



BERKSHIRE AND SOUTH BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

Performance Swimming Events Committee

Contact: James Glazebrook
Email: championships@bsbasa.org

Annual Report (April 2024)

Introduction

Please find the 2024 Annual Report of the Berkshire And South Buckinghamshire ASA Performance Swimming Events Committee.

The report is written to cover the 2023/2024 season, including:

1. The 2023 County Development meet
2. The 2024 County Championships
3. New County Swimming Records (since April 2023)
4. Developments in county swimming facilities

The Performance Swimming committee comprises the following members:

- James Glazebrook (Committee Chair),
- Stuart Fillingham,
- Rob Moore,
- Andy Mackay,
- Jonathan Mills,
- Sam Dyson,
- Peter Button

All members and have made an active and important contribution to the planning and execution of the events organised. As Performance Swimming Events Manager, I would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Committee and for their support and commitment to the County.

Development Meet

The Development Meet is an annual meet aimed at swimmers 17 years old and under in the county who do not yet have licenced times that allow them to be considered for entry to the following County Championships. In 2023 additional events were included into the programme to take advantage of the additional capacity provided by the 10 lane pool at Braywick; 200m Breaststroke, 200m Butterfly and 200m Backstroke.

Following feedback from the clubs from the 2022 development meet, the meet was better advertised in advance to the clubs and the entry process was improved to allow TeamUnify compatible entry files to be used.

As a results of this, the large number of meet entries meant it was over-subscribed and we needed to reject 30% of entries to keep the meet within the pool capacity. We would also

have needed to scratch some events and more swimmers if we did not get the goodwill and cooperation of Windsor SC to allow us to extend the pool booking later into the evening.

Thanks to the high number of entries, total income from the meet rose to £12,558, almost doubling the previous year total. Costs of running the meet were slightly down on 2023 levels at £3,115, mainly from being able to reuse some of the medals in stock.

Due to the strong support from our clubs, we are more than happy to run the Development Meet again in 2024, and have booked Braywick pool for 13th October. In order to better manage entry numbers we will reintroduce Qualifying Times in the meet conditions.

May thanks also go to Maidenhead Marlins SC who helped the committee with some of the planning of the meet and advised on the best way to use the facilities.

County Championships

The 2024 County Championships took place on 13th/14th and 27th/28th January. The meet was held with a full programme of events including a new event – The Tandem Relay.

Unfortunately, due to restrictions from the leisure centre management, we were only allowed to use 1 section of the sports hall to provide space for the swimmers to wait and perform their warm-up when not on the pool deck. This did make the sports hall more crowded, however the space was well managed and did not result in over-crowding or the pool deck becoming congested.

Entries to the meet were close to pre-pandemic levels with 2,864 swims. The total meet income from entries was up to £42,546, an increase of £5,822 from 2023. Costs were down slightly at £20,923 (a reduction of £2,931) due to use of existing medals stock.

Feedback from the coaches forum, held after the championships, was largely positive and highly appreciative of how the competition was organised and run. While entry numbers are similar to pre-pandemic levels, it is clear that the long-distance events and a few short distance categories are still undersubscribed. The consideration times for these events will be reviewed against rankings and Regional entry times to ensure the county swimmers are properly represented at the championships, the pool capacity available is used effectively, and finals are run with the full complement of 8 swimmers as far as reasonably practicable.

The 2025 Championships are planned to be held at Wycombe Leisure Centre on 11th/12th & 25th/26th January.

Performance Swimming Records

During the 2023/24 season (up to the 31st March 2024), 6 new Junior County Records and 1 new County Record have been set by the county's athletes:

Gender	Course	Event	Swimmer / Club	Location	Date	Time
Junior County Records						
Open/Male	LC	50m Fly	Ethan Richards-Knight (Chalfont)	Sheffield	28/07/2023	00:25.29
Open/Male	SC	50m Free	Noah Wheeler (Chalfont)	Surrey Sports Park	19/11/2023	00:23.49
Open/Male	SC	50m Fly	Noah Wheeler (Chalfont)	Surrey Sports Park	19/11/2023	00:28.91
Open/Male	SC	100m IM	Noah Wheeler (Chalfont)	Surrey Sports Park	19/11/2023	00:58.11
Female	LC	200m Breast	Hazel-Anne Carter (Wycombe District)	Wycombe LC	14/01/2024	02:40.83
Female	LC	4x100m Medley	Wycombe District	Wycombe LC	14/01/2024	04:29.82
County Records						
Female	LC	100m Fly	Lucy Fox (Wycombe District)	Wycombe	14/01/2024	01:02.15

Performance Swimming facilities within the County

The Performance Swimming Events Committee takes a keen interest in the development of facilities available in the county which are suitable for the organisation of galas and competitions.

The new Palmer Park Stadium and Rivermead swimming pools opened in the Reading area during 2023. The Palmer Park pool is not suitable for open meets and the current pool at Rivermead is only temporary. The temporary pool will be replaced with a new 8 lane 25m competition pool, planned to open in Summer 2024.

The facilities in the county suitable for holding open meets are:

- Braywick Leisure Centre, Maidenhead (10 lanes, 25m)
- Bracknell Leisure Centre, Bracknell (6 lanes, 25m)
- Chiltern Lifestyle Centre, Amersham (8 lanes, 25m)
- Crosfields School, Reading (5 lanes, 25m)
- Rivermead Leisure Centre (8 lanes, 25m) – Opening Summer 2024
- Wycombe Leisure Centre (8 lanes, 50m)

James Glazebrook

BSBASA Performance Swimming Events Manager

31st March 2024