

BERKSHIRE & SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE ASA

MANAGEMENT BOARD

19 NOVEMBER 2015

REPORT OF INTERIM WATER POLO MANAGER

As far as I am aware, the situation in respect of water polo remains in Berkshire & South Buckinghamshire as in 2014 - there is only one club in the County which offers competitive water polo to its members, Reading SC. Much of the information in this report derives from the Annual Report adopted by Reading SC at its AGM last month.

The water polo section of the Club comprises 16 [adult] players - 13 men and 3 women. The Club notes that its polo membership is transient, in that players move in and out of the area in connection with their work.

Although some years ago the team from Reading reached the dizzy heights of National League polo, presently the teams plays in the London League. They were relegated from Division 1 of that league in 2014, but, as of 22 October 2015, were top of Division 2, and look likely to be promoted. The team also plays in the London League Winter League, to secure game time for the developing squad.

After a year without a coach, 2 members have sought the level 1 coaching qualification (via a course at Basingstoke, and with financial support from the County Association), and, assuming they are successful, one of them will seek the level 2 qualification next year.

As reported last year, the Club has decided to participate in the Basingstoke polo network, although it is not clear whether the memorandum of understanding has yet been signed on behalf of the Club.

On a national level, following the Tunnicliffe Review, the England Water Polo Management Group unveiled its Strategic and Operational Plan first to the Sport Governing Board (and regional chairmen) and then to the water polo fraternity, last weekend.

Roger Penfold
19 November 2015