

ASA WEST MIDLAND REGION CLUB NEWSLETTER SUMMER 2016

West Midland
Swimming

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Welcome to Andy Norman



I joined the team on 9th May as a Club Development Officer, covering the Black Country and Staffordshire and am on a sharp learning curve!

I am a sports enthusiast and love getting people participating in new activities, being a qualified coach in many sports. I come from a sports development background having a career working in general sports for a Local Authority and in football development management for a County Football Association. I am a former lifeguard and swimming teacher.

My aim in this role is to form a great relationship with the excellent club volunteers in Staffordshire and the Black Country and assist the development of their clubs.

Club survey

Thank you to all clubs who completed the annual survey – the West Midlands had the highest response rate!



Congratulations to the following clubs who successfully completed their annual health check in March and June 2016;

Biddulph SC
Blythe Barracudas SC
Bromsgrove SC
Chase SC
City of Birmingham SC
Droitwich Dolphins SC
Ellesmere College Titans SC
Fox Hollies SC
Halesowen SC
Ledbury SC
Ludlow SC
Oswestry Otters SC
Perry Beeches SSS
Redditch SC
Rugby SC
Stafford Apex SC
Stratford Sharks SC
Telford Aqua SC
Walsall Synchronised SC
Warley Wasps SC
Whitchurch SC
Wombourne SC
Worcester SC
Wyre Forest SC

Congratulations to Camp Hill SC for gaining their swim21 accreditation for the first time and to the Herefordshire Club Network (City of Hereford and Ledbury) for achieving swim21 Network accreditation

Please note: Accreditation will lapse if all 21 elements aren't approved 7 days prior to national panel.

To deactivate accounts for club members who no longer need access to portal, email clubdevelopment@swimming.org.



Club Matters update May 16

Club Matters is Sport England's one stop shop for sports clubs. Club Matters provides free, convenient and practical resources to help you develop and run a sustainable club. [Click here](#) to register for Club Matters so you too can benefit from the free resources available.

Club Matters has launched new content looking at the experience members, participants and volunteers receive at your club, and how to make sure your club experience is extraordinary. Check out the video clips and new resources in the [members and participants](#) section of the Club Matters website.

How to find your Club Matters Clubmark ID

1. Log into Club Matters at the [login page](#).
2. Click on the 'Edit Club' drop down that appears if you hover over 'My Club' at the top of your homepage.
3. Your club's Clubmark ID number will appear at the bottom of the page.



Team Manager – module 1
Saturday 17th September 2016
1pm – 4pm
Warwick School CV34 6PP

Time to Listen (Welfare Officers)
Saturday 17th September 2016
1pm – 4.30pm
Warwick School CV34 6PP

Saturday 17th September 2016
1pm – 4pm
Warwick School CV34 6PP
Cost £35

To book a place on a course, please contact the Regional Office:

Telephone 01527 888929
Email westmidland@swimming.org

A Grade D referees course is taking place on 12th/13th November at SportPark, Loughborough. The 2 day course costs £30 and includes lunch and refreshments. [Click here](#) for further details and an application form.

Contact westmidland@swimming.org or tel 01527 888929 to book a place.

The ASA has updated its Health and Safety in pools guidance documents which can be found [here](#).

The South Staffordshire Clubs Network has been resurrected and the first meeting took place on Monday 4th July 2016 at 7pm at Stafford Leisure Centre.

Entries are now open to all swimmers aged 18 – 108+ living in Great Britain for who can swim the furthest in 30 minutes.
Entry deadline is 31 December 2016.
For more information visit the T-30 Challenge page at swimming.org/masters.

The Annual General Meeting of the West
Midland Region will take place on Saturday
17th September at Warwick School at 10am.
Nominations are being invited for:

- Finance Manager
- Management Board member
- Delegates to ASA Council
- Discipline co-ordinators (Swimming, Synchro,
Water Polo, Masters, Diving)
- Medical Adviser
- Chair of Governance Group
- Chair of Club Development Group
- Swimming Officials Co-ordinator
- Records Officer
- Licensing Officer.

Further details can be found on the website or
through your club secretary.

Nominations open on 13th June and close on 10th August for the ASA and the Regional Aquatics Awards 2016.

[Click here](#) for the Regional Aquatics Awards.
[Click here](#) for the ASA Aquatics Awards.

the **asa**
swim for life

ASA NATIONAL OPEN WATER FESTIVAL 2016

Rother Valley Country
Park, Sheffield
23 - 24 July 2016

- ▶ NEW 1,500m Challenge
- ▶ ASA National Masters Championships
- ▶ ASA National Age Group Championships

Free entry to spectate and enjoy the festival.

swimming.org/openwaterfestival

NEW ASA 100M CHALLENGE - Saturday 23 July

Are you a confident swimmer? Looking for a new swimming challenge? Then come along and experience the adrenaline rush of an open water swim at the ASA 100m Challenge.

Open water swimming is the perfect way to take swimming in a new direction. And this Challenge event begins the opportunity to take their first dive into open water.

We welcome everyone to watch and join us don't need to be an ASA member to sign up.

Need some training advice?

- Training guides and coaching tips are available on our website.
- Plus our Open Water Training bloggers will be sharing their training experiences to help you train safely.

