

HERTFORDSHIRE AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION



**ANNUAL REPORT
2013-2014**

General

This annual report covers the year from April 2013 to March 2014. The Hertfordshire ASA Annual Council Meeting takes place in July, with the county financial year end being 31st March.

In November 2013, one of the county Life Vice-Presidents, Ian Watson, passed away. Ian's contribution to the sport of swimming has been huge. Initially a competitive swimmer and then a water polo player, Ian continued his passion for the sport in his many years of service as a volunteer in both officiating and administration, working at county and district levels. Our county particularly has benefitted hugely from Ian's dedicated service.

The Management Board has met five times in the year to oversee the development and delivery of swimming within the county. The Board was much depleted in membership, with nine vacancies, and the resignation of the chairman in February 2014 further affected the Board. It is not good governance to have the management of the county affairs in the hands of such a small number of volunteers, and it is to be hoped that nominations will be received for the Annual Council Meeting elections, so that the number of members increases. 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 aquatics in the county.

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

As stated above, Derek Milton resigned as Chairman of the Management Board in February. He also resigned as Workforce Development Manager. Derek has contributed hugely to the county over many years as Education Manager, now known as Workforce Development Manager. He has also held the post of Chairman of the Management Board for four years. Volunteers in the county, especially those on the committees and forums, will miss his commitment to attendance and his contribution. Over the years many athletes have benefitted from his dedication, and the county will be the poorer for his decision to step down.

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 superb communication tool is hugely appreciated. Every effort is made to encourage our volunteers to provide the correct information to Alan, so that the website can be up-to-date.

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 been reasonable, but there is plenty of room for all clubs of all disciplines to 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 stepped down as the Chairman of ASA East Region, having completed the maximum term of eight years. He continues however as an independent member of the ASA East Region Management Board, and is also the regional representative to the ASA Sport Governing Board. He was appointed as the ASA East Region President at the Annual Council meeting in September 2013..

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. Special congratulations are due to Caleb Hughes (Hatfield SC) and Martyn Walton (Hatfield SC) who have been selected for the national Podium Potential Programme.

You can read of the success and progress of the various disciplines within this report, but I would highlight synchronised swimming and water polo especially. Synchronised swimming is continuing its revival largely to the

great work being done by Amy Bryant (Aqualina SSC and regional synchronised swimming manager), and competitions have been held in the region in the past year. County championships have also been planned for June this year. Water polo has made positive strides this year with an additional club, county teams and mini polo sessions. The water polo committee is functioning too, and has development plans and ideas to continue the great progress being made in this discipline. So aquatics continues 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.

Disability Swimming

The Hertfordshire ASA Disability Committee organised the 4th Disability Development Day which was held at Hertfordshire Sports Village, University of Hertfordshire, Hatfield on Sunday 24th February 2014. Like 2013, the Development Day was part of the Hertfordshire ASA Conference and closed the Hertfordshire Sports Partnership (HSP) Coach Education Week. HSP funded the cost of all the rooms and water-time over the weekend, as well as supporting the organising team.

Billy Pye, the coach to the Paralympic gold medallist Ellie Simmonds, was the speaker this year, and he led the development day. He gave a presentation to a group of coaches and teachers, and then worked poolside, together with Carl Cooper, ASA Disability Swimming Talent Officer, and Team East disability swimmers. The day received excellent feedback and was deemed a success.

Hertfordshire swimmers competed in the ASA East Region Disability Championships, held in Newmarket Leisure Centre on 13th October 2013.

The following Hertfordshire swimmers competed as part of Team East in the Disability Sport Events/British Swimming Championships from 1st-2nd March 2014 at Ponds Forge, Sheffield – Grace Harvey(Hoddesdon), Lottie Mills(Hoddesdon), Emma Lees(City of St. Albans), Louis Hines(Watford) and Mark Evens(Hitchin)Team East were the winners.

There were two Special Olympic galas in the year. The St. Albans gala was on 27th April 2013 and the East Herts gala took place on 26th October 2013. Both galas were at Hertfordshire Sports Village. The events were much enjoyed by the swimmers, coaches and officials alike.

