

**HERTFORDSHIRE
AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION**



**ANNUAL REPORT
2014-2015**

General

This annual report covers the year from April 2014 to March 2015. The Hertfordshire ASA Annual Council Meeting takes place in July, with the county financial year end being 31st March.

The Management Board has met four times in the year to oversee the development and delivery of swimming within the county. There have been five vacancies on the Management Board during this year. The management of the county affairs would be better served with a full complement of Board members. It is hoped that the vacancies will be filled at the Annual Council Meeting. Unfortunately, the perception is that a wealth of experience is required. This is definitely not the case. What *is* required is people with positive ideas and a commitment to the development of swimming in the county. If the few people, who do bother to contribute, did not do so, then our athletes would have no competitions and development!!

The discipline committees have met on a regular basis, with the water polo committee facilitating their meetings via conference calls.

During this year the county website has continued to flourish, and has been an excellent communication tool, providing an excellent service to our swimming community. The work of Alan Doyle in providing this communication tool is hugely appreciated. Every effort is made to encourage our volunteers to provide the correct, up-to-date information to Alan.

The forums have continued this year. Ian Mackenzie has worked hard to set them up and provide the opportunity for interaction and communication between the clubs and coaches, and also with the county. The aim is to get everyone talking to each other, sharing best practice and addressing problems encountered. Attendance has often been minimal, but worthwhile for those who were there. Representatives from ALL clubs of ALL disciplines can attend for the benefit of our clubs and athletes.

Hertfordshire continues to be a role model in the ASA East Region in many areas - for example, in the provision of forums, the delivery of a county conference, and in the number of officials being trained. Sheila Mackenzie has again been the Hertfordshire representative on the ASA East Region Management Board this year, and will take issues to the region on your behalf, if necessary. Ian Mackenzie continues as an independent member of the ASA East Region Management Board, and is also the regional representative to the ASA Sport Governing Board.

Throughout the year, clubs in the county continued to benefit from the supportive work of Leanne Brace, as the ASA East Region Club Development Officer. Leanne has worked really hard with our clubs to support them with the swim21 process and the provision of courses and their funding.

Once again this year many of our county athletes have qualified to compete at national and international level, and we applaud their achievements.

You can read of the success and progress of the various disciplines within this report. I would mention water polo especially. There has been real progress in the development of junior water polo. This is due to the efforts of a very small number of enthusiastic people led by the water polo manager, Steve Cook. Aquatic disciplines continue to flourish in Hertfordshire. Please consider carefully whether you could contribute to this success by giving a small amount of your time to your county, so that we can go on to even better things in the coming year, either on the discipline committees or on the Management Board

Disability Swimming

The Hertfordshire ASA Disability Committee organised the 5th Disability Development Day which was held at Hertfordshire Sports Village, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield on Sunday 22nd February 2015. Like 2014, the Development Day was part of the Hertfordshire ASA Conference and closed the Herts. Coach Education Week. Herts. Sports Partnership funded the cost of all the rooms and water-time over the weekend, as well as supporting the organising team.

In November 2014, the county organised and facilitated a training session at Bishops Stortford College for Team East – the regional disability team. Team East had also had a training session at the Disability Development Day at the County Conference in February 2015.

Hertfordshire swimmers compete in the ASA East Region Disability Championships, held in Newmarket Leisure Centre in the October 2014.

There were two Special Olympic galas in the year. The St. Albans gala was in April 2014 and the East Herts gala took place in October 2014. Both galas were at Hertfordshire Sports Village. The events were much enjoyed by the swimmers, coaches and officials alike.

In June 2014, the Herts. School Games Disability gala took place at Hertfordshire Sports Village.

Diving

No report has been received.

swim21

The swim21 accreditation is regarded by the ASA as a mark of a well-run club, with systems in place for the support and benefit of its members, especially its athletes. The following clubs are swim21 accredited as at 31st March 2015.

Aqualina Synchronised SC	Beaumont Diving Academy
Bishops Stortford SC	Bushey ASC
Cheshunt SC	City of St. Albans ASC
Harpenden SC	Hatfield SC
Hemel Hempstead SC	Hertford SC
Hertsmere Flyers SC	Hitchin SC
Hoddesdon SC	Letchworth ASC
Tring ASC	Verulam ASC
Watford SC	Welwyn Garden SC

Others are in the process of ‘working towards’ accreditation. Simplifications to the revalidation and re-accreditation processes, and the on-line accreditation process have eased the workload for the club volunteers. County funding for many courses linked to the club’s swim21 status remained available. Whilst it might appear onerous to commit to being a swim21 club, there is no doubt that the governance and succession planning of the club benefit from the accreditation, and this then benefits the athletes.

Club Development Group

The committee decided to come into line with the region and change its name to Club Development Group, which reflects better what it aims to do. It also allows the clubs to identify better with its work. Karen Lawson, took over as Manager of the group, and she recruited four new people to move the group forward.

In December 2014 Marilyn Hughes stood down as the Swimming Officials Co-ordinator. This after several years at the helm ensuring the county had plenty of qualified officials. The county is grateful to Marilyn for all her hard work, ably supported by Derek Hughes. Jonathan Pope has taken on the role of the Swimming Officials Co-ordinator, and is a member of the group.

