



DASC UPDATES
November 2015
www.dare-asc.co.uk

Please read the following carefully as there is a lot going on as we approach Christmas.

Update on Pools



The Dolphin Centre has recently indicated that the work to make the pool area a more energy efficient and pleasant environment to be in, and to improve the family changing village, is progressing well and should be completed by late December. Once the main and diving pool reopen, the training pool will close until late March for more updates to be carried out.

At Longfield pool the work to tarmac various areas is causing some disruption and is due to finish about 19 November. If there are any issues at Longfield in the future, parents are asked to report to staff at the Sports Hall Main Reception who should be happy to help.

Gala Opportunities

Gala information is available on the website and will also be e-mailed out to you where relevant. The Scarborough gala is still open for entries from B1 squad and above. The closing date for B1, A3 and A2 squads for the Middlesbrough Christmas Gala is Tue 17 November.

2016 Provisional Date for your Diary: Darlington Dander Meet Sunday 9 October 2016 at the Dolphin Centre.

Diddy League Training

Training sessions focussing on gala skills for all swimmers age 9 to 12 are continuing on Saturdays 11.45am to 1.15pm at Houghton Education Village. The rota is on the club website at <http://www.dare-asc.co.uk/10.html>. We will be holding some time trials on Saturday 5 December for all 9&10 year olds to begin looking for our Diddy League team swimmers. Please attend if at all possible. We will also need parents to help with timekeeping and recording at the gala. Please let your coach know if you can help.

DASC Club Desk

A reminder that during Sep-Dec 2015 DASC volunteers will man a desk in the Dolphin Centre foyer for gala entries and refunds, membership enquiries and other queries on:

- Tuesdays 7.30-8.00pm
- Sundays 4.45-5.45pm – earlier times because of changes to training times

DASC Swim Shop

The remaining Club Swim Shops this term will be held at the Dolphin Centre in the foyer on Tuesdays 7.30-8.30pm on:

- 17 November
- 8 December

If you are thinking about making a purchase for Christmas (as a surprise or not), please don't leave it too late. Thank you to Christine van Mourik and Allison Matthias for running the shop.

Fees

The large majority of DASC members are heading towards the end of the year with all monthly squad fee payments up to date. If you are in arrears, please make them up promptly. Swimmers' fees will need to be up to date before their membership can be renewed in January 2016.

Payments of arrears (or anything else) can be made by:

- cheque payable to DASC
- cash – exact amount please
- BACS payment to the club account (Darlington Amateur Swimming Club, Sort Code 09-01-27, Account Number 98784079). If paying by this method please indicate with your payment what it is for and e-mail Jane to let her know when you have paid.

After taking into account the considerable disruption to swimming & diving training caused by the closure of the Dolphin Centre Main and Diving Pool this term, the Committee decided to leave Membership Fees and Squad Fees at their current levels, despite anticipated rises in the costs of pool hire in 2016. The additional costs in 2016 will be offset by the savings in pool hire during the last 4 months of 2015.

There will be a small increase in the 2016 registration and affiliation fees which are set by ASA, NERASA and NDSA. Details about renewal of DASC membership for 2016 will be available by the end of the year.



Christmas is Coming

Our Social and Fund-raising organisers, Jeanette Rogers, Sarah Briggs and Lynette Anderson are working hard on plans for the festive season. We do hope that you will join in with the following.

Christmas Raffle

The DASC Christmas Raffle will soon be launched with some Christmas hampers and many other goodies to be won. All swimmers will receive an envelope with £5 of raffle tickets which we would ask you to sell if possible.

Squad Awards

You are invited to take part in some new squad awards, by nominating swimmers in some very important categories! Nomination forms will be distributed in the envelope with the raffle tickets (see above).

The DASC Christmas Event

Saturday 19 December 7.30-11.00pm at Darlington Junior Unionist Club, Kendrew Street, Darlington, DL3 6JW

There is plenty of free parking nearby.

Tickets cost £5 to include pie and peas or pizza. Tickets should be bought in advance and your food choice made on purchase. If tickets are bought on the night, then you may not get your choice of food.

The number of tickets available is limited and they will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis.

The function room has a licensed bar. Parents and siblings are encouraged to buy a ticket and join in.

There will be a disco, a raffle for a chocolate gorilla, and the presentation of awards (both serious and less serious).

Helpers Needed

Because of the upheaval at the Dolphin Centre, giving out and collecting in raffle tickets, forms and money, and selling Event tickets is going to be less straightforward than in previous years. It would be very helpful to have one or two volunteers from each squad who attend most squad training sessions regularly, to be willing to help out with this in the next few weeks. If you can get involved with this job, please contact Jeanette Rogers, tel: 07882846242, e-mail: jeanette401@btinternet.com.

The Small Print

Margaret Rogers has very kindly agreed to be at the Club Desk on Tuesday nights 7.30-8.00pm provisionally from 24 November to sell tickets for the Christmas Event and collect in raffle ticket stubs, money and unsold raffle tickets, and the completed nomination forms.

You can also buy or return tickets etc from/ to Jeanette Rogers (Top1), Sarah Briggs or Lynette Anderson (both A1), and hopefully some volunteers from your squad.

Raffle ticket stubs, money and unsold raffle tickets, and the completed nomination forms are due back by 8.00pm on Tuesday 15 December. The raffle will be drawn at the Dolphin Centre straight after. Information on the winners of the raffle prizes will be sent out to club members by e-mail and posted on the club website. Raffle prizes will be available to collect and the squad awards will be presented at the Christmas Event. If you can't make that, then they will be available to collect at the Club Desk on Sunday 20 December 4.45-5.45pm



Fund-raising Opportunities

The more funds we can raise for DASC then the more we can do, both in terms of keeping fees as low as possible and of making special purchases for the use of club members.

Easyfundraising

Please remember that if you shop online then you can probably raise some funds for DASC at the same time because DASC is registered with easyfundraising. Online Christmas shopping is the ideal way to raise money for DASC at the click of a button. If you are thinking of booking accommodation for away galas eg Rotherham Metro at Sheffield then hotels such as Travelodge, Holiday Inn and Hilton are in the scheme.

We have just received our first cheque from easyfundraising for £18.54. Thank you to all who have contributed. There is a link to the easyfundraising website from the bottom of the club website home page at <http://www.dare-asc.co.uk/index.html>

Match Funding

Many companies throughout the UK offer employees the chance to boost their fundraising efforts by 'matching' the money they raise. It really is money for nothing. Match giving or match funding is a simple way of maximising the fundraising efforts of individual volunteers. It is an informal arrangement between a company and their employee.

Not all companies offer match funding but those that do will pledge a sum of money relating to the amount their employee has raised for or donated to the charity of their choice.

Many banks and building societies, insurance companies, supermarkets, utilities providers, phone companies and car manufacturers offer match funding schemes. Could you check if your employer has a scheme already in place or if they'd be willing to set one up? It is not complicated and will cost the individual nothing - other than some time to talk to their employer.

If you think this might be a way for you to raise funds for DASC, please speak to Sarah Briggs tel: 07853207389, e-mail: sarahbriggs8@talktalk.net. You can find out more at <http://letsgetfundraising.co.uk/funding/match-funding.aspx>

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