On 27th June 2013 the Herts. School Games Disability gala took place at Hertfordshire Sports Village.

Disability records were achieved in the year by Grace Harvey and Mark Evens. Grace broke the British record for 200m backstroke(S7), both in long course and in short course during this year. Mark Evens broke the Down Syndrome 200m freestyle record in March 2014. Congratulations!

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 2014

Aqualina Synchronised SC
Bishops Stortford SC
Harpenden SC
Hemel Hempstead SC
Hertsmere Flyers SC
Hoddesdon SC
Tring ASC
Watford SC

Beaumont Diving Academy
City of St. Albans ASC
Hatfield SC
Hertford SC
Hitchin SC
Letchworth ASC
Verulam ASC
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 and projects linked to the club's swim21 status remained available.

Workforce Development

The committee started the year with one vacancy. Marilyn Hughes moved from the Swimming Committee to the Workforce Development Committee in November 2013, so that development of officials could be covered within the broader management of this committee.

Throughout the year the committee has focussed on the previous goals of assisting people to find appropriate courses run by the Institute of Swimming and other bodies, encouraging the organisation of such courses, and providing funding to subsidise the costs. The committee has also undertaken, when appropriate, to address any requirements that arise from club members at county forums.

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. Furthermore, in September 2013 funding was introduced 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 2014. Sixteen notifications of claims for UKCC courses have been received and if all are completed, and swim21 criteria are achieved, the funding paid will total £2,677.

The committee did much of the organisation for a very successful county conference over a weekend in February 2014, this forming part of Hertfordshire Sports Partnership's Coaches Week. On the Saturday the conference included a backstroke master-class, run by Kevin Ayres and supported by swimmers from Berkhamsted Swimming Club. There was also a well-received Guide to Refereeing session, run by Sheila Mackenzie. Two "Keeping Safe in Sport" courses took place on the Sunday, led by tutors from Sports Coach UK, for youngsters from the county aged 12 to 16 years. Sunday was also a Disability Development Day with Billy Pye; the coach to Ellie Simmons. Carl Cooper, the ASA Disability Swimming Talent Officer, worked with Billy to enlighten the coaches from across the region and inspire them to greater things. The Team East squad (the regional disability squad) had a two-hour session in the pool, being supported by all the coaches involved in the development day, led by Billy and Carl. There was also a forum looking at the Hy-Tek Meet Manager and Hy-tek Team Manager, with representatives from six of the county's clubs taking part. As part of the HSP Coaches Week, the county ran Team Manager Module One and Module Two courses.

The development plan for 2013 – 2017 has been rewritten to better support the East Region Club Development Group Plan and also embrace the development of officials. This includes an intention to introduce a schedule of training opportunities covering a two-year period.

Competitive Swimming

Back to business as usual following the Olympics and hopefully picking up on the tag line "Inspire a Generation"

Inter Counties swimming

Regional Inter-Counties:

This year a lot of open meets in the county clashed with this event, not to mention our own development day, which meant the county could not field our strongest team. However, on the positive side, it did mean a number of swimmers, who might not otherwise have been asked to swim, had the opportunity to compete in this event. Thanks go to those who volunteered to take on roles to support the team:

Coaches : Mary Wright (Hoddesdon SC) and Samir Ahmed (Hatfield SC)

Team Managers : Sue Armitage and Caroline Holt.



The team finished in a respectable 4th place, and all the swimmers enjoyed the competition.

National Inter-Counties:

Hertfordshire finished in 12th place with 318 points. The entire squad swam well, and the team spirit in the camp was generally excellent. There were two superb individual wins for British Junior International, Martyn Walton (Hatfield SC), on both the 100m freestyle (49.51) and the 100m backstroke (55.38). Martyn

was then nominated by both coaches as Hertfordshire male swimmer of the meet.