COME ALONG AND ENJOY A FUN FAMILY DAY OUT!

Enjoy a festival atmosphere on shore with stalls, music and food. Also take part in Swim Safe for Families water safety sessions run by the ASA and HSE.

Free entry, small or car parking charges apply.

Find out more and register your interest at:
swimming.org/openwaterfestival

ASA NATIONAL MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS

Saturday 23 July

The calendar highlights Category 2 Masters and Senior Group Open water swimmers to compete for national honours in 1.8k and 5k events.

So if you're a competitive Masters swimmer with something to prove, make sure you're first in line to secure your place.

ASA NATIONAL AGE GROUP CHAMPIONSHIPS

Sunday 24 July

The country's flagship open water age group event where the future stars of the sport compete for national titles. Swimmers can access qualification times in the pool or qualify by placing at their ASA Regional Open Water Championships.

Funding of up to £100 is available through the Eddie Blight Trust Fund for young officials (16 – 25 years and in full time education) to assist with the initial outlay of official's clothing, equipment and travel/accommodation at events.

[Click here](#) for an application form.

Connie was awarded £50 which was put towards paying for the correct equipment and clothing required to fulfil her responsible role as a Judge Level 1.

Michael claimed £44.99 towards the purchase of white trousers, a stopwatch, whistle and clipboard.

[Click here](#) for full list courses in the Region.

ASA Swimming Assistant starts 30/7/16 at Meadowside Leisure Centre, Burton-on-Trent.

ASA Swimming Assistant BLENDED
LEARNING starts 12/8/16 at Warwick School

ASA Coaching Swimming starts 9/9/16 at Coventry Sports Centre.

ASA Swimming Assistant starts 24/9/16 at
RAF Cosford.

ASA Swimming Teacher starts 13/8/16 at
Bedworth Leisure Centre

ASA Swimming Teacher starts 13/8/16 at
Oswestry Leisure Centre

ASA Coaching Swimming (tech units) starts
3/9/16 at Stafford Leisure Centre

ASA Swimming Teacher starts 10/9/16 at Small Heath Wellbeing Centre, Birmingham

Charitable Incorporated Organisation status

Currently a number of clubs across the region and country are looking at whether they should gain charitable status or remain as they are. We conducted an interview with Jonathan Penny, Chair of Stratford Sharks SC, the latest club to make the change, to see why they made it and if it is benefiting their club;

What is CIO status and what does it mean for the club?

Charitable Incorporated Organisation, or CIO's, were introduced by the Charities Commission in 2013. This was in response to requests from charities for a new structure which could provide some of the benefits of being a company, but without some of the burdens. A CIO is an incorporated form of charity which is not a company and the CIO 'association' model is designed for charities that have a membership, including voting members other than the charity trustees. CIO's have to register with the Charity Commission and not Companies House, so there is no need for dual regulation. Fundamentally CIO's have a legal identity of their own and as such can enter into contracts with third parties in their own right, with the trustees normally exposed to little or no liability. The status also has benefits for club fundraising activities.

Why did you feel the need to do it?

In a world of increasing regulation and governance transparency, we felt that it was a logical step in the development of the club which would provide a secure legal framework for club operations, whilst at the same time giving confidence that our club is appropriately regulated.

How long did the process take?

Eight months in total, some of which was investigation and planning.

What support did you need (and receive) to make it happen?

The support of the club's current committee was fundamental in the process. As the management structure of the club will change as a result of the transition to CIO Status, it was important that the whole of our committee understood the implications and had weighed up all the pros & cons. Advice was also sort from Alan Bartlett with regards to the club constitution.

What benefits has it brought the club?

Our pool hire and employment contracts are now all between the CIO and the venues / individuals, and we have recently successfully registered with HMRC as a Charity for tax purposes. This will allow us to claim Gift Aid on some club fundraising activities.

What challenges did you face?

It was a bit of a "chicken and egg" challenge to integrate the ASA model constitution with the Charities Commission model constitution whilst satisfying the requirements of both parties.

Top 3 tips to help other clubs thinking about it:

- Understand the process in its entirety from the outset.
- Consider and decide if it is appropriate for your club and don't be afraid to take advice from other clubs.
- Agree the Charity Objects at an early stage.

Contact details:

Jonathan Penny
jp@stratfordsharksasc.co.uk

Preventing Child Abuse Images in Aquatics

The ASA Independent Child Protection Officer has prepared a presentation for Welfare Officers to help with the prevention of child abuse images.

[Click here](#) for the presentation.

Tax Guidance for Clubs

The question around tax and self-employed coaches is raised by many clubs across the region. [Click here](#) for tax guidance notes prepared by the Staffordshire CSP, Sport across Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent (SASSOT) in partnership with GBSport that you may find useful.

Please note that the region always recommends that clubs take definitive legal advice on their own particular circumstances to ensure they comply with the regulations.

There is also information available through Sport England Club Matters. There isn't an online module to do but there are some useful links including the HMRC employment indicator too:

<http://www.sportenglandclubmatters.com/club-finances/budgeting/finances-tax-and-sports-clubs/>

Disney's Finding Dory

Family fun swimming sessions coming to a pool near you this summer.

[Click here](#) for further information.

