CITY OF LIVERPOOL SWIMMING CLUB 2018 AGM

MASTERS SQUAD ANNUAL REVIEW

Operating Performance

A sufficient number of swimmers attending Masters training is needed in order to ensure continued support from City of Liverpool Council and LAC Centre Manager. Numbers in the Squad have been consistently higher this year than in 2017, although still below the capacity available in the lane space provided for the Monday, Wednesday and Friday sessions. An independent study was completed at the start of the year benchmarking the Squad with two others. The conclusions identified that availability of suitable training sessions and times, together with dedicated Coaching support were the two key factors required in order to maintain and grow Squad numbers.

In March of this year June Bradshaw arranged for a Poolside Coach to cover two of the weekly training sessions on a trial basis. Due to funding limitations this was limited to a two week period but it demonstrated its value in terms of swimmer motivation, level of interest, and ability to promote and market the sessions to potential new members.

Overall the Squad has improved, and we are indebted to June Bradshaw and Brian Noonan from City of Liverpool Council for their continued support for Masters swimming within Liverpool.

2. Coaching

Squad training sessions have continued to operate on the basis of utilising 'In the water coaches' who set the training session content each week. Tony Wylie has provided the majority of the schedules with Steve Wall covering Fridays. This year has seen additional input from a new member, Brian Parks, who has moved here from the USA bring his experience from across the pond.

3 Competition Highlights

This year CoL SC Masters swimmers have competed at several regional and National level events including;

North West Region Masters	Blackpool
British Championships Long Course	Plymouth
Lancashire Masters	Blackpool
Swim England National Masters Championships	Sheffield

At the recent National Championships in Sheffield four swimmers represented CoL SC, with the following achievements;

Lisa Sara James (25-29) 100m Fly 4th, 50m Fly 11th; both SBTs
Gregory Thomas (25 -29) 100m BC 6th, 100 FC 13th, 200m FC 4th, 50m Fly 11th; PBs and SBTs
Stephen McQuilliam (25-29) 50m FC 21st, 50m Fly 20th
Steven Wall (60-64) 100m Fly 2nd, 50m Fly 3rd; both SBTs
Plus, a special mention for **Tony Wylie** (50-54) who represented Prescot SC. 1st Gold in the 200mIM.

4 Future Plans

The drive to try and identify a 'Pool Side Coach' has not progressed this year, effectively placing this action on hold. This decision followed feedback from the Coaching Trial and Study which recognised that the position is unattractive due to the late training times, plus the lack of funding mean would mean the position would be on a voluntary basis. It was also recognised however that this limits growth and the development of the Squad.

For 2019 it is anticipated that the current volunteer Coaches will continue their efforts in providing structured training sessions, and that this will hopefully be sufficient to maintain and possibly slightly improve the Squad numbers and the standards and results achieved.

A programme of competitions similar to 2018 is anticipated with the Long Course Nationals an early season target. With new members CoL SC Masters will hopefully be able to field swimmers in the Team Racers for the first time in many years.

Steve Wall CoL Masters Secretary and LAC Squad Lead 01-11-2018