Georgina Pryor of Hoddesdon SC collected the award for Hertfordshire female swimmer of the meet, after outstanding performances. Georgina's 100m backstroke time of 1:02:20 was good enough to earn second spot, whilst her 100m butterfly time of 1:02:15 helped the team collect third position. Another swimmer finishing in the podium position was Britain's International ,Caleb Hughes in the 100m butterfly, recording a time of 55:85. Katie Armitage(Hatfield SC) also ranked highly on the 100m breaststroke (1:09:17), finishing second to the British Age-Group Record holder, Sophie Taylor.

The team of 27 swimmers and staff members assembled at Hitchin on Saturday afternoon to complete a training session before travelling up to stay in the Premier Inn, Chesterfield. Excellent service and meals were provided throughout our short stay.

Coaches: Samir Ahmed (Hatfield SC) and Lee Portingale (Hitchin SC)

Team Managers: Caroline Holt and Colette Newman

Officials: Grant Chivers and Louise Hughes

President: Chris Sage

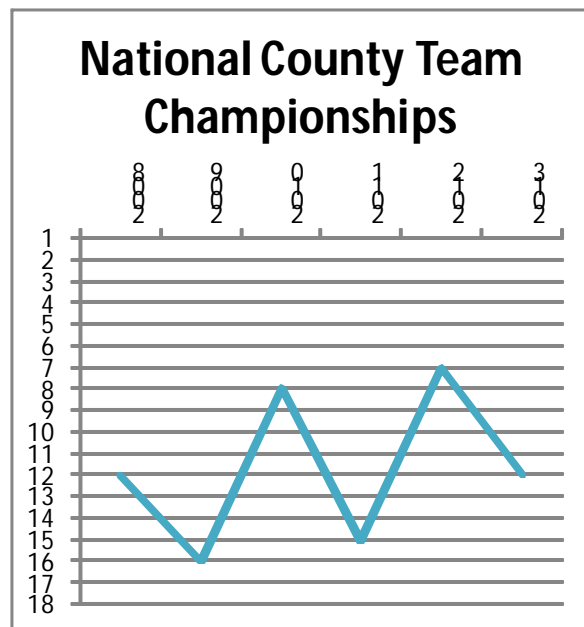
It would be good to get back into the top 10 this year... time will tell.

County Championships, Age Groups and BAGCATS 2014:

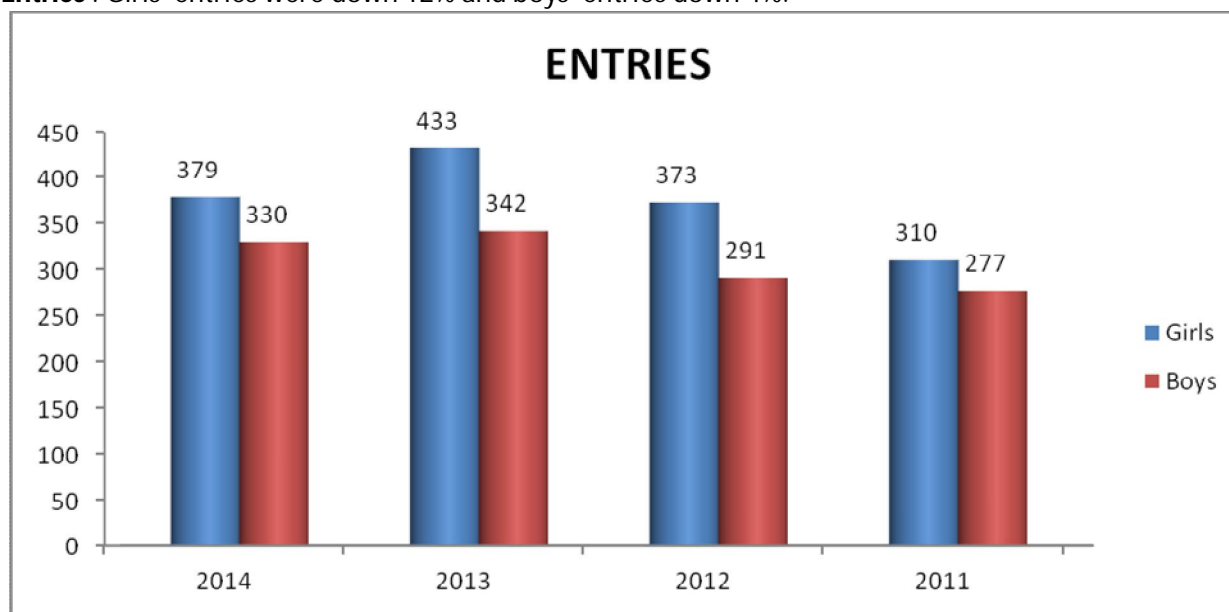
This is still the biggest county swimming event in the year. Once again there were no major issues highlighted by the feedback received, and the minor issues which we are aware of will be addressed for 2015.

