



**Barnes Swimming Club**



## **Week 0 Newsletter 2**

**Dear Parent/Guardian/Swimmer,**

As you can imagine, it has been a hectic week stepping into the flow of running the Club, getting up to speed in each area, and starting to go through the hand over from the outgoing committee. It's times like this when you realise why governments have the Civil Service! However, I am sure that you like us, want everything to move faster and it's frustrating that it's not the case. The truth is, we could rush in and immediately change everything, but to really make things better with a good foundation everything needs to be done properly and the various options carefully considered. If we don't do that then we wouldn't be doing our jobs properly. We also want to make sure we are making everything better for everyone, not just one section of the club.

In the future we are considering how we regularly disseminate news, maybe a blog on the website or a face book page. Meanwhile, we wanted to update you on what has been happening this week:

### **Handover**

Liz Stoyel kindly began to hand over her huge amount of information to April and Robin. In addition, various other members of the old committee have started to sort out and send over their information and lists.

The pertinent parties are meeting at the bank on Monday to take over the running of the club's finances. At this point Robin will be able analyse the accounts and get a better picture of where we stand.

### **Name Change and Logo**

London Region approved our new name – Hurrah! At present we are thinking of keeping the original club look and just changing the name. We made an initial logo or two.



This should allow swimmers to carry on using the present kit with a new cloth badge that can be easily sewn over the old one. It will also enable us to still use the large amount of kit the club has bought, which is at proswimwear. Any other suggestions/thoughts, please let us know.

In addition, the website will need to be changed in due course as the company who build it, no-longer exist.

### **Meetings**

On Wednesday the Exec members met to go through the agenda and arranged our first full committee meeting which will be this coming Monday. We will then be able to start working on the 100 day plan leading up to the Club's contract review with the School and will keep you all updated.

The agenda will look at many of the things we have already talked to you about and what steps we need to take to implement them. This will include looking at the timetable and the availability of the coaches.

### **Meeting with school**

David has arranged a meeting with the school. This will take place next week, which was the first date all parties could make. Once we have met with the school we will be clearer on what we need to move forward. We will then be better able to make decisions about the SPS squad and how we improve our relationship with school swimmers. This relationship is important to all of us at the club.

### **Galas**

It is important to keep the Gala entries ticking over, as the level 3 and 4 galas are filling up earlier and earlier each year and we don't want to miss anymore. There is a list on the website calendar which you may want to consult. We have Ealing next weekend and after that March is taken up with the Surreys. However, there are a number of galas in April, like Bracknell and Guildford, which we need to start applying for very soon. More information next week.

Whilst we are looking at an integrated swimming management system for the longer term, Robin has taken a look at how to proceed in the short term. **We will publish this on the website** in the next few days with some illustrations showing what to do.

### **Team Unify**

Robin has been looking at a number of different software applications which will help us manage the club and its finances. On Thursday various committee members took part in an on-line demo from Team Unify, [www.teamunify.com](http://www.teamunify.com). They are used by a large number of clubs worldwide including Ealing SC. We have more questions to cover with the vendor and in addition we have arranged to talk to some of those clubs that already use it. However, Team Unify provides a wide range of swimming club focused functionality (management for membership, squads, galas, communications etc.), will provide a website, link into Hytek and give the coaches and swimmers mobile access. Finally, the cost is reasonable, so it seems promising. Please let us know if you have any questions or have any experience of using this software at other clubs.

### **Volunteers**

Dean and Kate have started putting together lists of those who want to help and in what area. Thank you to all those that have already contacted us. We have so far had offers of help for Swim 21, the club shop and of course all our timekeepers and judges. There are still plenty of roles to help with, even in the above areas, as well as; chaperoning, welfare officers, whipping, and squad representatives. Please keep an eye out for the full list.

In addition, we are keen to involve people in writing the newsletter - that means our younger swimmers as well as our masters. Are there any budding young journalists or photo journalists out there? Kate would love to hear from any of our teenagers (or younger) who are interested in contributing to the newsletter or eventually to an on-line social media site.

We hope this letter gives you a good idea of what has been going on, and we will update you in the coming week once the initial committee meeting has happened. In the meantime please do get in touch with any urgent questions or suggestions - [suggestions.bsc@gmail.com](mailto:suggestions.bsc@gmail.com).

Yours sincerely

The Committee