

North District Swimming Convenor Report March 2007

Swimming Committee

Helen Smith (Garioch) and Marie Cheyne (Broch Seals) have been co-opted onto the North District Swimming Committee. We are very grateful that they are willing to share their experience and spend some time promoting and assisting with swimming in the District.

Squads

All of our District Squads have completed their 3 sessions for the 2006/7 session. Swimmers selected to take part in stroke camps have been notified and we hope that they and their coaches find it useful.

Thank you so much to the team managers who helped everything run so smoothly at the sites around the District - Ian Benzie (Aberdeen), Maggie Fowler (Ythan) and Grant McPherson (Forres). Many thanks also to the coaches, teachers and parents who turned up to assist throughout the days and we hope that you all got something from taking part as well as helping our swimmers. Teachers and coaches remember that you can claim points towards your licence for assisting.

There are two review meetings planned to take place during the National Age Groups; one for lead coaches (Patrick Miley, Chris Jones, Ally White and Anthony Stickland for the North) and the other for District Convenors. Any feedback, positive or negative, from teachers, coaches, swimmers and parents and anyone involved is very welcome. You can send to your lead coach or to me.

National Meets

The National Age Group Championships as you know is following the same format as last year with qualifying times and consideration times. This year, entries from foreign swimmers were limited to only those achieving qualifying times. Whilst this has worked well for most events, oversubscription in the distance events has again led to a lot of rejections and no doubt disappointment for North District swimmers, especially in the younger age groups. It has also resulted in one of the sessions anticipated to run at 3 and a half hours. After the Championships, Swimming Committee will be reviewing the successes and failings of this strategy to assist in planning for next year, so I would be grateful for views from North District coaches and team managers as soon as possible after the meet.

Good luck to all those North District swimmers who did get their swims, there seems to be an awful lot of you this year!

District Meets

The Age Group Championships in Inverness at the beginning of March was well attended and it was particularly nice for us all to see some of our International athletes from within the District taking part and swimming well. Of particular note was Hannah Miley (Garioch) who bettered a Scottish Senior record, 9 Scottish Age Group records as well as 6 District Open records and Meet records in all 10 of the events she entered. There were too many good performances and records broken to mention them all but as an indication of the fine performances 13/13 of the 10-12 boys records went, and in total over all age groups 49% of all individual records were broken by 12 individuals from 9 different Clubs. 7 out of 8 relays now have new marks too. Fantastic swimming; there is clearly some good coaching and super hard work going on out there.

Overall Trophy winners were as follows –

Grampian Rosebowl	10-12 years	Elliot Martin	Cults Otters
Sam Muir Quaich	10-12 years	Jessica Mason	Banchory Beavers
Jean Muir Trophy	13/14 years	Sam George	Banchory Beavers
Jean Muir Trophy	13/14 years	Jenny Sangster	Westhill District
Welsh Trophy	15+ years	Alistair Haynes	Forres Bluefins
Welsh Trophy	15+ years	Nicola Shand	Dyce

I am also delighted to report that Sam George (Banchory beavers) beat the Record Challenge by beating the oldest record for his Age Group.

North District Swimming Convenor Report March 2007

The North District Opens will be held at Westhill Pool over the weekend 2/3 June and the organising Club are Westhill and District. The meet information is on SwimScotland and also the North District website along with the entry files.

The Senior Development Meet will take place at Banff Pool on 23 June. An organising Club has yet to be found but the pool is booked and the licence has been granted.

The North District Sprints will be held this year at Bon-Accord Baths over the weekend 6/7 October 2007. Meet conditions are yet to be finalised but a similar format to last year will be used. We are very grateful to Aberdeen ASC for agreeing to organise this meet for North District.

Meets around the District

We are sorry to have lost the Banchory Beavers Meet this year and Deveron Sprints Meet was also cancelled due to an unexpected pool closure. It has now been rescheduled to 21 April. The Inverness Graded Meet has also suffered misfortune and will not now go ahead on 7 May due to a problem with pool bookings. It has yet to be confirmed whether the meet will take place at a later date.

Records

Hannah Miley (Garioch) is now the holder of the British Senior Record for 400IM from her swim of 4.44.21 in Eindhoven in December. She has now swum faster than this twice at the 2007 British Championships in Manchester and is the 400IM British Champion for the second year running. The British Championships are still ongoing and other North District achievements will be reported next time.

At the last Scottish Swimming Committee Meeting, Scottish Senior records were ratified for Hannah and for the following North District Swimmers – David Carry (LUT and COAST), Robbie Renwick (Cults Otters and COAST) and Kerry Buchan (Upper Deeside and SAS).

Age Group records were achieved by Hannah, Robbie, Elliot Martin (Cults Otters and COAST), Euan Inglis (Aberdeen Dolphins and COAST), Sara Hamilton (Stonehaven and SAS) and Elizabeth Hughes (Aberdeen Dolphins and COAST).

Calendar & Licensing

The Calendar for the 2007/8 swimming year is taking shape and should be available shortly.

There were some changes to the SASA constitution made at the AGM in February that affect swimming meets and all Clubs need to be aware that they should not apply for accreditation for any meets where swimmers younger than 8 are taking part. Any meets that do have swimmers aged 7 or under taking part cannot now be accredited anywhere in Scotland.

Lynn Alderton
North District Swimming Convenor
lynnalderton@f2s.com
019755 62519/07732 718086