

NEWSLETTER

JANUARY 2022



HEAD COACH

We are excited to announce Jerome Moerman will be joining BLSC as Head Coach from 01 February 2022.

NEW COACHING STAFF

We have two new Level 1 coaching assistants. We welcome; Ian Lamb, whose son is in Gold and his daughter is at our Swim Academy, and is a qualified swim teacher; and Dominic Howard, who is one of our Masters swimmers. Dominic is a level 1 swim teacher and previous competitive swimmer. You may have already spotted them both poolside!

We are also looking forward to Philip Glock joining us. Philip is currently doing his Level 2 Coaches course, and is a level 2 qualified swim teacher. Philip is a former swimmer and swam with The City of Rochester for many years.

GENEROUS DONATION TO CLUB

We would like to thank John Redding, life member and former BLSC swimmer, for his generous donation of £2000 to the club.

KENTS 2022

Congratulations to all our swimmers who have gained a Kent County qualification in 2022!

NEW J1 OFFICIALS

We would like to say thank you to parents; Damian Bradshaw, Nicole Russell-Gridley, Mandy Willard, Paul Goodwin, and Elaine Slatter, who put themselves forward to train as J1 Officials. We are really pleased to announce that Damien and Nicole are now qualified J1's and we look forward to seeing them officiating at our galas next year. Paul, Mandy and Elaine are continuing to work toward their J1 qualification. This is a really important role as without officials we cannot run galas.

If you feel this is something you would like to do then please let Yvonne Jackson know, or email secretary@blscswim.club



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APPOINTMENT OF NEW CLUB CAPTAIN AND VICE-CAPTAIN

We are pleased to announce that Nikita Mitrofanenko is now the club captain and Callum Farrow is the Vice-captain. This decision was based on the number of votes both Callum and Nikita received in the original election process.

GRANT SUCCESS

In October the club applied for a grant from Made by Sport. and we are happy to say that after considering our application they awarded us a grant of £2,021.



We also applied to Kent Sport for a grant and we are pleased to say that we were successful and were awarded £500.



WINTER REGIONALS AND NATIONALS

It was great to see Mia Colyer and Callum Farrow qualify for the Winter Regionals, held in Winchester in October. They both went on to the Winter Nationals at Ponds Forge, in Sheffield. They both performed well and did themselves and the club proud.

BLSC WINTER OPEN

It was the first gala since March 2020 that we have hosted and it was a resounding success! A huge thanks to everyone who made it possible, as planning a gala takes months of preparation, and to our coaches Rob, Mel, Faye and Neil, for supporting our swimmers at the gala. Well done to all our swimmers who took part and did the club and themselves proud!

Here are the stats for ours swimmers:

231 Pb's

54 Gold medals

38 Silver medals

34 Bronze medals

25 4th, 5th and 6th places for our 9-11 year olds

PRESENTATION NIGHT

We are looking into holding a presentation night! This is a fun evening for all of our members and their families and will hopefully go ahead this year but will depend on government restrictions.



ACADEMY

The academy is back up and running at the Rochester Maths school every Sunday, and is going from strength to strength. We have over 80 members now, varying from stage 1 right through to our cubs in stage 6/7.

We have introduced a new hat to Academy and Sonny Bourner and Ryan Limer were more than happy to wear and model for us. These are available to order on Swim Club Manager (SCM) under club kit.

MEDWAY ASA 2021 WINNERS

As a result of the Medway ASA galas that have taken place over the past couple of months, we are pleased to announce, that whilst we didn't win any trophies or shields as a club, we have placed in the top 3 for the following;

- Casino Sheild – Girls – 3rd place
- Lumley Robinson cup for Men – 3rd place
- Grace Duckett - Boys - 2nd place
- Gravesend shield for Boys – 2nd place

The following individuals placed in the top three;

- Derek Wickens – Girls – Lola Bourner, 3rd place
- Most Meritorious – Men – Angel Gruev, 3rd place
- Derek Wickens – Boys – William (Billy) Larter, 2nd place and Stanley Lamb, 3rd place

Overall we placed 3rd out of 7 teams, noting we only entered 3 of the galas. Well done all who participated!

WELFARE OFFICER

We would like to give a massive thanks to Hazel Davey for her continued support as the club's welfare officer this year, despite her son leaving the club in June. Hazel has been a great asset but has now decided to pass the baton over to Phil Kershaw, who will be our welfare officer from January.

If you would like to join Phil, and support the club, as a welfare officer, please get in touch with the club secretary.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Just a reminder that parents can join as a member of the club for just £11 a year. This gives you access to member-only offers and free admittance to any of our own galas.

If you'd like to join please contact our membership secretary Jamie Watson membership@blscswim.club

SUMMER BREAK

This year our summer break will be from 01 August - 14 August, inclusive.



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