The headline figures for 2014 are as follows:

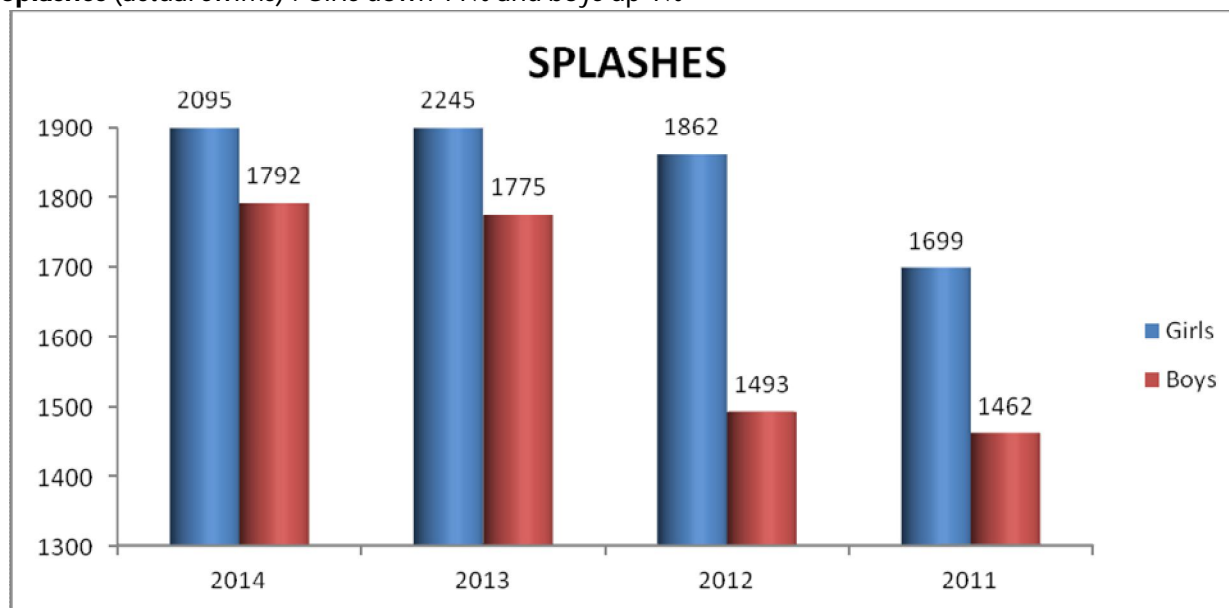
709 swimmers entered, down from 775 in 2013, and 4039 swims, down from 4128, – swum in 11 sessions over 3 weekends, with all the sessions running to schedule. The slightly lower numbers were expected, as the qualifying times had been revised in an attempt to reduce numbers, because the event was getting too big to fit the venue.