The committee before it, then the group have continued to support the clubs and volunteers to find courses for them to support our athletes. The Regional Club Development Officer, Leanne Brace, has worked closely with the county in the identification and provision of such courses.

Funding streams have also been made available through the group, in particular to those clubs who have achieved swim21 status. One initiative was the funding of a tablet to each swim21 club if they wanted it!

The Hertfordshire ASA website has been maintained with details of courses available within the county and organised at ASA approved centres.

The Hertfordshire ASA has continued to cover the cost of courses for officials from all clubs, and to contribute 25% to the cost of Continuing Professional Development (CPD) sessions for swim21 clubs and clubs recognised by

ASA East Region as working towards swim21. Funding continued for UKCC Level 1, Level 2 and Level 3 courses. This gave a subsidy of 25% to swim21 clubs up to a maximum of £500 in the financial year to 31st March 2015.

Jointly with the Hertfordshire ASA Disability Committee, the group organised again a very successful County Conference in February 2015, in partnership with Hertfordshire Sports Partnership, during their Coaches Week. The Saturday comprised of various courses supporting, coaches, officials, and athletes. Most of the course attendees were volunteers, and education and development was provided for them all. On the Sunday the focus was on disability, and incorporated the regional training programme for athletes.

It was a very successful weekend, with over 180 individuals involved. In addition, team manager module one and module two courses were run during the preceding week.

The Forums continued throughout the year, providing information to the clubs and the membership through the Club, Coaches or Officials Forums. These are particularly important to ensure that the clubs work with the county, and the county works with the clubs, in getting the best deal for our athletes. Unfortunately only a few clubs attend, but they are the clubs who are up to date with their information. Communication has to be two-way, and ways to improve this communication should be reviewed regularly.

The group is represented on the ASA East Region Club Development Group at their four meetings per year.

Competitive Swimming

2015, a year of change.....

Adam Brown retired – we all wish Adam all the best for the future with his expanded family.

Hatfield saw a host of international representations:

At the Commonwealth Games – Adam Brown (England), Katie Armitage (Scotland) and Amarah and Elinah Phillip (British Virgin Islands)

World Short Course Championships (Qatar) – Nico Campbell (Jamaica), and Amarah and Elinah Phillip (British Virgin Islands)

IOC Youth Olympic Games (China) Martyn Walton (GB) and Amarah Phillip (British Virgin Islands)

British Record for the 16 year old age-group 200m Freestyle for Martyn Walton

Fantastic achievements!

Inter Counties swimming:

National :

Hertfordshire finished in 12th place again this time, with a slightly lower points total of 287, but again maintaining our division one status. This year's team were accompanied by Lee Portingale and Muriel Scott (Coaches – both Hitchin), Kate Burchell and Ingrid Wilkes (Team managers - Hitchin and Hatfield respectively) and Grant Chivers and Louise Hughes (Officials - Hitchin and Potters Bar respectively,) as well as Ann Quinn in her capacity as our President.

The team of 28 swimmers again assembled at Hitchin on Saturday afternoon to complete a training session before travelling up to stay in the Premier Inn, Chesterfield, which provided an excellent service and meals throughout our short stay.

Once again the whole team did us proud.

Bedfordshire Junior Inter-County competition:

In February a Hertfordshire team popped up the road to Luton to take part in the Bedfordshire Junior Inter County competition This is a fantastic opportunity for the younger swimmers in the county to be involved at a different level.

Coaches for this event were Amy Thompson and Kevin Pickard (Harpenden and Hatfield respectively), supported by team managers Helena Pretious-White (Bishops Stortford), Heather Stott (City of St Albans) and Kate Burchell (Hitchin) and judges Phil Murtagh (Stevenage) and Jackie Harvey (Hoddesdon). Kate did a fantastic job of contacting and chasing the swimmers before the event and handing everything over to Helena and Heather for the weekend. The team was depleted due to swimmers competing at other events, but, despite this, those who

swam did a fantastic job for the county, finishing in second place to Essex. Competing counties were Bedfordshire, Essex, Hertfordshire, Leicestershire, Lincolnshire and Suffolk.

County Championships, Age Groups and BAGCATS 2015:

The big one -branded “The End Of The World As We Know It”, this year saw the official end of BAGCATs as a competition. Despite a difficult second day when the pool temperature dropped below FINA regulations, resulting in the abandonment of the competition and the rescheduling of events in the final weekend, this was still a very successful competition.

