

Round-up

The latest reports from the ASA regions

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Annual Council Meeting

The regional ACM was at Summerhill School, where the Aquaforce winners were presented with their awards by president Tony Ward:

> **Outstanding contribution at club level** -

Susannah Bolton (City of Coventry)

> **Outstanding contribution at regional level** -

David Corbett (City of Birmingham)

> **Long service** - **John Vaughan** (Stourbridge)

> **Young volunteer** - **Hannah Boot** (Solihull)

Tony Ward also presented Staffordshire ASA with the inter-county trophy as the region's top performing county at the National County Team Championships in October 2010.

Liz Sykes was elected president for the next 12 months and she said she was looking forward to meeting volunteers around the region as well as nationally.

Tony Green was elected president-elect. Paul Wells gave a closing speech as he handed over the chair to Simon Kirkland, who said that he was looking forward to the challenge and would be focusing on some key priorities, such as local authorities, club funding, governance and workforce.

The region is looking to fill the key positions, those of diving co-ordinator and rules committee secretary. Anyone interested is asked to contact the regional office.

Nuneaton Junior League finals

The Nuneaton Junior League finals took place at Central Baths, Wolverhampton. The Division 3 gala was won convincingly by Cheadle & District, who racked up an impressive 267 points, 95 ahead of nearest rivals Welshpool. The other four clubs battled for the remaining positions with Tamworth third with 163 points followed by Broadway 153, Newport & District 143 and Warley Wasps 128.

Cheadle swimmers also broke four competition records and won six trophies. **Abigail Hymas** broke the 25m freestyle in 16.84 and **Sam Eyre** the 10 yrs 25m butterfly in



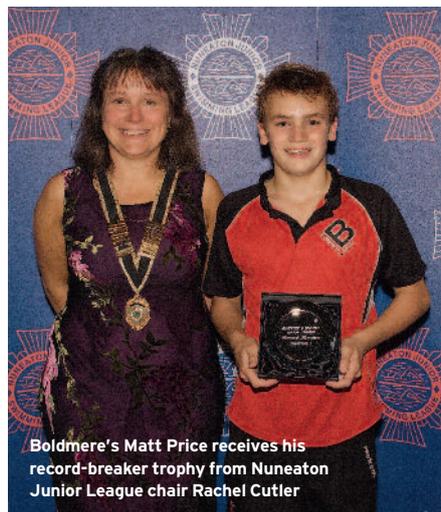
17.59. The boys' 10yrs medley relay team broke a record which had stood since 2004 and the girls' 9yrs freestyle team knocked an incredible eight seconds off the previous record.

Division 2 saw Kingsbury Aquarius take the award for the best dressed team as they dazzled in their new red and black kit and waved large red and black flags in the parade. City of Hereford won the gala with 217 points from Kingsbury's 196. Kingsbury finished as Division 2 champions when all the gala points had been added up.

Kingsbury record-breakers were **Oliver Lillicrop** in the 9yrs 25m butterfly and freestyle, **Bethany Morrin** the 11yrs 50m breaststroke and the girls' 11yrs medley team. **Harriet Aldous-Fountain** (City of Hereford) won the top record breaker trophy for her competition record in the 50m backstroke, taking over two seconds off the previous record.

Haden Hill finished third with 186 points. Northampton B scored 162, Oldbury 151 and Fox Hollies 143.

Boldmere A successfully retained their Division 1 title in a dramatic and closely-fought gala against Leicester Penguins, Nuneaton & Bedworth, Northampton A, Halesowen and Lutterworth. After 12 events Boldmere led the



Penguins by one point with Nuneaton & Bedworth only five behind. At the halfway point Boldmere edged to a six-point lead which they increased to 11 at the 42-event mark.

With four events to go Leicester had whittled this down to just one point and, in a dramatic finish, Boldmere turned up the heat to secure three first places and a third in the last four events to seal the victory by seven points.

Championships records were broken by **Beth Grant** in the 12yrs two lengths breaststroke and **Matt Price** in the 11yrs two lengths backstroke - a 15-year-old record that earned him the Division 1 record-breaker trophy.

David Corbett

At Boldmere's club championships, **Dave Corbett**, long-serving stalwart of swimming in Birmingham and the West Midlands, was re-presented with his 2011 Aquaforce Volunteer Award for outstanding contribution at regional level by the club's Paralympian Ellie Simmonds.

>East Midlands

Swimming offers

It's not too late to get your voucher and take a friend to the pool for free, learn to swim as an adult or take the family for free. Over the last few weeks Swimming Offers has become a national campaign with other ASA regions.

For details of your nearest pool, and voucher information visit www.splashpath.com/swimmingoffers

ASA Swimming Conference 2011

You can now book online for the ASA Swimming Conference 2011, which will be at the Crowne Plaza, Nottingham, on October 22.

The free-to-attend conference will provide the perfect opportunity for young people to learn more about volunteering in the sport or becoming involved in club activities and the Youth Forum.