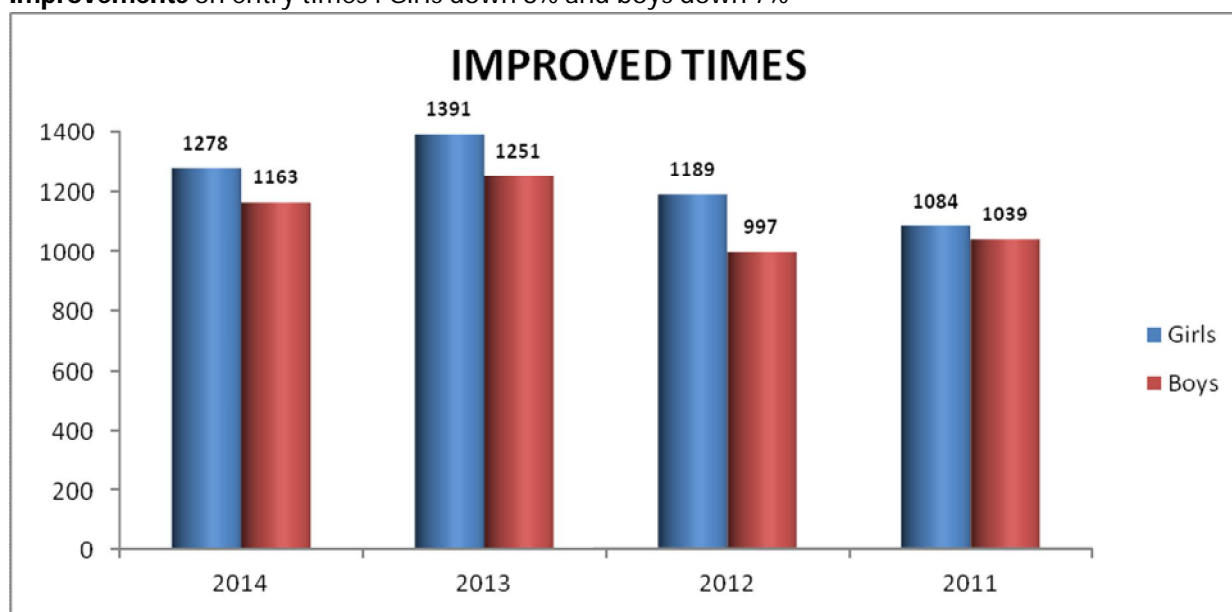
Entries : Girls' entries were down 12% and boys' entries down 4%.



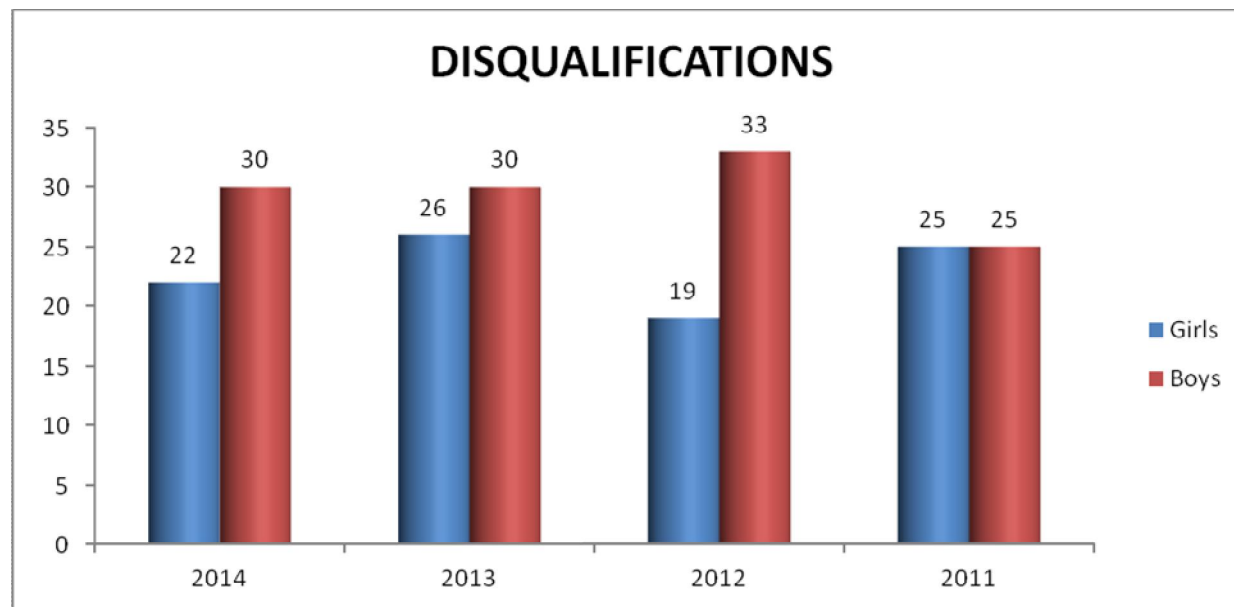
Splashes (actual swims) : Girls down 11% and boys up 1%