The headline figures for 2015:

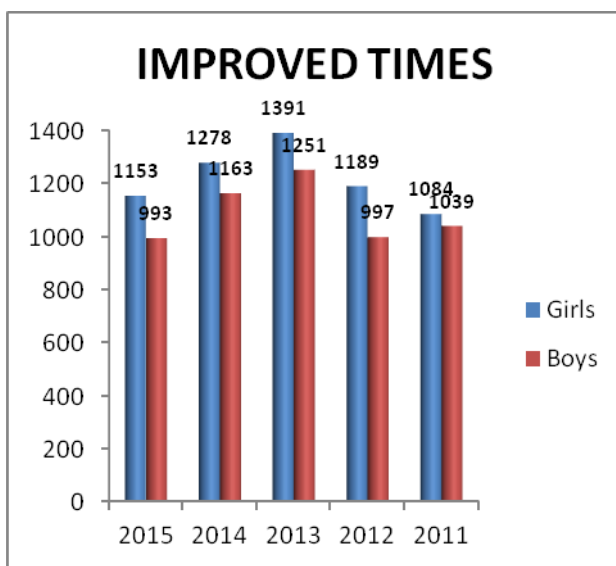
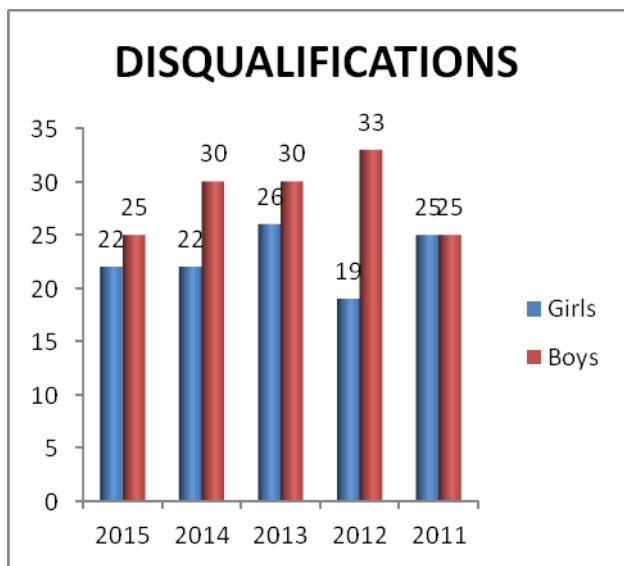
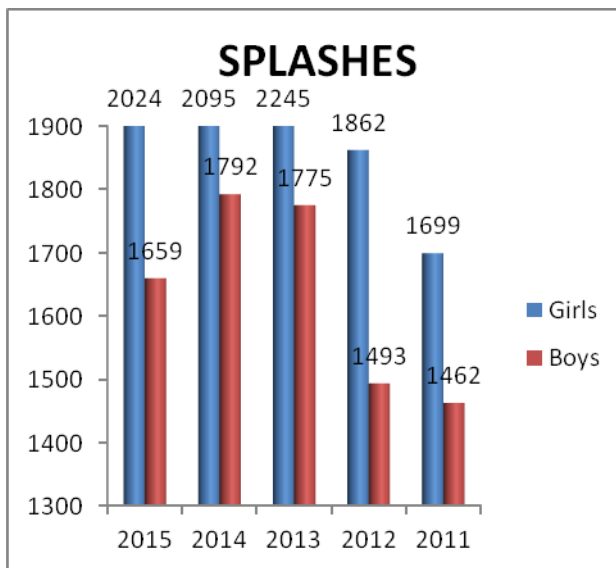
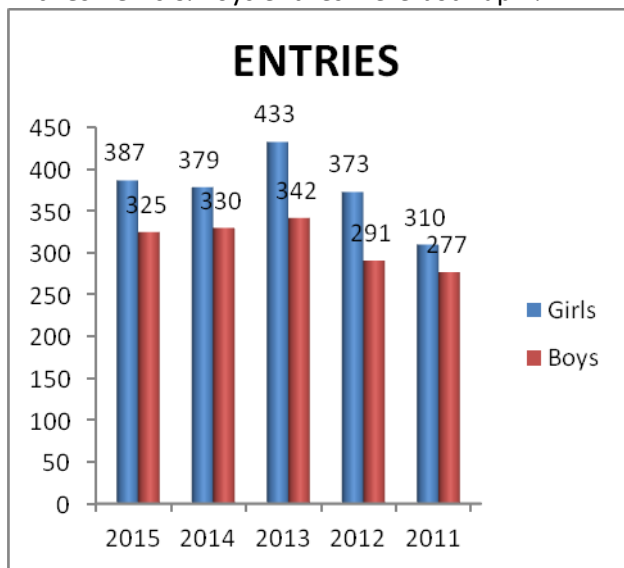
712 swimmers entered – up three on 2014

3683 swims - down from 4109 in 2014

Scheduled into nine sessions over three weekends, with all the sessions running to schedule.

The lower numbers were due to the fact that a number of swimmers could not swim in the rescheduled events, and also, because of the problems with the pool, the time available did not allow the relay competitions to be swum this year.

Entries : Girls & Boys entries were both up 2%.



This year we also did some more analysis on the Championships, including the following medals tables:

This table shows the return in terms of medals per entry and also Gold medals per entry for the clubs... some interesting figures

Club	Medals Per Entry	Gold Per Entry
Hatfield	34.80%	16.35%
Bishops Stortford	24.86%	8.56%
Potters Bar	22.90%	4.38%
COSTA	21.82%	8.28%
Harpenden	20.89%	4.44%
Hoddesdon	20.23%	10.98%
Hitchin	18.79%	3.64%
Berkhamsted	18.62%	4.83%
Hemel Hempstead	16.89%	7.77%
Royston	14.63%	4.88%
Cheshunt	14.20%	3.41%
Hertsmere Flyers	13.41%	4.88%
Watford	12.94%	2.99%
Hertford	11.19%	2.10%
Stevenage	7.32%	2.44%
Tring	2.63%	2.63%
Verulam	1.64%	0.00%
Buntingford	0.00%	0.00%
Bushey	0.00%	0.00%
Letchworth	0.00%	0.00%
Ware	0.00%	0.00%
Welwyn Garden	0.00%	0.00%

The Championship medals table shows Hatfield's continuing dominance...

