

Brighton Dolphin Swimming Club



Formerly Brighton Ladies Swimming Club Founded 1891.
Affiliated to South East Region ASA

www.bdsc.co.uk

ANNUAL REPORT 2019

Chairperson	Mick Anson
Hon. Secretary	Sarah Naish
Hon. Treasurer	Audrey Taylor
Synchronised Swimming Hon. Secretary	Laura Rogers
Learn to Swim Hon. Secretary	Dee Pope
Gala Hon Secretary	Harriet Freestone
Minutes Hon. Secretary	Margaret Simmonds
Masters Hon. Secretary	Paul Allen
Director of Swimming	Pauline Freestone
Welfare Officer	Angela Weighton
Trophy Hon. Secretary	Maggie Stewart

COMMITTEE

All those Officers named above plus Gary Fuller, Liz Fitzsimons and Robert McDonald.

PRESIDENT

Phil Cook

Dear Club Members,

The **Annual General Meeting** of the Club will be held at the Slipper Baths, Prince Regent Swimming Complex, Brighton on Sunday 24th November 2019 at 10.30a.m. A full agenda including nominations for Committee has been published on the club's notice board.

Sarah Naish
Hon. Secretary

CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

It has been another busy year at Brighton Dolphin and the only certainty seems to be that there will be changes, new initiatives and new people to keep things fresh.

The start of the year saw a new swimming club in Sussex (Lancing) based at the school. This affected us because during the application for affiliation to Sussex ASA, we agreed to allow their swimmers and coaches to join BDSC for a year so that their swimmers and coaches could take part in Open and County galas. I am especially grateful to Audrey, Angela and Harriet who had to organise membership, CRB checks and gala entries. Lancing were very grateful to us and are now an affiliated club and there was a side benefit from the additional membership fees which will be used to benefit the club.

Talking of Open galas, the juniors entered a few Open galas this year with success and I was pleased to see two of our juniors achieving County times this year. Unfortunately, Harriet has decided to step down as Gala Secretary after sterling work in the job and I am very grateful for all of her coordination of entries and liaison with parents. I am pleased to say that Harriet will still play a big part in the club organising club championships and team galas.

Some other new changes have been to the club calendar by moving the Club Championships to the autumn to fit better with the wider swim calendar and avoid school exam time. We have also moved the annual awards' afternoon back to the new year to reduce the congestion of end of year celebrations and events.

The Masters' swimmers continue to represent the club with distinction at national, regional and county level and in September there was another big turnout for the Sussex Masters where Brighton Dolphin finished a very good 3rd overall and 2nd in the relay competition. I would encourage more Masters to enter this event next year as it is a very laid back and fun event and really brings together all of our swimmers, young and old, and hopefully one year we will win the competition.

Our synchronised swimming teams also continue to take part in competitions with success. I am grateful to Laura and Liz who took on the synchro roles on the committee this year and are doing a great job for the section and in Sussex for the sport. A new innovation has been the recent introduction of dry side fitness classes for the juniors after Sunday's club swim which has so far proved popular and junior numbers are on the increase. I am grateful for the hard work of all of our synchro coaches. The club took part again in the Brighton Festival in the spring and for the first time our junior synchro swimmers also took part with the adults which was enjoyed by everyone who attended.

This year some of our teachers and volunteers have unfortunately stepped down from their roles due to other commitments and I am very grateful for the contribution they have made to the club. Dee Pope has taught in the Learn to Swim (LTS) section for a few years, latterly as Secretary, and did a great job managing a busy section, getting parents involved and managing our youngest members. Paul Allen is also leaving us as Masters Secretary and will be moving with his family to America. Have we been here before? Oh yes, last year Andy Farrell, our last Masters Sec did the same! I am delighted that Rob McDonald has agreed to be nominated for Masters Sec from next year but I have had to confiscate his passport!

I am also very grateful to Janet Lowe who taught mainly in the small pools for a long time and to Lesley for her contribution and commitment to Surrenden and at galas over the years. Lesley will continue to teach at Prince Regent, I am pleased to say, and help with team gala selections and keeping the swim records. Fabian is also taking a 6 month break from coaching and has brought new ideas which I know the swimmers enjoy. I am very grateful to all of our teachers and coaches for their contributions this year without which we could not function. We have welcomed some new teachers too this year and I am grateful for their commitment in also undertaking new courses and obtaining qualifications in swimming which help to improve our teaching as a club.

