until 5th September, if you are thinking of booking accommodation, it would be wise to do it soon, as these are filling up fast.

Short Course Nationals (Sheffield) - Friday 24th to Sunday 26th October 2014

Closing date: To be announced

Website for entries: To be announced

Accommodation: Further details will be sent out next week, regarding a club group booking of a hotel near the pool.

Shrewsbury New Year Gala (Shrewsbury) - Saturday 10th January 2015

Closing date: To be announced

Website for entries: To be announced

Other galas, that many BMSC members may be interested in, are:

Barnet Cophall Sprint Meet (Barnet) - Sunday 7th September 2014

Closing date: Wednesday 27th August 2014

Website for entries:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/barnet-cophall-masters-sprints-meet-2014>

Etwall Eagles 10th Open Meet (Derby) - Saturday 29th November 2014

Closing date: Friday 31st October 2014

Website for entries:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/etwall-eagles-10th-masters-open-meet-2014>

South Yorkshire Open Masters (Sheffield) - Sunday 14th December 2014

Closing date: Sunday 16th November 2014

Website for entries:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/south-yorkshire-open-masters-2014>

Details of meets around the country are available at:

<http://www.swimming.org/britishswimming/calendar/> .

Open Water events can be found at the website of the Long Distance Swimming Association, at www.bldsa.org.uk/ and there are further details on the "Great Swim" series of events at www.greatswim.org/.

New payment structure

The new structure, as previously advised, was ratified at the AGM in May and the arrangements are now being formalised.

To remind everyone the monthly fees are:

£16 for 1 session per week

£26 for 2 sessions per week

£36 for 3+ sessions per week

A blank standing order form will be sent out to all members separately, for you to set up your chosen payment schedule, to commence 1st September.

If anyone has queries please feel free to contact Ian Parker
i.parker@blueyonder.co.uk

Social at Droitwich Lido

There will be a summer social on Saturday 9th August, at Droitwich Lido - bring the family! The pool opens at 10:30am, and if it's a hot and sunny day, you'll need to get there then, otherwise you won't get in!

Bring a picnic, though there is also a café there.

Prices: Adult £4.50; Juniors/over 60: £3.50; Ages 2-7 years £2.30.

Kit sales

Our new kit is looking very stylish. We urge all swimmers to get a club t-shirt and to wear it at swim meets, for that impressive team look.

Speak to Jim for further details, and for all your kit requirements:

jim.p.hunt@birmingham.gov.uk

Please note that Jim will not be able to give out any kit without receiving the money upfront - even just a hat at a swimming meet. No money - no kit!

Sponsorship

We are keen to develop further sponsorship. If you know any company that wants to become an official sponsor of Birmingham Masters Swimming Club, please direct them to Sue Cramb (suecramb@hotmail.com). For as little as £50, Sue is able to negotiate a package including advertising space on the website and in the newsletters.

Sue has secured a fantastic sponsorship deal once again with PTL - Portable Toilets Ltd. Please do consider them for your portaloos - and mention that you heard of them thanks to Birmingham Masters Swimming Club!