Improvements on entry times : Girls down 8% and boys down 7%



Disqualifications : Girls down 22% and boys the same as 2013



As in previous years we had hoodies and polo shirts on sale online and hats available on the day. Gogglebox, the swimwear shop, was again in attendance. An extra order for hats had to be placed, as they sold out very quickly, just the same as had happened last year. The treat for the spectators this year was not only the TV screens in the foyer, but the fact that there were three cameras in operation, and Dan Shiells, running a mixing desk, flicked between the three. Chris Hisgrove, our resident "techie", launched Hertfordshire ASA County Championships to a global audience via his youtube account, and ALL sessions are still available to view online.

On the second weekend representatives from the UK Anti-Doping (UKAD) Outreach Team were present, with the ASA Anti-Doping officer. The Team had a host of freebies to give out to swimmers who asked sensible questions of them, and they were swamped with swimmers/parents and coaches while they were there.

There was excellent club representation again, with 19 of our clubs present, and some fantastic swimming. Hatfield SC are to be congratulated on maintaining their high standards and performance, as they won the club points trophies for the men's and women's championships, and the club points trophy for the boys' age-groups, together with the overall club points trophy. Congratulations also to Hoddesdon SC who won the club points trophy for the girls' age-groups.

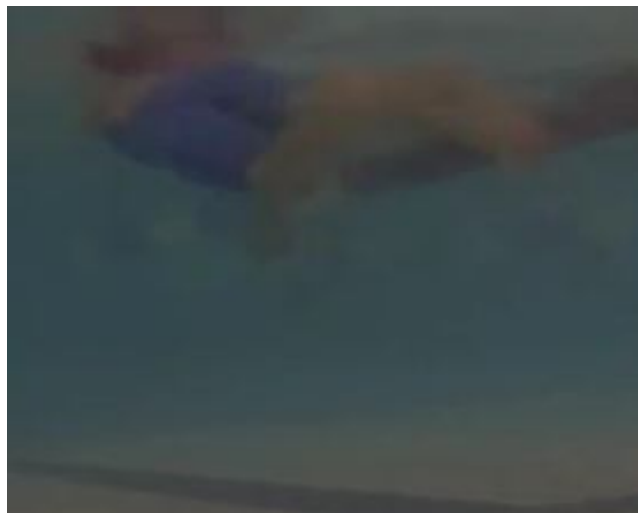
Many thanks to everyone involved in the event –swimmers/coaches/officials/volunteers/parents and especially the organisers.



View from "boomcam"



Side cam



Underwater cam

Development Meet :

Following the disappointment at having to cancel this event in 2012, it was decided to revert to the old format of running 50m and 200m events for 9, 10 and 11 year olds. Thankfully this format received more support, and there was a full gala. There was some excellent swimming, and a number of swimmers recorded county qualifying times. There were some issues, mainly around timings, with a lot of swimmers entering without a time. This makes scheduling quite difficult, so probably coaches will be asked use the time swum in a time trial as the entry time. There were also an issue with swimmers entering the events, but being unable to dive. Again, this will hopefully be addressed before the 2014 competition. On the positive side, our President, Chris Sage handed out every medal and had a chat with all the swimmers. This was very well received. The Event Support Staff were predominantly new to the roles, but did a fantastic job, and hopefully enjoyed themselves sufficiently that they will be back helping out at future events.

