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Shark Bytes @SwimAtColneASC
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Club Restarts

When lockdown due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) stopped all Club activities, with the last session being Thursday, 19th March, everybody was wondering whether the Club would restart.

The Club had a false dawn to the restart, when swimming pools were allowed to re-open in July, but prior to re-openng, the Pendle Leisure Centre discovered a leak in the pool, which required the contractors to dig up the poolside at the shallow end of the large pool.

Finally the pool re-opened on Tuesday, 1st September, but the Club could not resume activities until a meeting had been held with Pendle Leisure. This finally took place on Tuesday, 8th September, in which, it was decided that the Club could resume from Monday, 14th September, but with restrictions. There would only be three lanes in the pool, which meant that the lanes had to merge, and with a capacity of 10 swimmers per lane, it meant that if everyone returned, we would not have been able to accommodate them.

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Teachers Qualifications

Lockdown was not a complete loss for the Club as three of the younger members completed teaching qualifications online.

Isabel Redfearn completed her ASA Level 1 teaching qualification back in May along with attending an online safeguarding course.

Then in July, sisters **Charlotte and Rachel Leigh** completed their qualifications.

Charlotte is now an ASA Level 1 Teacher, whilst Rachel completed her ASA Level 2 Teacher's qualification.

Congratulations to all three, and they are putting their new found skills to good use as they volunteer their time at the Club to teach.

Annual Subscriptions

At the September Committee Meeting held via Zoom it was agreed that the annual subscriptions fees will be waved for 2021, on the proviso that the member is fully paid up for 2021.

It was felt, that in losing six months to the lockdown, it was unfair to charge for 2021 when 2020 was seriously curtailed.

Any new members to the Club for the remainder of the year will have to pay a full membership to allow them to have this benefit.

SwimMark Re-accreditation

Over the summer Joan Croxall with assistance from Philip Croxall have been updating the SwimMark details in order for the Club to be re-accredited.

It took 2 months to resolve, as it could not be started until July, and with the Club not being able to resume, made it difficult in getting signed documents from Club Officials.

It was finally submitted in September to go before the board at the end of September.

Thanks to Joan and all who helped her.

Newsletter Now Free

We are no longer taking any money for the newsletter, as it will be available from the Club website. We will not be printing out the newsletter to ensure social distancing ca be maintained at the Club.

The aim is to publish a newsletter once a month.

Birthdays

September 2020
3rd Eden Hughes
4th Lexi Greenhalgh
13th Kassils & Devon Gauntlet
17th Marcus Lilley
19th Holly Bleasdale
25th George Henderson
30th Jack Nevison

October 2020

1st Alicia Higginbottom
8th Freya Sumner

Forthcoming Events:

7th October
Annual General Meeting.
Via Zoom. 8pm

9th November
Betty Petty Style Trophy.
TBC

12th November
Betty Petty Style Trophy.
TBC

16th November
Championship Gala No. 1.
TBC

19th November
Championship Gala No. 2.
TBC

3rd December
Christmas Sprint Gala. TBC

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Annual General Meeting

This years Annual General Meeting will take place on **Wednesday, 7th October**, via a Zoom meeting, any refreshments you must provide yourself.

All fully paid up members of the Club may attend this meeting but only members who have reached their 18th birthday shall be entitled to be heard and vote on all matters (members who have not reached their 18th birthday shall be entitled to be heard and vote only on matters concerning juniors, such as election of club captains).

All matters for the meeting must have already been submitted in writing to the Secretary. Any late matters will not be discussed unless agreed with the Chairman beforehand.

The meeting ID will be available at Club sessions and by request, it will not be published online.

We need more parents to join the Committee to help with the running of the Club. All that we ask of you is to be available at 8pm for the first Wednesday of a month up to 8 or 9 times a year. The Committee meetings will be held via Zoom until we are allowed to return to Pendle Leisure Centre and lasts for about an hour. Also Committee members are eligible for reduced membership fees.

WITHOUT A COMMITTEE THE CLUB CANNOT FUNCTION.

Would parents please note that once your child's swimming lesson has finished and they are off the pool side. Colne Swimming Club is no longer responsible for their welfare.

Would all Members please note that Colne Swimming Club will not be held responsible for any injury caused to a swimmer failing to turn up on time for their lesson, and thus missing the vital warm-up part of the session.

