

Dear Swimmers and Parents,

Thank you for all your kind support and positive emails; they are much appreciated in what has been a very hectic time.

Coaching and management structure.

In our manifesto, we clearly stated that we would review the coaching and management structure of the club. We need to continue to improve our relationship with the school, as we want to keep using the pool and we need to put in good management structures, so that we can prove good governance for Swim 21 accreditation. Part of this process involves reviewing many aspects of the club, what issues there are and how all the different squads are working. This is all vital to our continuation as a club into the future.

Coaches Contracts

There has been some information circulated about the situation with the coaches' contracts, which does not give the full picture. It was necessary for a number of reasons to issue different contracts under the new club, Barnes Swimming Club. These contracts had to be discussed with the coaches; discussions which are on going. We also consider that these discussions between the committee and coaches are confidential between both parties and would ask you all to respect that confidentiality.

SPS Squad discounts

A few of you have also asked why we have given the SPS squad its discount back. This is a small percentage of our membership who generally swim with their school squads as well. As part of our manifesto one of our main objectives was to improve relationships with the school. We see this as an integral part of building that relationship. We have had many comments that this has been a good idea and we will continue to review the best way to rebuild this relationship.

Minutes

As we stated in our manifesto, we are going to publish all minutes with the exception of confidential issues. Our secretary is preparing the last meeting's minutes and we are looking at how we might confidentially publish them on the website with password protection, so that the whole world doesn't have access. We are also waiting for the minutes from the AGM to be forwarded from the previous secretary and when available will publish them in the same way.

Swimming Camp

This will be going ahead. Krisztina Polgar-Wiseman who did much of the initial organisation of the Irish camp will be taking over with the help of Karen and other members of the committee. Many have worked with children and between them have done many health and safety courses. In addition, Sue Heenan who is both a doctor and experienced swim club helper is one of the chaperones. We are looking at reviewing the present timetable as feedback from the Irish Camp indicated that many of the swimmers were too exhausted from lack of sleep to train properly and we feel a 10.30 bedtime after a 6.00am start and 5 hours of training is a tad too much. After all sleep is well known as being vital to success. We will update you on the plans in the near future.

Codes of Conduct

Can we also take the opportunity to remind you that there are Codes of Conduct in place, which we expect all members to abide by in their communications and behaviour with others at the club.

Yours sincerely,

David Brandon.
Chairman BSC