We continue to need coaches and volunteers in all areas on poolside and behind the scenes and as part of that we are also encouraging more involvement of parents to help at galas and to shadow the regular teachers at training. I have also been pleased to see our junior swimmers getting involved now and this year four juniors (and one adult) took the Rescue Award and now help at Surrenden whilst others will be shadowing adult teachers. Particular thanks to Sophie and Annie for their support in the LTS sessions.

If you are interested in volunteering or offering your expertise in any way that could help the club or wish to take up a swimming related course to help the club, we can offer help with course fees so please speak to a coach or member of the committee in the first place.

Can I end by thanking the committee and our President, Phil, for their support this year and particularly commend the new committee members for their energy and for quickly adapting to their new roles. I also want to thank *all* of our volunteers and helpers who have helped this club in any capacity to continue to prosper.

Enjoy the end of year celebrations and I hope you have a great new year

Mick Anson
Chairman

LEARN TO SWIM REPORT

The Learn to Swim section is busy with lots of swimmers with regular attendance and children are progressing well, with several swimmers moved up to the main pool.

Rachel, Adam, Annie and Sophie support the Sunday session which is doing well, and Sarah supports them when she's there with other parents in the water. Many thanks go to Margaret who regularly helps in all LTS groups providing individual support to children.

The distance awards are being held in November and it is always good to see how much everyone has improved in the year.

On Tuesdays, Janet has left after providing valuable support, replaced by Morris who is helping Mandy.

Dee Pope
Honorary Learn to Swim Secretary

SYNCRO REPORT

As always, the Brighton Fringe Synchro Show in early May was the highlight of our year. It was great to see all of our swimmers – from beginners to experienced – in action. The juniors in particular nailed their routine on the night and we received a lot of praise for our junior development.

The juniors have worked hard this year and we are getting ready for the first Sussex Junior Synchro competition in December.

Following the show, Cara joined our club as a level 2 coach. In addition, Liz and Vikki gained their level 1 coaching and level 1 judging qualifications.

As mentioned in the Chair's report, our section has been busy growing this year. The reduction in water time and the increase from 2 to 3 teams in the Masters section made it necessary to get better organised. With the help of Liz and Cara, most of the Masters sessions are now coached, with an emphasis on skills development and conditioning. Our efforts have paid off as we returned from the recent South-East Regionals with 3 golds, 2 silvers and 1 bronze. We are now looking forward to taking part in the National Masters as the biggest Synchro Masters club in the country.

Many thanks to all our coaches, poolside helpers, costume makers, and everyone who has helped out one way or another!

Laura Rogers
Synchronised Swimming Hon. Secretary

DIRECTOR OF SWIMMING REPORT

The junior club membership continues to flourish and we have a record number of young people swimming with us. I receive a continuous stream of enquiries requesting lessons and I have had to close the waiting list as for some the waiting time is now over 12 months. Many have heard we are a friendly and welcoming club who provide quality lessons and therefore they are eager to join us.

I love the fact that we welcome some swimmers into the club as infants and watch them grow and develop into young adults. Later in life we welcome some these young adults back as masters, we then teach their children and even further along the line we welcome their grandchildren. Our club membership crosses generations with members as young as 1 to those into their 80s. How many hobbies/sports allow this happen I wonder?

The club's priority is to ensure that every swimmer has the opportunity to develop their swimming skills. Some will achieve this through representing the club at competitions, and others through a determination to improve their technique, by never missing a session or through swimming as far as they can on distance badge night. I hope that the club can meet the needs of all of our swimmers whether they are juniors, masters or synchro.

Thank you to all the parents who continue to support the club with volunteering, kind words of support, cheering at galas and of course being the taxi service to ensure our junior members get to our sessions.

Our own club gala, held in February, remains an important annual event and has encouraged other clubs to host their own development galas. We have this year not always been able to attend these other galas, but when we do the children are a great team, not just in the pool but the camaraderie across the age groups is great to see.

The continued enthusiasm of our swimmers keeps the team of coaches and teachers very busy. A huge thank you in particular to Mick, Lesley and Harriet who coach, organise competition entries and accompany the swimmers to the various events, and to Audrey, Margaret and Gary for officiating at the galas. Thank you also to those parents who have stepped in as "coach" at open meets to sit with swimmers waiting to compete.