Daplyn Trophies :

The 2013 competition saw some fantastic racing, and a great party atmosphere. With AfterDark investing in a light show, and the pool staff playing their part, this gala had a brilliant atmosphere. After warm-up, the swimmers were assembled in the small pool area, then the lights were dimmed and the volume of the music increased... The teams were introduced one by one on to poolside, and with spotlights and flashing disco lights, all the swimmers broke into an impromptu conga round the pool. When the last swimmers were on poolside, the officials paraded on and the gala began. But... there was another surprise. As the referee blew the whistle for the start of the first race, the speakers blasted out, Gangnam Style, as athletes from ... synchronised swimming put on a short display of their skills for our swimmers and the audience. Then the racing began. After a number of races, there was a short interval while

the results were checked. During this break there was a poolside dance-off for a tin of sweets, then more swimming, another break, another dance-off, and, finally, the presentations.

The feedback on this event was ALL positive, as people left The Venue with smiles on their faces.

The winning teams this year were:

GOLD

SILVER

BRONZE

GIRLS

Watford A

Berkhamsted

Harpenden A

BOYS

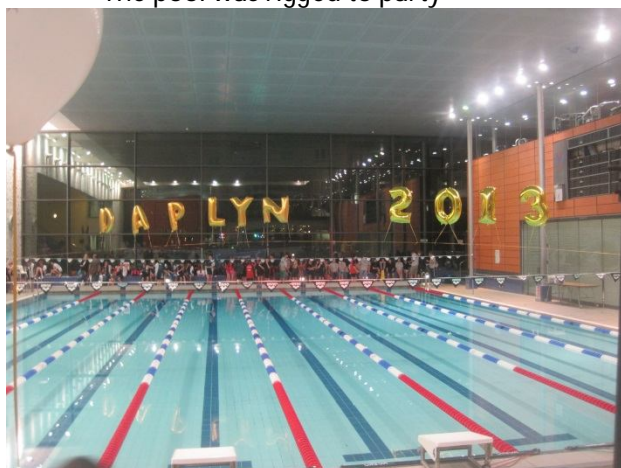
Potters Bar Blue

Berkhamsted

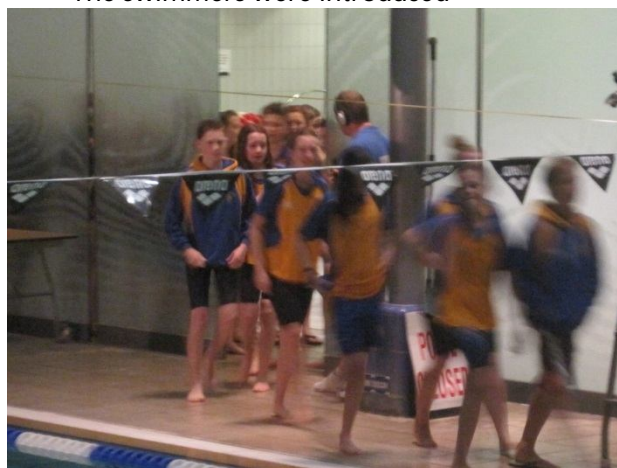
Watford

The atmosphere on poolside was terrific, and we intend to try and build on this for the 2014 competition. There were 16 girls teams and 12 boys teams competing