Could anybody changing their address or telephone number please inform the Secretary.

If anybody has any stories, items of interest, or anything they think will be suitable for the newsletter, then you can email me at the following address: press@colne-asc.co.uk





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 Colne Amateur Swimming Club

Restart

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A positive to the resumption is that because the Club is a closed session to the public, we would be allowed to teach diving and tumble turns. Also we would be allowed to swim butterfly. These are not allowed in public sessions.

In order for the leisure centre staff to clean the changing rooms and showers, it was decided that our first session would start at 7:30pm until 8:15pm. This would allow 15 minutes for the early class to quickly shower and get dressed before the older swimmers could turn up for 8:30pm. Their session was run until 9:30pm on the proviso that everyone was out of the building by 9:45pm.

The small pool was planned to restart on Thursday, 17th September in it's original times of 6:15pm until 7:15pm, with both classes merged as one. There was a limit stipulated of 8 swimmers in the pool.

Unfortunately, due to family reasons, our small pool teacher could not turn up, and we were unable to arrange cover. So this meant postponing the restart for another week. The small pool class did resume on Thursday, 24th September.

Since the restart we have had further restrictions placed on us, in that only parents of swimmers 8 years and under may remain to spectate, whilst the others had to leave the pool environment during the course of the lesson. There was an exception allowed for any child over 8 that needed their parent at the pool.

Part of the national restart rules, we had to dispose of any floats that were damaged, as that accounted for almost all of them, we have had to purchase a new set of floats and pullbuoys.

It would be appreciated if this new equipment is not damaged in the first few months, as we would have to replace some of the equipment again!

Club Treasurer Required

Our current Treasurer John Higginbottom will be stepping down from all Club active duties this year as he nears his 80th birthday, therefore we need a new Treasurer.

Who we are looking for?

- You will be enthusiastic with a good knowledge of managing finances.
- You will have a financial background and good knowledge of managing and producing accounts.
- You will have a knowledge of using and producing accounting spreadsheets or other accounting systems.
- You will be reliable and honest.
- You will have a knowledge of various banking systems such as direct debit.

What do we and the club expect from you?

- To be responsible for all club finances by ensuring adequate accounts and records exist, and that all funds are used appropriately and banked promptly.
- To plan the annual budget in agreement with the club committee and to monitor throughout the year.
- To prepare end-of-year accounts and present to the auditor, management committee and AGM.
- To plan floats with members who would need to collect or pay out cash and make them aware of procedures.

Anyone who is interested will not be required to join the committee, but must provided monthly statements. They would be entitled to attend Committee Meetings throughout the year.

See Joan Croxall or a committee member if you think you can do the job.

Club Galas

At the moment due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) restrictions in place, we are unable to hold any Club galas.

The Club Championship Galas and the Christmas Sprint Gala have not been cancelled yet, but if the situation does not improve before the October half-term holidays, then these will have to be cancelled.

In order to have any galas, we need to have all six lanes back, and a reduction in the social distancing rules, which would allow parents in to spectate.

As for 2021 it is far too early to make any decisions.

Friendly League

It came as no surprise to all the teams in the North East Lancs Friendly League, that the 2020 league season was cancelled and all completed competitions declared null and void.

In a way, this was fortunate for the Club as we had a poor start to the season, losing all three fixtures against Accrington, Burnley and Great Harwood.

Hopefully we can start afresh in 2021.

Tales from Lockdown

If you have done anything interesting during the lockdown period that you would like to share, then please email me and your stories can be published in future editions of the newsletter.

Swimming Club Trials

Due to the current restrictions being applied to the Club, we are unable to take in any new members.

This situation will be reviewed every few weeks.



The Club has been signed up with Easy Fundraising for over 10 years, and in this time we have only had a few supporters. We would like more.

Currently there are **23** supporters of the Club on Easy Fundraising, and between them they have raised **£1,465.59**, which equates to **£118.48** in the past 12 months

If you use Easy Search rather than Google or Bing, you will donate to our cause without spending a penny. Currently we have had **£221.00** from 14,048 completed searches.

Details about how Easy Fundraising works can be found on the Club website.

<http://www.colne-asc.co.uk/easyfundraising.php>

Just remember by shopping through Easy Fundraising's website, you are getting big business to donate to the Club, and you get what you are purchasing at no extra cost.

It is a no brainer, so come on, join today and help support the Club.

Thank you.