This year we lost Dee from our Sunday Learn to Swim Team and are still looking to replace her with a permanent volunteer, but we are managing to continue to deliver the 3 lessons in the short term. Thank you to Adam & Rachel and to Annie & Sophie (our 2 young volunteers) for making Sunday work.

In 2019 the Club Championships were moved from the spring to the autumn. As usual there were some hotly contested races and great individual performances. Our annual celebration afternoon has also been moved to the end of January. We look forward to awarding the championship trophies and celebrating the achievements of those swimmers who passed and received NPTS awards, or on a badge night swam further than they ever have before. There is nothing more motivating than the thought of receiving a badge or certificate...

As Director of Swimming I am always looking to ensure that our swimmers enjoy the experience of belonging to Brighton Dolphin Swimming Club and that parents can feel confident in the quality of the lessons. The reward for all of our volunteers is to see happy and enthusiastic young people enjoying their sport.

I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a happy and prosperous New Year.

Pauline Freestone
Director of Swimming

MASTERS REPORT

Greetings from North Carolina!

The year has seen Dolphins swimmers attend several local, regional and national meets, from the South East region long course meet in January through to the inter counties meet which is to be held this coming Sunday.

The annual Short Course Nationals in Sheffield provides the premier masters competition of the year to which 10 Dolphins attended. Pick of the bunch was Jose Adam with 4 individual silver medals, other individual medallists were Adam Harper, Matt "Lambo" Lambert and Paul Allen. The Mens' relay team also managed to collect a couple of bronze medals for their troubles

Other highlights over the course of the year included;

Audrey and Harriet picking up individual golds at the aforementioned K2 meet in January along with the Mens' 200m free relay narrowly missing the meet record.

Harriet again picked up an individual win at the London Regional masters LC meet along with medals for Anke and Amber, also in the 100m Breast.

Fabian, Joe and Lee all won at the Fareham Nomads meet and Lee also picked up a victory in the 50m back at the National masters LC meet in Swansea

Jose attended the annual Barnet distance meet to gain medals in 3 events.

23 Dolphins travelled to Horsham for the increasingly competitive Sussex Masters with Lesley standing out on the way to putting several county records to the sword. The club finished 3rd overall with the 200+ free relay also setting a new county record.

Finally, 8 Dolphins attended the annual go slow at Guildford. Big Joe Brown was the pick of the bunch, swimming 7 events and claiming 5 golds!

Paul Allen
Masters Hon Secretary

GALA REPORT

Our junior swimmers continue to train hard and produce some fantastic performances at open meets throughout the year. The Tom Handley meet in January and Ken Deeley meet in September see our biggest number of entries, with lots of new swimmers joining our competition team.

The beginning of the year saw Brighton Dolphin team up with Lancing College and enter the county relay gala. 5 swimmers attended and swam in both freestyle and medley relays.

A highlight of the year is our home team gala. This gives lots of swimmers an opportunity to take part in a competition. We welcomed 5 other teams to a night of closely contested races. As usual the atmosphere was great and we look forward to the next one in February.

This was the first year in a while in which we held an inter club gala, splitting Tuesday night swimmers into Team Shark, Piranha, Dolphin or Whale. All Tuesday night swimmers took part in this evening, it was great to see swimmers cheering each other on and getting excited about taking part in the races. We will look to put on other gala like this next year.

Hope you all have a fab Christmas!

Harriet Freestone
Gala Secretary

HON. TREASURER'S REPORT

Financially your club has had a very successful year with income exceeding expenditure by £2,385. The club has financed course fees for teachers to gain proficiency in swimming and also for synchro coaches amounting in total of over £1,800 and I am sure the swimmers will benefit from their knowledge.

Attendance at Prince Regent at club sessions and Surrenden has been excellent with income exceeding the hire charge of the pool by over £2,000, which has gone a long way towards the profit shown.

Due to the club accommodating Lancing College at the beginning of the year, junior membership was increased but even taking that into consideration, junior membership was up 9, although the senior members were down by 16.

Your Committee have agreed that the subscription fees should stay at the same level, i.e. under 5's £20, Juniors £30 and Seniors £35.

My sincere thanks to Phil Cook for regular taking the money on a Tuesday, greeting the swimmers with a friendly smile and a chat. Also thanks to Margaret Gill for being on hand to take the money on a Sunday morning and to Margaret Simmonds for all her help.

Thanks to Helen and Matt for running the "sweetie" table on a Tuesday night.

Finally, the Committee would like to thank the Manager of Prince Regent and also the pool staff for their help at club sessions.

