

Garstang ASC AGM

Club Coaches Report 2018

Yet again we are at the time of year when the clocks go back – the nights draw in and its AGM time.

As far as the swimming goes we have had a fantastic year with more swimmers at the county championships this year than we have ever had before with 9 swimmers.

Matthew Charlesworth again represented the North Lancs in the Inter Association gala in May and we had – swimmers who made it to Regionals

We continue our links with Blackpool and some of our swimmers will be attending the Easter swim camp and hopefully more will be invited next year

Our younger swimmers continue to improve and never fail to surprise and amaze!

Its not really in my remit but the biggest problem we have as a club is having a small ageing pool with its associated problems (heating being one of them) and large costs compared to a small membership – This problem will never go away but we just have to be a bit more inventive and try thinking out of the box in order to survive – and so far we've not done too badly. I recently spoke to one of the Blackpool coaches who was also complaining of pool costs and said – they couldn't understand the operators attitude as they get £20000 out of them each year – I then went home and thought about that statement - $\text{£}20000 / 52 \text{ weeks} = \text{£}384 / 18 \text{ hours} = \text{£}21.33$ I think if we look at our pool costs we pay more for a 20m pool with 4 / arguably 3 lanes. In fact, at £47 per hour we are paying over double – but with the pool management attitude of “ Well we will just set up our own club” to a certain extent we are banging our heads against the wall – As I said – its going to need some hard thinking and need to come up with some ideas to make the club sustainable.

BUT with the right CAN DO attitude we will survive!

But back to the swimming - we have had some fantastic swims this year – pb's keep falling – and I have to thank Julie for keeping track of all of these

We are having some of our swimmers move into teaching and coaching which is great to see.

It will be really sad to see Nat and Matthew move on to pastures new and also will miss Helen and Andy very much for all the hard work they have put in as team manager/judge/ competition sec and the many other aspects they have helped with.

I must thank my old club for the donation of £1000

And also to thank all the other coaches who help week in week out with the sessions and galas – it all seems to be coming together well. We had a really productive meeting a month ago and will continue with these in the future.

I also thank Sue and Sandra who work tirelessly for the club, and the committee for their support.

We still have the Preston Christmas meet and our own club gala to finish the year off

So well done to all the swimmers – I am still working towards getting a dozen to County Champs for next year so keep up the hard work and we will see what next year brings

Sue Booth