



**DASC UPDATES**  
**February 2015**  
[www.dare-asc.co.uk](http://www.dare-asc.co.uk)

**Welcome to New DASC Members**

Since Christmas we have had 9 new swimmers and one new diver join DASC, with several more swimmers and divers on trial with us. We hope you are enjoying being part of the club.

**DASC Swimming Training**

Training over the February half-term school holidays will continue as it has been doing since January.

Hummersknott Pool is still out of action with repairs only likely to start over February half-term and to continue beyond that. In the last few weeks we have also suffered 4 short notice cancellations of training sessions at school pools due to circumstances beyond the control of DASC and the schools. These things happen occasionally but not usually as often as this. The incidents do illustrate why it is vital to keep a regular eye on your texts, e-mails and the club website for information about changes to training which may have to be made, sometimes at short notice, because of pool closures, gala weekends, coach absence etc.

On the positive side the Dolphin Centre has made extra time available to us on a Thursday evening for A1 squad training. They are continuing to monitor the number of public users in the pool on Sunday mornings before deciding if we can have more pool space then.

**DASC 2015 Diddy League Team**

Following the recent Diddy League Time Trials, Jeff Stevenson has selected the DASC team for the first two galas on:

- Sun 8 March 2.45pm warm-up for 3.20pm start Newcastle
- Sun 15 March 11.50am warm-up for 12.25pm start Billingham

Swimmers have been notified by e-mail of selection and further details will follow. Diddy League Training continues on Saturday mornings at Haughton EV 11.45-1.15pm.

**Schools Gala Dates at the Dolphin Centre**

- Darlington (Small) Primary Schools Gala Wed 11 March 9.30am start
- Darlington (Large) Primary Schools Gala Wed 18 March 9.30am start
- Tees Valley Primary Schools Gala Thu 23 April 9.30am start
- Darlington Secondary Schools Gala Wed 13 May evening

If you are able to help at any of these galas as a timekeeper, please contact Laurence Murray (Chairman). We will also be looking for help with manning the entrance desk and selling raffle tickets at the Secondary Schools gala, although we have enough volunteers for this at the Primary Schools galas.

**Raffle Prizes**

We will be running several raffles at various galas over the next few months, so if you are able to donate any suitable items (chocolates and bottles are always popular but other ideas welcome too), we would be very grateful. Please hand them in at the Club Desk on Tuesdays.

**2015 Membership Renewal**

The membership renewal is almost complete. If there are any 2014 members yet to renew for 2015, please contact Jane Teague (Membership Secretary) **asap** to pay annual fees and submit a new

membership form. The monthly fees for most squads changed in January. Please make sure that you have updated your standing order payment, and if you are in arrears, please see Lindsey Allinson (Treasurer) to make payment.

If any of your medical information or contact details, especially phone numbers or e-mail addresses, change during the year please let Jane know. The same applies if you want to resign from DASC.

### **DASC Annual General Meeting**

The 2015 DASC AGM will be held on Wednesday 29 April at 7.30pm in the Dolphin Centre. Please make a note of the date and aim to come along to show your support for the club and to hear reports for the last year. You might like to also consider standing for the committee. You do not need to be an expert in swimming or diving to be on it. The committee is looking for new volunteers, able to attend a monthly committee meeting and willing to help in any way they can so that the club runs as well as possible for the benefit of your swimmers and divers.

You can attend the AGM and speak and vote at it, and can stand for election to the DASC Committee, if you are 18 or over, and a member of DASC. Parents can become members of DASC by submitting a completed membership form. In general there are no fees to pay to become a DASC adult member.

Look out for more information shortly on the club noticeboard and website and by e-mail. The Nomination Form for the 2015 Committee will be posted soon on the noticeboard. See Jane or Laurence if you have any questions.

### **DASC Club Welfare Officer**

After 7 years of service to DASC in the role of Club Welfare Officer, Wico van Mourik will be stepping down at the AGM. We are grateful for all that he has done for the club in this capacity.

We are looking for someone willing to follow on in this role, which is to be an important point of contact to assist with the safety and protection of children and young people in the club. If you are interested in knowing more about this, please speak to Laurence.

### **Gala Officials Training**

A good number of DASC parents recently attended the first of a series of monthly Gala Officials Training Courses being held at the Dolphin Centre by NDSA (Northumberland and Durham Swimming Association). They have started training to become qualified at Judge 1 level, which involves timekeeping and inspecting turns. There will be another room-based training session and then some poolside training at local galas for them. In February training for Judge 2 level begins. If you would like to get involved, it is not too late; please speak to Jane or Carol Bottomley (DASC Competition Secretary)

### **Assistant Competition Secretaries**

We are looking for a volunteer who would be willing to help as part of a small team with collecting in DASC gala entries and gala fees. This usually happens on Tuesday and/or Sunday evenings as and when required. It would be helpful to have some experience of entering your own swimmer for galas, but training will be given. If you could help with this, please see Carol or Jane.

### **Club Swim Shop**

The next few Club Swim Shop opening dates are Tuesday 17 Feb, 3 Mar, 17 Mar 6.00-7.30pm. If you are new to the club, why not visit it and see what it sells and ask for advice.

Swimmers in the Diddy League team are expected to wear a DASC hat (if they wear a hat), so make sure you are equipped before 8 March gala. You might also like to buy a DASC T-shirt to wear at the gala.

**A Night Out in a Good Cause – Body Shop Fund-Raising Party for DASC Funds**

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> March, 7pm, The Hole in the Wall Pub (Upstairs Function Room)

Sarah Briggs and Jeanette Rogers (A1 squad parents) will have further information and tickets for sale shortly.

**LBT Children's Aquathlon Swim/Run**

Leeds and Bradford Triathlon Club are holding their annual Junior Aquathlon (swim followed immediately by a run) for 8-18 year olds at University of Leeds, Woodhouse Lane, Leeds. It is at The Edge (building 101 and 101A on campus map) - LS2 9JT on Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> May 2015 starting at 13:00.

The swim takes place in a 25m heated indoor pool and the run is on a circuit round the university campus. A great event for all, from first-timers to experienced competitors. Ask Jane for more information.

**Contact details:**

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Kath Pinner (DASC Swim Shop and Fund-Raising)

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