Hertfordshire ASA County Championships 2015				
CHAMPIONSHIP MEDALS TABLE				
	CLUB	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
1	Hatfield	16	14	12
2	Bishops Stortford	6	7	2
3	Hoddesdon	4	3	3
4	Potters Bar	2	2	1
5	CoStA	2	1	3
6	Hemel Hempstead	1	3	9
7	Cheshunt	1	1	
8	Hertford		1	1
9	Harpenden		1	

Whilst the age-group table showed a greater spread of medals...

Hertfordshire ASA County Championships 2015				
AGE GROUP MEDALS TABLE				
	CLUB	GOLD	SILVER	BRONZE
1	Hatfield	78	58	30
2	CoStA	41	32	35
3	Bishops Stortford	31	30	29
4	Hemel Hempstead	29	19	15
5	Hoddesdon	19	10	6
6	Berkhamsted	14	14	26
7	Potters Bar	13	33	22
8	Watford	12	14	26
9	Harpenden	10	15	22
10	Hitchin	6	16	9
11	Cheshunt	6	8	11
12	Hertsmere Flyers	4	4	3
13	Hertford	3	7	6
14	Royston	2	1	3
15	Stevenage	1		2
16	Tring	1		
17	Verulam			1



We again had hoodies and polo shirts on sale online; hats on the day featuring the logo for this year; and the swim-shop Gogglebox again in attendance.

As in last year live video went out on YouTube, thanks to Dan and Chris, whilst Afterdark provided their ever-reliable PA and music.



Something different was tried this year, with Dan and his assistants providing a drone fitted with a GoPro camera to try out overhead video of a couple of events – the outcome should be on the website shortly.

Interestingly the ASA are now looking at this to see if it should be allowed, but at least the county has raised the question!



The results were also enhanced by overlaying them on the output.

Chris Bostock, Chairman of the ASA Sport Governing Board, was watching the coverage, and thought it was excellent – where Hertfordshire lead will others dare to follow?

Club-wise this was the most successful ever County Championships, with 22 out of our 24 clubs represented.

Planning is now taking place for the changes which need to be introduced for next year.

Development Meet :

The 2014 Development Meet saw everyone “developing”. Officials were selected to do jobs they do not normally do. The swimmers had a great time, with a number of county qualifying times achieved. Only a handful of clubs were in attendance, but those that were hopefully appreciated the effort that went in to running the event.



Daplyn Trophies :

Following on from the success of the relaxed, but fiercely competitive 2013 gala, this year swimmers were greeted with balloons spelling out Daplyn 2014, with a palm tree thrown in for good measure! In addition, there was a spectacular light show, with a large hanging ballroom glitter ball, to finish off the end of year party atmosphere!

With warm up finished, officials and competing teams gathered together by the changing rooms, lights were dimmed and then BANG! Toque Tambor (Brazilian carnival band from Hitchin) appeared, providing a vibrant musical accompaniment to the parade of the officials on to the poolside. They were followed by the competing teams and their coaches - everyone introducing themselves appropriately with vibrant dance and noise for all to enjoy around the Borehamwood poolside. The party had started. No-one could help but smile, clap and shimmy to the beat!



The referee blew the whistle to signify the start of the competition, and, with the switch from the carnival atmosphere to competing, team efforts focused on the competition in the swimming pool. The vibrant atmosphere continued, with fantastic support from the spectators and team members. Fierce competitive swimming followed, with a break after six events and after twelve events, for entertainment once again by Toque Tambor and the swimmers. After Dark also provided suitable party dance music for all to sing and appropriately move to, not forgetting the obligatory conga stretching around the pool – the light show spotlight picking up the varied dance moves for all to enjoy.

Team relay races brought the Daplyn Junior Inter-Club Competition to a close. In addition to points awarded on the placings, this year’s competition saw the introduction of bonus points based on swimmers executing technically good starts and turns. The end of season party atmosphere continued while the control room staff finalised the results.

The awards were presented by Mr. Grant Chivers, Hertfordshire Past President (2012-13)

Top 3 Girls teams

1st Harpenden

2nd Berkhamsted

3rd Cheshunt

Top 3 Boys teams:

1st Berkhamsted

2nd Harpenden

3rd Watford

Many thanks to everyone who gave up their time to make this event such a resounding success.

Open Water :

As in previous years, the Hertfordshire ASA Open Water Championships took place within the ASA East Region Open Water Championships. The competition was on 20th July 2014 at Whitlingham, Norwich.

This year's event was curtailed by torrential rain which began during the penultimate event. As a result only two of our clubs scored in the team event - Hatfield finished first in a combined time of 1:38:43.50, whilst Harpenden came seventh with a combined time of 2:06:47.13.