Audrey Taylor
Hon. Treasurer

ANNUAL DINNER

Our annual night out is being arranged by Phil Cook and all are welcome to join us for this evening taking place at Donatellos in Brighton on Friday 29th November. If you would like to book your seat please email philcook.bdsc@gmail.com .

BDSC Accounts for the year ending 31st August 2019

<u>Balance Sheet 01.09.18 - 31.08.19</u>	2018/2019	2017/2018	<u>Pool Hire</u>	2018/2019	2017/2018
Balance brought forward	24,616.93	25,111.78	Prince Regent	19,966.54	18,150.28
Santander Interest & Interest Schools A/c	141.11	91.79	Surrenden	2,612.00	2,607.50
Subscriptions			Pool Hire re Gala	442.00	425.00
<u>Juniors @ £30 (170)</u>	5,100.00		Prince Regent re Synchro	153.55	145.80
Seniors @ £35 (89)	3,150.00		King Alfred		192.80
Under 5's @ £20 (2)	40.00		Room hire	33.44	165.90
Associate Members (23) & 1 @ £5.20	5.20		Travelling	93.30	89.55
Life Members (5) & Honary Members (2)	8,295.20	7,676.00	Coaches Expenses	656.00	448.00
Visitors @ 0.60p (93)	55.80	37.80	Printing & Stationery	18.00	2.95
Registration	1,613.55	1,120.70	Course Fees	1,816.19	1,928.60
Swimming Dues			Entry Fees	360.00	317.50
Prince Regent	22,240.00	18,585.00	Affiliation South East	1,408.00	999.00
Surrenden	2,083.00	2,035.50	ASA Membership	4,174.40	3,166.05
Gala Takings	332.00	218.00	Sx. County ASA	203.30	180.00
King Alfred		180.50	Donations	48.00	85.00
Confectionery Sales	451.57	839.89	Postage & Telephone	3.40	0.53
Shop Sales	688.00	686.50	Engraving	537.92	579.31
ASA Awards Scheme	294.00	238.00	Insurance	260.50	235.80
Synchro Show A/c	141.45	1,189.00	Equipment	30.80	86.80
Synchro General A/c			Coaches Passes	201.00	156.00
Synchro Taster Sessions			Audit	15.00	15.00
Sussex County ASA Bursary re Synchro	<u>350.00</u>		Synchro Show A/c	62.88	1,130.87
			Sundries	6.70	362.00
			Xmas party	250.76	256.65
			Olympic Pool Trip Lane Hire	117.00	111.00
			New Club Tee Shirts	125.92	250.10
			Hoodies etc.	95.97	95.20
			Confectionery Purchases	288.82	500.71
			Swim Wear		331.32
			Swim Caps	74.34	161.34
			ASA Awards Scheme	238.88	195.24
			Paid to Life Guard Surrenden		80.00
			Paypal		<u>0.16</u>
			Music Licence	32.68	
			Synchro General	<u>88.10</u>	
			Cash at Bank as follows:	34,415.39	
			Bank	1,856.12	
			Synchro Show Account	337.33	
			Synchro General	106.96	
			Schools A/C	103.85	
			Santander Deposit A/c	24,501.29	
			Barclays Deposit Closed	-	
			Cash in hand	96.67	27,002.22
					<u>£61,417.61</u>
Stocks in Hand		<u>£61,417.61</u>			
Confectionery	73.00				
Swim Hats (56)	141.25				
Swimwear	409.00				
	<u>£623.25</u>				

Checked and found correct K. King 11.10.19

SCHOOLS ACCOUNT 1ST SEPTEMBER 2018 - 31ST AUGUST 2019

<u>INCOME</u>		<u>EXPENSES</u>	
Balance Brought For	1,251.51	Officials Appreciation	165.00
Interest	0.49	Woodchester - Hats	224.83
Door Takings	853.00	Refreshments	150.00
Schools Entry Fees	350.00	Tee Shirts	62.91
		Roger Brown - Medals	438.76
		P.R System	204.00
		Postage	3.09
		Printing	12.68
		Stationery	2.75
		Travelling incl. J.Adam	100.00
		Sundries	20.80
		Bottled Water	<u>8.45</u>
			1,393.27
		Cash at Bank	103.85
		Cash at Building Soc	<u>957.88</u>
			1,061.73
	<u>£2,455.00</u>		<u>£2,455.00</u>