Two workshops focusing upon volunteering are planned - Developing Young Leaders and Young Volunteers. The presentations will be delivered by the Youth Forum in conjunction >



Ellie Simmonds presents the Aquaforce Volunteer Award to West Midlands stalwart Dave Corbett



Tony Ward hands the West Midlands presidential chain to Liz Sykes

with ASA volunteer officer, Francesca Kelly.

For more details visit the website www.swimming.org/EastMidland

< East Midlands RTC

East Midlands regional training centre has been invited to a friendly tournament against the Bedford, Cardiff and London RTCs, to be held in Bedford on October 29 (6-9pm). The age group will be 1995s and later. If you have any girls that would like to be considered for the team, email c.j.robbs@ntlworld.com as soon as possible.

Friday evening RTC sessions will be used to train for the tournament so girls putting themselves forward will be expected to be at the RTC at Djanogly on Fridays in October.

Notts Community Sports Fund

The Community Sports Fund (CSF) is a grant aid scheme aimed at helping local sports clubs and organisations by supporting new projects that encourage additional people to get involved in sport.

The award is a maximum of £1,500 for Clubmark clubs (£1,000 for other organisations and clubs that haven't achieved Clubmark) and only one application will be considered in any financial year. Awards will be made to successful applicants to help with costs such as coaching fees, facility hire, equipment and publicity. This must be spent within 12 months.

For details about eligibility please follow <http://www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/home/leisure/l-sport/sport-support/l-sports-grantsforsportsclubs.htm>

> London

ACM and question time

A lively debate about swimming in the capital, the new Olympic aquatics centre and prospects for Team GB was the highlight of London's ACM. After the formal business, there was a question time panel chaired by London board member Simon Greenberg with panellists ASA chief executive David Sparkes, GLL managing director Mark Sesnan, Mark Foster and director of London Swimming Colin Brown.

Club representatives quizzed the panel about the 2012 legacy for the capital. Brown and Sesnan said the addition of two new 50m pools in Stratford would enable London to expand its Beacon programme currently run out of Crystal Palace. Foster said competitive swimmers didn't need to train in a 50m pool but having access to one certainly helped. Brown and Sparkes both spoke of the opportunity to build a new generation of competitive swimmers based in boroughs in the east of London.

Some of the club representatives expressed their concern about the cost of the current Beacon programme while others wanted to know if clubs would have access to the new pools. Such details will only be worked out once it has been decided which pool operator will run the centre.

The panel was asked to comment on the medal prospects for the GB team. Foster said he was very optimistic, particularly for the women's team, and singled out Rebecca Adlington, Ellen Gandy, Hannah Miley and Keri-Anne Payne as potential stars at next year's Games. Foster said that while he had his differences with former GB coach Bill Sweetenham, that he had done a great job of building the foundation for the current team.

Norman Edgell was elected ASA London region president and David Barnes vice-president. Mark Foster presented certificates to winners of the region's 2011 ASA Coaching and Aquaforce awards.

Middlesex water polo success

The St Niklaas Tournament in Ostend was a

further step in the development of the Middlesex youth team, allowing the players to step up from domestic water polo to the more challenging European game against teams from Belgium, Holland and France.

The under 18 team won all their games including a thrilling final against the Belgian U17 Francophone National Team, whom they beat 5-4 despite falling behind early on. Goalkeeper **Ryo Yamada** took a handsome slice of the credit here after saving two penalties.

The 15 players were aged between 14 and 17. Seven were in the previous MCASA teams which played in the St Niklaas Tournament over the past three years. Previous teams have struggled against some of their opponents but strength-in-depth, experience and organisation won through this time.

Middlesex captain **Tom Dean** was named the tournament's outstanding player and the top scorer with 25 goals. Other MCASA scorers were: **Tom Bennett** 9, **Arthur Lewis** 9, **Jonny McDaniel** 5, **Ollie Bolderstone** 4, **Jared Baker** 3, **Riiohta Ohta** 1, **Sam Houston** 1, **Dominic McLoughlin** 1, **Joe Ortiz** 1, **Albie Duffy** 1, **Ryo Yamada** 1. It was pleasing to see goal-scoring was shared by so many of the team. The county major king was **Joe Ortiz** (5).

Middlesex results:-

MCASA v PSV (Holland)	11-3
MCASA v Ostend (Belgium)	9-3
MCASA v La Louviere (France)	6-2
MCASA v Mons (Belgium)	7-5
MCASA v Wase (Belgium)	7-1
MCASA v Seraing (France)	16-1
Final: MCASA v FFBN (Belgium)	5-4

Goals for: 61. Goals against: 17

Team:

Jared Baker, Ryosuke Yamada (Maccabi); **Tom Bennett, Ollie Bolderstone, Matteo Castelnuovo, Tom Dean, Sam Houston, Jonny McDaniel, Riiohta Ohta, Joseph Ortiz** (Penguin), **Albie Duffy, Arthur Lewis, Venu Manikavasagar, Dominic McLoughlin** (CoL), **Chris Waller** (Enfield).

Coaches: **Stephen Baker, Paul Bryan.**



The Middlesex youth water polo team after winning the St Niklaas Tournament in Ostend