Individual performances of note were:

Regional:

Tim Shuttleworth (Hatfield)	Gold in the Men's 17/19 3K
John Ryan (Hoddesdon)	Silver in the Men's 60+ 3K
Victoria Pritchard (Hatfield)	Gold in the Women's 17/19 3K
Abby Smith (Harpenden)	Bronze in the Women's 17/19 3K
Ethan Farrell (Hatfield)	Gold in the Men's 17/19 2K
Amber Hughes (Hatfield)	Silver in the Women's 13-16 2K
Hayley Warrington (Hoddesdon)	Gold in the Women's 17/19 2K
Jo Mitchinson (Stevenage)	Gold in the Women's 35/39 2K
Callum Wollaston (Cheshunt)	Gold in the Men's 13/14 800m
Mark Evens (Hitchin)	Bronze in the Men's 17+ 800m
Amber Shine (Hatfield)	Bronze in the Women's 13/14 800m
Nathan Hughes (Hatfield)	Gold in the Men's 12/16 1.5K
Lee Portingale (Hitchin)	Gold in the Men's 35/29 1.5K
Faye Nugent (Hatfield)	Gold in the Women's 17/19 1.5K

Congratulations to all these athletes!

Masters

2014 Hertfordshire Masters Competition

The 2014 Herts. Masters took place on 21nd June 2014. Overall swimmer numbers were similar to 2014, but two clubs were missing. This may have been due to a sudden pool change that day.

In the team competition, Hemel Hempstead Masters beat St Alban's Masters into second place this year in a closely contested gala. Full results were:

1. Hemel Hempstead	470
2. St Albans Masters	453
3. Potters Bar	227
4. Hartham Masters	222
5. Berkhamsted	144
6. Stevenage	65
7. Hatfield Masters	64
8. Tring	45

- | | |
|-----------------------|----|
| 9. Bishop's Stortford | 41 |
| 10. Hoddesdon | 37 |

There was a good turnout of officials and other volunteer support on the night.

2014 Regional Inter-County Masters & Senior Age-Group Championship

The county came fourth in the closely fought Regional Inter-County Masters gala held at Newmarket on 16th November. The county were short of a number of swimmers, but it was a great effort by those that swam. Final gala scores were:

- | | |
|-------------------|------------|
| 1. Bedfordshire | 261 points |
| 2. Norfolk | 255 points |
| 3. Cambridgeshire | 233 points |
| 4. Hertfordshire | 221 points |
| 5. Suffolk | 220 points |
| 6. Essex | 204 points |

When the regional results were converted entered into the national results, Hertfordshire finished in a disappointing 17th place. The national results were:

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------|
| 1. Yorkshire | 1736.5 points |
| 11. Bedfordshire | 1122.5 points |
| 12. Norfolk | 1100 points |
| 14. Cambridgeshire | 1022 points |
| 17. Hertfordshire | 972 points |
| 18. Suffolk | 951 points |
| 19. Essex | 928.5 points |

Swimming Officials

Official training has been delivered in the county for the last few years by Marilyn Hughes, ably assisted by Derek Hughes and others. Marilyn unexpectedly resigned from her position as Swimming Officials Co-ordinator for Hertfordshire in December 2014. The county is grateful for the good work and extensive contribution that Marilyn has given to the county for the years that she has been involved.

In January 2015 Jonathan Pope took over the role of Swimming Officials Co-ordinator for the county having passed his BS Referee exam and practical.

Training of swimming officials in the county continues to meet the key performance indicators set by the ASA and Hertfordshire ASA Management Board, providing sufficient licensed Judge Level 1s, Judge Level 2s, Judge Level 2S and Referees to staff the annual County Swimming Championships, as well as providing officials for the various galas, open meets and leagues which our clubs take part in throughout the year.

In this financial year we have delivered the following:

Timekeepers - trained and qualified 109

The following numbers have passed their assessment at the levels:

Judge Level 1	26
Judge Level 2	25
Judge Level 2S	4
Referee	2

In addition, the following numbers of officials are undergoing training in the following levels:

Judge Level 1	44
Judge Level 2	15
Judge Level 2S	6
Referee	3

Of these figures, the following young officials have passed their assessments at the following level:

Judge Level 1	3
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This year we also have the following young officials in training:

Judge Level 1	7
Judge Level 2	1

Officials have been kept up to date with regular circulars and newsletters, and with information on the Hertfordshire ASA website.

We continue to see an increase in Level 4 licensed meets, which enable our swimmers to gain county entry times. We will continue to deliver courses to support these meets during 2015/2016 and have appointed Deborah Huggett to help the Swimming Technical Officials Co-ordinator as Course Allocation Manager to co-ordinate training for the county.

During 2014/2015 there was a FINA rules update course which was extremely pertinent after the Olympic Games in 2012. This has been supported through the use of the website and circulations to county officials.

CPDs have also been run in the county, with good attendance, to deliver mandatory elements required for re-licensing.

