

JUNE 2021 NEWSLETTER

SWIM MARK ACCREDITATION

Work started in earnest on this in late March. We completed the submission of our evidence to the South East Regional Club Development Officer at the beginning of April. On the 8th April we received an email congratulating us on completing all of our SwimMark evidence.



We had to wait until last week for the regional SwimMark panel to meet to formalise and confirm our accreditation. We are so pleased to be able to tell you that we have had our SwimMark accreditation approved.

POOL TIMETABLE

We have been back in the pool for nearly two months, albeit on reduced hours still. Unfortunately we are unable to go back to our pre Covid-19 timetable due to the current restrictions still in place. We are now only allowed to hire the whole pool as opposed to 3/4 lanes for example, and the new earlier closing time of 9pm across all sites will continue.

Following the Government's announcement on 14 June, our pool providers have confirmed that the pool timetable will remain unchanged until 19 July.

The Academy will be held at the Kings School pool at Rochester and will commence on the 20th June for the duration of the term, due to the reopening of Rochester Maths School (RMS) being pushed back. Academy will return to the RMS in September, ready for the new term.

Emails have been sent out to Academy parents that indicated that they wished to return so please check your emails, especially junk as our emails do sometimes end up in there.

SAVE THE DATE

We will as usual be having a summer shutdown from the 9th -23rd August and we will return to the pool on Monday 23rd August.

Good news we have optimistically booked the Pembroke Lawn at Greenwich University for a much needed get together of club members on Saturday 7th August. This is a free event but is reliant on restrictions of how many people can meet up outside at a planned event. We will keep you updated!



2020 ACCOUNTS

Statement from Sarah Watson, Treasurer:

The accounts for 2020 are attached for your perusal. You will notice that there is an error on the date in the Capital account. I have requested an amended copy from the independent examiner, but have not yet received it. Therefore we are sending these so as to not delay any further. The figures are correct; it is just a typing mistake.

CLUB KIT

We are finally ready to launch the Club Kit on Swim Club Manager. We are sorry that it has taken so long but we wanted to make sure that we were getting the best value for money for our members. You will find the prices are less but the quality and make are exactly the same as offered by the previous supplier.



The kit will now be supplied by a local company who supported us with our fundraising efforts. We feel that it is important to support local business where we can, especially after the difficulties of the last year.

We hope to be able to provide swim hats, but in the meantime, while we source a provider, any swim hat is acceptable for training purposes and does not have to be a Black Lion hat.

Please do not feel that you need to buy all of the club kit all we ask is that your child has a club t-shirt to wear when competitions return; again these are not a necessary purchase for wearing to training.

All kit will be available to order from 21st June. If you have forgotten your login details for SCM then email membership@blscswim.club

CLUB TROPHIES AND RECORDS

If your child was one of the deserving swimmers that received a Trophy or Shield at the last presentation night way back in January 2020, please can you arrange for your child to return them to us please, as we understand that some of these items may still need engraving. We will be happy to get this done for continuity.

After extensive research, the process of club records will be returning to the claiming of a club record as opposed to being awarded them. We are going to introduce a Level X club record, in line with Swim England's separation of Level X. Records will be acknowledged with a certificate, as is current practice.

VOLUNTEERS

We are always looking for volunteers to get involved in the club, whether you want to just help out poolside at a gala or become a Team Manger. Without volunteers we are not able to run our galas. Maybe you would like to train as a parent coach as our other coaches have done.

If you would like any further information then please email secretary@blscswim.club

FUNDRAISING

Our fundraising efforts surpassed all expectations and hopes. We initially wanted to raise £5000 but we went on to raise just over **£10000**, an amazing amount of money. We would not have been able to have achieved this without the help and support from our members and their families who donated money, rewards for us to sell or bought the rewards that were on offer.

We have to also thank the local business communities that donated to us and those that bought our corporate sponsorship packages. The following are Black Lions new sponsors in case you have not seen them:

Kitchen Culture

CLARK Paving and Landscaping

The George Vaults

Café Nucleus

Whites Scaffolding

Vokes Taxis

passCC ltd

Details of all our sponsors can be found on our website: <https://blscswim.club/>

THANK YOU COACHES!

The committee wanted to take this opportunity to once again say a big thank you to **Paul Caller** who decided in April that it was time to take his leave from his coaching position. Paul has been involved with the club as a swimmer and a coach and we think he deserves to have a rest now. Although Paul is no longer coaching he has not left us completely and will still help out at galas when he can.

We would like to welcome **Ryan Neal** to the coaching team who joined us in April. He has a wealth of experience as a swim teacher/coach as well as being a school teacher. I have been lucky enough to watch Ryan coach our swimmers and the feedback from both swimmers and parents has been great.

We have welcomed **James Marshall** back to the coaching team. James had taken a break from coaching with us but I'm pleased to say that he must have missed us too much so he came back!

Thank you to our regular team of coaches, **Martin, Faye, Rob** and **Mel**. Congratulations are in order for Rob for passing the final part of his Level 1 coaching qualification, which had been delayed due to Covid-19 restrictions and lockdown.

HONORARY CLUB MEMBER

For those of you who have been a member of the club for some considerable time will all remember **Chloe Eastwood**, who left in last August to go to University. Chloe swam for Black Lion for a number of years at County, Regional and English and British National level.

Chloe now swims for Wycombe District SC and qualified to attend the Olympic trials back in April. We are all very proud of Chloe and what she has achieved, therefore we have decided to make Chloe an Honorary member of the Black Lion SC.