



Grantham Swimming Club

Newsletter

January 2005

No1

Contact us:

gsc.chairman@ntlworld.com or potter@hazelwood42.freemove.co.uk

Introduction

Welcome to 2005. I am Stu Gould and I took the reins as Chairman of Grantham Swimming Club from Ivan McCallin, at the AGM early last month. I trust everyone had a good Christmas and you are all ready for the many challenges of 2005, our 80th Anniversary year.

I would like to begin by thanking all parents and friends, who have given of their time and efforts over the past 12 months, in support of Grantham Swimming Club. We look forward to your continued and vital support through 2005.

This Newsletter is a reincarnation of an old idea, its' main purpose being to maintain contact between the Club Membership and the Committee. It is envisaged that we will build up to having various contributions from a number of sources across the Club. We need a name though so here begins the first participation event of 2005 – a competition to come up with a good name for this Newsletter. A prize will be awarded for the best idea, which of course, we will use for future editions; submissions to the Club Secretary or directly to me on gsc.chairman@ntlworld.com. Closing date for entries is 7 February. Other ideas in the pipeline include a photo-board for the Committee so you can recognise and (if necessary) approach us with ideas or concerns.

Last year saw our young swimmers gaining various successes, including many new Club records in the Championships held in October and

November. The last Inter-House Gala of 2004, on 19 December saw the final show-down and a hotly contested battle for points. It was, quite literally, down to the last event. Before the finale, it was anyone's guess as the Dolphins stood at 1121, while the Marlins were at 1103. After a neck and neck race, in which the Dolphins only needed 2nd place but came in 3rd, the race leaders, the Sharks, were disqualified for breaking the (quite bizarre) rules, confusing the situation even more. In the end though, by a mere 8 points, the Dolphins took the honours with 1151 points and their captain, Carl Wilson was presented with the House Trophy, by the Club's President, Chris Dowd.

Aims for 2005

This year, we hope to build on the past successes of our swimmers, starting with the County Championships just around the corner.

You will of course appreciate that the Club runs as a result of voluntary assistance and limited sponsorship, as well as the all-important subscriptions we ask you to pay. We intend to seek a prime sponsor this year; if one is forthcoming, we hope to provide some equipment such as tracksuits, at reduced cost, for our swimmers. This carries no guarantee of course, and the Club will be holding various fund raising events throughout 2005.

Parents are reminded that the Club can only accept responsibility for young swimmers, while on poolside or in the

sports hall, during the published times of their training sessions. This does not, unfortunately, include the period between swimming and land training sessions. While we endeavour to run all published training sessions, unavoidable circumstances result in the cancellation of some sessions. Parents are therefore invited to confirm that training is still running before leaving their children at the Meres.

In order to get important information to the Membership as quickly and efficiently as possible, we hope to compile a comprehensive list of email addresses of members. The alternative method of delivery is by Royal Mail, with the associated costs. These can be significant when you look at the size of the Club. If you are willing to let us have your email address, please contact us on gsc.chairman@ntlworld.com or potter@hazelwood42.freeserve.co.uk.

Willing Helpers

There is a constant need for Officials to act as timekeepers, starters, judges, etc for competitions and galas. Training is provided through the Club to ensure compliance with the Amateur Swimming Association (ASA) rules. Poolside assistance is always welcome and training can be given to those wishing to develop teaching skills. Assistance would also be welcomed in the collection of fees at the desk on poolside. (On that subject, did you know you could pay your fees by standing order?)

Finally, if you feel you could offer the Club even a little of your time, either to assist at an event or perhaps you want to put your organisation skills to good use and would like to join the Committee, please send me an email at the new address – gsc.chairman@ntlworld.com or give the Secretary, Mandy Potter, a call on Grantham (01476) 560891.

REMEMBER!

If you ever have a problem or need to speak to anyone in the Club, please do not hesitate to stop us in the Meres and have a chat or contact us via one of the email addresses on the front of this newsletter. The key to our success is good communication.

Chairman

PRESIDENTIAL PONDERINGS

Ladies and Gentlemen, I may not be as quick on the uptake as some people but it has become apparent to me since I have been entrusted with the Presidency that all is not well within the Club.

Unfortunately there are some members who are not happy with the situation and are not willing to stand up and say so openly. I would say to those members, if you don't come forward with your grievances then we on the committee could only assume that you are happy with the way things are being run. Not openly voicing concerns can only be divisive and that is not good for the club. The club has procedures for the resolution of grievances so please use them. I am always available to discuss matters of concern when I am there on a club night. If members wish to contact me to discuss matters please do so either via conventional means or e-mail and I will do what I can to resolve any problems. Fortunately there are a few members with problems who are willing to trust both the committee and myself. To those members I would say a heartfelt thank-you.

The club is always looking for helpers in many capacities. If you feel that you might have talents that would benefit the club then please don't "hide your light under a bushel", step forward and help. Thank you for reading this.

Chris Dowd.

President

Inter-House Competition 2004 Final Results

| | |
|-------------------|------|
| Blue Dolphins | 1151 |
| Red Marlins | 1143 |
| Grey Sharks | 1027 |
| Orange Barracudas | 912 |

Something to keep you busy on poolside!!

C R T Y H E L P E R S
N H D C J H H L O O P
O B A C K C M P Z F U
I O S M A V S F O F L
T D K O P E T G G I L
I S C D N I R K G C B
R C O A C H O G S I O
T A L H N B K N A A U
U R B U T T E R F L Y
N B A F L O A T A S A
M S E L Y T S E E R F

Useful Links

The following links and addresses are included for your convenience:

Grantham Swimming Club
www.freewebz.com/granthamsc

Club Chairman
gsc.chairman@ntlworld.com

Club Secretary
potter@hazelwood42.freerve.co.uk

The Committee for 2005

| | |
|--------------------|-----------------|
| President | Chris Dowd |
| Chairman | Stuart Gould |
| Vice Chairman | To be appointed |
| Treasurer | Louise Simpson |
| Hon. Secretary | Mandy Potter |
| Fixtures Secretary | Brian Gibson |

General Committee Members

Ivan McCallin
Robert Oxborough
Trevor Ogle
Ann Williamson

Child Protection Officer

Chris Scofield

Club Captains

Collette Guy Robert Bowen

Vice Captains

Sarah Blakey Alice Pembridge

Dan Korcz Bradley Baker

Junior Captains

Grace Williams Thomas Mendham

Fenland Captains

Sarah Isaac James Wyatt

Non-Committee Members

Gala Secretaries

Kevin Potter – Whites Only
Emma Jane Perkins – Blues Only

Sandra Otter ASA Registration Officer