Throughout 2014/2015, a new course was run by Sheila Mackenzie. Entitled – A Guide to Refereeing – this course has been open to all Judge Level 2S and those in training. The officials who attended the sessions received guidance on the duties and role of the referee, and the processing of the race results. Attendees have found the course helpful in enabling them to referee Level 4 licensed meets.

The county has again run several galas during the year, and officials have been quick to volunteer their services, which has enabled mentoring and training for officials wishing to enhance their qualifications.

This year's County Swimming Championships again saw an excellent turnout of officials volunteering, with 72 officials supporting the events over three weekends. This equates to an average of 4.5 sessions / official.

Owing to new ASA training requirements for Judge Level courses there has been a review of the delivery of training in the county. A new method of working has been introduced, and the county will continue to meet demand in 2015/2016.

It is also important to thank those who are part of the training/assessment team who volunteer their time to the county to deliver training and conduct assessments for the benefit of our volunteers who are undertaking British Swimming qualifications. With the help of the training/assessment team the delivery of sufficient courses can continue, and a strong volunteer base will be maintained over the coming 12 months and beyond.

Synchronised Swimming

There is no county synchronised swimming committee or synchronised swimming manager, but the three synchronised swimming clubs in the county continue, with two of the clubs being involved in regional competitions and development. The clubs are represented on the ASA East Region Synchronised Swimming Committee.

Water Polo

Summary

In summary, 2014-5 was a year of settling for the senior teams, growth for the mini and junior development and some excellent participation in representative teams, male and female, across multiple age groups. Club water polo remains very strong at Watford, with teams in London and national leagues. Existing Hertfordshire clubs are expanding and other clubs / pool operators are beginning to show interest in starting their own water polo sections.

Hertfordshire & District League 2014: Winners – Hatfield

Watford WPC ran out winners of division 1, with Spalding as runners-up. Hatfield won division 2. As Cambridge is rejoining in 2015, they start in division 2, meaning Northampton and Hatfield were both promoted. This moves the league back to two divisions of five teams. All results are available on the Hertfordshire ASA website, with online up to date leagues on www.fixtureslive.com, search for “Herts water polo”.

Herts & District Knockout 2014: Winners – Watford

The final for the Knockout was held in November 2014, between Watford and Hatfield. Hatfield ran out winners after application of the handicap.

Junior Water Polo

Hertfordshire still has no formal junior development league at present, but planning is in place for initial matches and tournaments in 2015 (at time of writing in April 2015, an inaugural tournament is booked for May 2nd, with subsequent tournaments pending). Youth development continues to be very strong in Watford, and the junior sections at Hitchin, Hertford and Bishops Stortford are growing, both in numbers and sessions offered. The expansion of the juniors in Hertfordshire was most apparent in the number and standard of competitions entered, both as players and as representative teams. Players trialled, and subsequently competed at, county, regional and national level, and are now regular participants at the Regional Training Centre (RTC) and in national training camps. It must be said that this is not just from the well-established Watford club, but also from the three new junior sections in Bishops Stortford, Hertford and Hitchin; a very encouraging sign for the future. For the first time in recent history, Hertfordshire entered a mixed U14 team in the London inter-county tournament in December at Whitgift. Another first this year was the U16 East Herts. girls' team entering division 2 of the U16 Girls London league.

Hertfordshire entered both boys and girls teams in the East Region inter-county tournaments in November, with the girls finishing second of three teams. The boys played some strong matches against the other counties and ran out tournament winners.

Numerous people assisted with Hertfordshire's juniors this year; thanks go to Nikki Baker and Coach Edi Brockovich of Watford, Steve Cook and Grant Chivers of Hitchin, Jon Lowy and Neil Cook at Hertford, and Edna Scott of Bishops Stortford.

Ladies /female water polo

The informal regular training sessions for female water polo were continued, and there are now officially Hertfordshire ASA sessions using Hatfield pool. These are now booked every month. There is a junior girls team entering London leagues, and a Hertfordshire senior ladies team also competes whenever possible.

Senior Men's teams

Hertfordshire were unable to enter a full team in the senior men's 2014 East Region tournament, and had to take an all stars team to compete at the Inspire: Luton Sports Village pool in February 2015. The lack of subs showed, but despite that, they beat Bedfordshire in their final match.

Having entered, sufficient players were not available for the Over-40s London competition in November / December, and the team was withdrawn at short notice, forfeiting the entry fee.

Hertfordshire veterans (over 50s) came second in the London O-50's competition in October for the second year running.

Water Polo Committee

The attendance at water polo committee meetings has been variable, with only one of the four meetings being quorate, and one being cancelled at short notice owing to work commitments. Development continues despite this, and those few who have worked hard to provide the development and competition for the county's athletes are supported by the Hertfordshire ASA Management Board with regard to decisions being made.

Aims for 2015-16

To continue to build mini / junior water polo, encouraging keen players at a younger age, using taster sessions, school links etc

To continue to expand the pool of officials (coaches, table officials, team managers and referees), and to ensure they gain experience at local levels

To build inter-club co-operation to make best use of the limited facilities, and provide excellent experience in the county

To start interacting with schools to build a wider appreciation and awareness of the sport

Owing to other commitments, the current water polo manager, Steve Cook, is standing down at Annual Council Meeting in July 2015. He will continue with junior / mini development. It would indeed be a shame if the great work which Steve has put into the discipline during his tenure, is not continued in the coming years. XXXX

Forums

Forums have been organised during the year. There have been **four** Club Forums, **three** Coaches Forums and **two** Officials' Forums. Every effort is made hold the forums on different days each time, so that a clash with club night is avoided, but this is very difficult to achieve. Attendance has varied, but the inter-action provided by such meetings has been well worthwhile for those who were able to be there.

