Wiltshire Masters Newsletter 6

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Introduction.

This is my sixth occasional newsletter.

Important bit about our Wiltshire counties is the first item

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**Wiltshire county championships**

I am not sure how many of you look at our Wiltshire swimming website. The Masters section is here <http://www.wiltshireswimming.co.uk/?page_id=78> I have been looking at the part of it headed Masters Competition which talks about our three county championship galas. I checked it against what we actually do and find there are a number of discrepancies as well as some other errors. So I have created new content which I show below. It looks quite different but now reflects what we actually do in our galas and also corrects the definition of the Senior age range. I have also found out about the origins of our cups and have put a few words in to explain these.

**MASTERS COMPETITION**

(Entries to Masters committee)

**1**. The competition will be held annually within the Presidential year.

**2.** The age groups shall be the usual Swim England 5 year age bands from 25 – 29 upwards with a Pre-Masters age group of 18 – 24yrs. NB 18 year olds must be actually 18 on day of swim otherwise child protection issues occur.

Apart from 18 year olds, ages are as at 31 December in the year of competition.

**3.** The events will be held over three galas and the allocation and order of events will be at the discretion of the Masters Committee and will comprise of : 100m Individual Medley, 100m, 50m & 25m all strokes.

Mens & Ladies 120+ years 4x25m Freestyle and Medley Relay.

Mens & Ladies 160+ years 4x25m Freestyle and Medley Relay.

Mixed (two Ladies, two Men) 72+ years 4x50m Freestyle and Medley Relay

Mixed (two Ladies, two Men) 120+ years 4x50m Freestyle and Medley Relay

Mixed (two Ladies, two Men) 200+ years 4x25m Freestyle and Medley Relay

Mixed (two Ladies, two Men) 160+ years 4x25m Medley Relay

Mixed 6x25m Freestyle Relay (240+ years). Head Cup

**4.** In each age group event points will be awarded for the first three places, 3 points for first, 2 points for second and 1 point for third.

Trophies will be awarded at the end of the year to,

* Walrus cups to the leading ladies and men swimmers in two age groups; up to 39, 40 and over.  
  Donated by Wessex Walrus club in 2004 after the closure of their club.
* Townsend Cup for the club team with the highest aggregate points over all three galas .  
  Donated in the 1970s by Lilian Townsend who is a past County President.
* Head Cup for the winner of the mixed 6x25m freestyle relay.  
  Donated in the 1970s by Bert Head who is a past County Treasurer.

This is not yet put on the website but I wanted people to see it early in the year.

**2017 Intercounties**

Well done to all of you who swam for Wiltshire back in November at Millfield. Those results are put together with the result from all the other regions in the country to give a National result. You can see that result at https://www.swimmingresults.org/mastersdata/results/2017/171112SENationalMastersInterCounty.pdf

In summary we came 26th out of the 29 counties who took part.

We lost a lot of points because some of our swimmers were Cat 1 swimmers and so their results were discounted. Cat 1 membership only allows you to take part in local/low level meets. Need to remember this for next year – you can get an upgrade to Cat 2 for one occasion for a smaller cost that doing Cat 2 for the year.

**2018 Intercounties**

Note from Sharon Lock, National Masters and Open Water Officer.

You may be aware that there has been some debate about when the intercounties should be held as it often clashes with BUCS or Remembrance Sunday. Unfortunately there doesn’t seem to be any one day that’s good for everyone, particularly now the Masters calendar is filling up. Therefore in order to avoid BUCS championships (as requested) the 2018 intercounties will be held on 18th Nov or as close as possible to it. (acknowledging that some regions may have already booked pools)

**2017 Decathlon teams**

Results for teams in Wiltshire with their National position shown. Each team is made up of the best 4 swimmers in their club (by decathlon points). For some of our clubs only one swimmer is the team !

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Ladies teams** | **Points** |
| 97 | Swindon Dolphin ASC | 7325 |
| 135 | Bradford-On-Avon ASC | 5635 |
| 199 | Chippenham ASC | 3937 |
| 208 | Calne Alpha Four ASC | 3744 |
| 210 | Warminster & District ASC | 3692 |
| 211 | Salisbury Stingrays ASC | 3686 |
| 240 | Swindon ASC | 3161 |
| 297 | Corsham A.S.C. | 2233 |
| 313 | Durrington | 1850 |
| 318 | Melksham ASC | 1783 |
|  | out of 428 teams nationally |  |

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Position** | **Mens teams** | **Points** |
| 30 | Swindon Dolphin ASC | 13,960 |
| 109 | Chippenham ASC | 7869 |
| 143 | Salisbury Stingrays ASC | 6565 |
| 215 | Melksham ASC | 4565 |
| 227 | Corsham A.S.C. | 4335 |
| 293 | Warminster & District ASC | 2857 |
| 314 | Wootton Bassett | 2509 |
| 338 | Bradford-On-Avon ASC | 1961 |
| 360 | Calne Alpha Four ASC | 1727 |
| 465 | Wroughton | 398 |
|  | out of 476 teams nationally |  |

Hope all your New year’s resolutions are still in progress !

The Teacher & the Taught

A young teacher from an industrial city in the north of England had accepted a temporary job teaching a class of four-year-olds out in one of the most isolated, rural parts of north Wales. One of her first lessons involved teaching the letter S so she held up a big colour photograph of a sheep and said: "Now, who can tell me what this is?"

No answer. Twenty blank and wordless faces looked back at her. "Come on, who can tell me what this is?" she exclaimed, tapping the photograph determinedly, unable to believe that the children were quite so ignorant. The 20 faces became apprehensive and even fearful as she continued to question them with mounting frustration.

Eventually, one brave soul put up a tiny, reluctant hand. "Yes!" she cried, waving the snap aloft. "Tell me what you think this is!" "Please, Miss," said the boy warily. "Is it a three-year-old Border Leicester?"

Hope you enjoy this newsletter.

If you would like to add an article to a future newsletter, or if there is a topic you would like covered please let me know.

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