Awards

Roy Rogers Memorial Trophy

The trophy is awarded to the person, team or club who has made a significant contribution to the sport of swimming. This year the Roy Rogers Memorial Trophy was awarded to Stephen Chambers.

The President's Plate

The trophy is awarded, at the sole discretion of the President, for conspicuous service to Hertfordshire ASA. This year the President's Plate was presented to Janet Warrington.

The Wilkinson Sword

The sword is awarded annually for achievement in the sport of swimming. There were no nominations received this year.

Finance Officer's report

The accounts for Hertfordshire ASA are presented in the same format as in previous years, and are at the end of this Annual Report.

It should be noted that a major event, from a financial perspective, for the year is the County Swimming Championships, which completed at the year end. Consequently, a relatively small number of payments had not been processed by the end of the accounting period. The major known commitments as of end March 2015 are shown in the accounts to present an accurate year end working balance.

Herts ASA has continued to invest in our clubs this year. We provided a grant towards an iPad (orsimilar) to those clubs which are swim21 accredited or working towards accreditation – total investment of £4,462. We also invested in an electronic scoreboard and shot clock for water polo in the county (£2,440). We were able to refund 10% of swim21 accredited clubs' entry fees to the County Swimming Championships of 2015 – a refund of £2,260.

A number of clubs have also received funds from the Hertfordshire ASA general development fund. It should be pointed out that the fund has remaining monies which are still available to swim21 clubs.

On a personal note, I would like to thank all those who have helped me over the last 12 months as finance officer, without whom it would have been so much more difficult. I would also like to acknowledge all the hard work of the Management Board, discipline managers and volunteers from all the clubs, without which Hertfordshire ASA would not function.

Appreciation

The county could not function successfully if it were not for the many volunteers who give their time freely to support our athletes. Help is always appreciated whatever is the role you undertake, whether it is at your club, at competitions for your club, or at county events, and whether it is 'technical' or 'non-technical' support, it needs to be there, so thank you to all of you who work for the benefit of our athletes.

Ann Quinn has been our President this year. Ann has represented the county and supported our athletes at competitions and events, presenting medals and trophies. Thank you, Ann!

Finally sincere thanks to all our officers, board members and others elected to the various committees, who have given their time and expertise, freely, to develop the disciplines and the county association, in support of our member clubs and our athletes.

For, and on behalf, of the Hertfordshire ASA Management Board

Sheila Mackenzie

Association Secretary

President's Addendum

Wow! Was my initial reaction on being asked to become Hertfordshire President, which came out of the blue one Sunday afternoon. Subsequently, I felt a mixture of pride and apprehension as I wondered what my year ahead would be like. As I write this report nine months into my term I can honestly say it has been a most enjoyable experience and one I will always treasure. I have had the opportunity to experience aspects of our sport that I would not normally have seen.

As someone who has been involved in swimming for over fourteen years, starting as just a parent spectator and then becoming an official, where I am currently studying to become a referee, I have a good understanding of the dedication, time and commitment given so freely by so many. I have been made to feel welcome at all the events I have attended and I would like to express my thanks to all those organisers, coaches, officials and volunteers who have made this happen.

Throughout the year I have been invited to attend many different aquatic events. My first official duty was to present the past President, Chris Sage, with his past Presidents pin and thank him for his support throughout the previous year.

My first official attendance at an aquatic event started in October, when I accompanied the county team to Sheffield for the ASA National Inter-County Team Championships. To be sitting on poolside in a posh frock and shoes with a VIP pass around my neck felt very strange, as I am usually seen dressed in white and officiating. Some exciting races followed, and I felt extremely proud when Hertfordshire finished a creditable 12th place against some much larger counties.

November was a very busy time as President, starting with the ASA East Region Junior Inter-County Water Polo Championships. Not knowing the rules of water polo, I was very grateful and relieved to find the rules and point scoring outlined in the programme! Hertfordshire was represented in the boys and girls matches. The girls were eventually awarded second place and the boys overall winners. Awarding all the Hertfordshire boys their medals and the overall winner's trophy was a real delight- a moment to be proud of. Next was the ASA National Masters Inter-County Championships at Newmarket. I witnessed some excellent swims, great team spirit and had a thoroughly enjoyable afternoon. The end of November, and another new aquatic discipline, the East Region

Diving Championships. The technical skill and dedication needed to perform such complicated dives was evident in all athletes.

The new year, and a short trip to the Luton pool for the Junior Inter-County Swimming Championships, where Hertfordshire Junior swimmers fought a tough battle to finish overall second. March, and I was at my home pool in Hatfield to support a Novice Diving Championship event, which was followed by two weekends of packed swimming at Borehamwood for the County Swimming Championships. Regretfully, I was only able to attend the second weekend, as I had recently become a grandmother and went to visit my granddaughter Elizabeth and daughter Katie in Glasgow during the first weekend.

Throughout all my attendances at various aquatic events I have been impressed at the professional way they have been run, the warm welcome I have been given and the enjoyment children and adults are having in their chosen sport. For each medal or trophy I have awarded (and there have been many!) the athletes have been genuinely pleased and proud to receive them, as I have been to award them.

The time, dedication, commitment by all the athletes, coaches, officials, volunteers and not forgetting the parents has been apparent wherever I have been. They all have one thing in common, they love the sport. Long may the support for our county aquatic sports continue. Without the team of unpaid volunteers Hertfordshire would not be as successful and highly regarded as we are. I give a big thank you to everyone involved in achieving this.

My year is nearly over, but one I will not forget. You will still see me at swimming events, back in my whites officiating, maybe refereeing! I wish my successor the very best for the forthcoming year and hope they get as much enjoyment from being Hertfordshire President as I did.

Thank you everyone for making my year an enjoyable time.

Ann Quinn



Hertfordshire Amateur Swimming Association

Summary of Accounts

for period

1st April 2014 - 31st March 2015

prepared by

**Grant Chivers
Finance Officer Hertfordshire ASA**

Balance sheet

	31.04.15	31.03.14	31.03.13	31.03.12
Assets				
Cash and bank accounts	£91,698.87	£78,684.62	£70,118.18	£75,352.10
Debtors	£300.00	£300.00	£15,786.25	£4,576.00
Tangible assets	£2,060.00	£354.00	£994.00	£1,048.00
	£94,058.87	£79,338.62	£86,898.43	£80,976.10
Liabilities				
All liabilities	£10,361.00	£675.00	£2,949.35	£26,264.73
Working balance	£83,697.87	£78,663.62	£83,949.08	£54,711.37

Assets and Liabilities

	31.03.15	31.03.14	31.03.13	31.03.12
Assets				
Cash and Bank Accounts				
Account	Balance	Balance	Balance	Balance
Current	£7,415.40	£4,279.00	£3,406.86	£5,385.31
Deposit	£58,323.47	£48,452.37	£41,024.40	£44,406.96
Investment	£10,091.06	£10,086.04	£10,081.01	£10,075.93
Petty Cash	£183.25	£298.29	£152.89	£113.59
National Savings Bank	£15,685.69	£15,568.92	£15,453.02	£15,370.31
	£91,698.87	£78,684.62	£70,118.18	£75,352.10
Debtors				
Debtors	£300.00	£15,450.00	£15,786.25	£4,576.00
Tangible Assets				
Tangible assets	£2,060.00	² £354.00	£994.00	£1,048.00
All assets	£94,058.87	£94,488.62	£86,898.43	£80,976.10
Liabilities				
Uncashed cheques	£207.61	£0.00	£42.00	£0.00
Creditors	£10,153.39	£675.00	³ £2,907.35	£26,264.73
All liabilities	£10,361.00	£675.00	£2,949.35	£26,264.73

Notes to accounts

- 1 This document is the summary of accounts for Hertfordshire ASA for the year 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015. Full details are held within the SAGE accounts which is used by Hertfordshire ASA.
- 2 The assets that Herts ASA owns, based on asset register and writing off assets over 3 year period.
- 3 This is for commitments which are known as of 31 March 2015.
- 4 This page shows the income and expenditure of the competitive disciplines.
- 5 The county championships are held in March and hence some income/expenditure falls in the following financial year. Thus the totals shown are the amounts falling in FY14/15 only.
- 6 All transactions on our accounts are recorded into Sage Instant Accounts, which uses "journals" to capture the transaction. Each journal is given a "journal number", which is unique and used to unambiguously identify the transaction.

The nominal activity reports (i.e. 01.04.13 - 31.03.14) that are generated from Sage include all transactions that have been entered, which thus include uncashed cheques. As far as Sage is concerned, the cheques have cleared.

Therefore, the "reconcile" detailed in this summary of accounts removes all uncashed cheques transactions from the accounts and hence the report on the accounts is aligned with the bank statements.

- 7 The 2015 Swimming County Championships sessions on Saturday 14th March were abandoned due to the facilities provided by Hertsmere Leisure not being adequate for competition. The invoice (£4,602.69) for the facility hire on that day has not been agreed or paid: an allowance for the full amount has been made in these accounts. Clubs are due refunds for some of their entries - these refunds are still being processed and an allowance of £1,000 has been made in these accounts.
- 8 A payment of £80 was received from an unknown source. This is likely to be an entry fee for the Herts ASA Water Polo Knockout and League. It has been allocated to mispostings until the actual source and purpose is known.
- 9 The invoice mentioned in note 7 above has been added to the expenditure figure - thus these figures no longer directly align to their Sage equivalents.

HERTFORDSHIRE
AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

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www.hertsasa.org.uk

Keep up to date with what your county is doing

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Committees –

Club Development Group: Disability: Diving:

Synchronised Swimming:

Swimming, including Masters and Open Water: Water Polo

Events: Courses: Contacts: Galas: Competitions