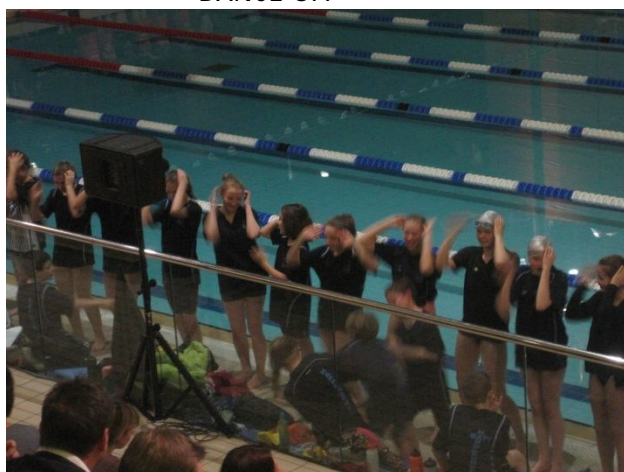
The pool was rigged to party



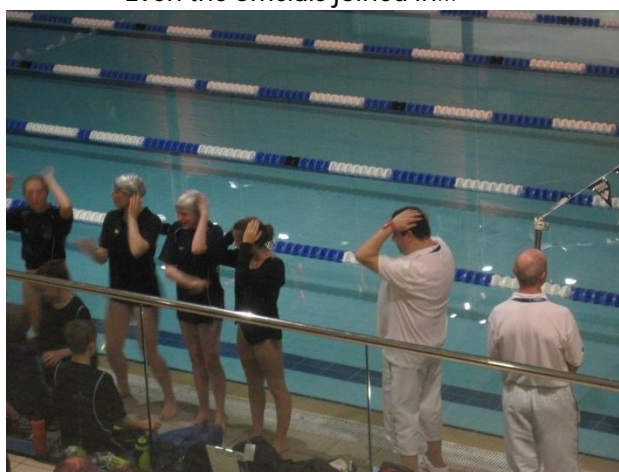
The swimmers were introduced



DANCE-OFF



Even the officials joined in...



And the winners...



Open Water :

The county again ran open water training sessions at the Lea Valley White Water Centre, Waltham Abbey on Saturday mornings, as preparation for the county competition. There was a disappointing take-up for this training opportunity. The Hertfordshire Open Water Championships are held each year in conjunction with the ASA East Region Championships. The event is held at Whitlingham Country Park in Norwich in July.

The 2013 competition saw a good turnout from Hertfordshire swimmers. The day of competition was lovely, with a steaming lake for those that were there for the start of the day – very atmospheric! Hertfordshire had 38 entries across the five distances. Four of the eleven national qualifiers were swimmers from Hertfordshire – Nathan Hughes (Hatfield SC), 13 year old boys' 1.5k, Amber Hughes (Hatfield SC) 14 year old girls' 1.5k, Victoria Pritchard (Hatfield SC) 15/16 year old girls' 2k, and Abby Smith (Harpenden) 17/18 year old women's 3k. The complete results can be viewed on the ASA East Region website.

Masters :

2013 Hertfordshire Masters Competition

This took place on 22nd June 2013. Overall swimmer numbers were similar to 2012.

In the team competition, St Alban's Masters beat Hemel Hempstead into second place by a handsome margin.

Full results were:

1.	St Albans Masters	584
2.	Hemel Hempstead	267
3.	Potters Bar	227
4.	Hartham Masters	222
5.	Bishop's Stortford	183.5
6.	Berkhamsted	144
7.	Hatfield Masters	134
8.	Stevenage	65.5
9.	Potters Bar Masters	40
10.	Broxbourne	17
11.	Bushey	13
12.	Hertsmere Flyers	13

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

2013 Regional Inter-County Masters & Senior Age-Group Championship

The county came a very close second in the closely fought Regional Inter-County Masters gala held at Newmarket on 18th November. The result was in doubt pretty much up to the last race. Final gala scores were:

1.	Essex	241 points
2.	Hertfordshire	233 points
3.	Norfolk	206 points
4.	Bedsfordshire	197 points
5.	Suffolk	124 points

Cambridgeshire did not field a team.

This was an excellent display by the team – securing 20 first and 11 second places. The team was bolstered by the presence of an Olympian – Richard Charlesworth, who showed his skills as part of the Hertfordshire team, competing against the other counties in the region.

When the regional results were converted into national placings, Hertfordshire pipped Essex by a single place, finishing a very creditable eighth place. The top ten counties nationally were:

1.	Warwickshire	1699.5
2.	Devon	1605.5
3.	Hampshire	1604
4.	Yorkshire	1574

5. Middlesex	1488.5
6. Cheshire	1420
7. Sussex	1416
8. Hertfordshire	1236
9. Essex	1231
10. Dorset	1169.

Swimming Officials

Training of swimming officials in the county has continued to be focussed on providing sufficient licensed Judge Level 1s and Judge Level 2s to run the county championships in 2014. Existing timekeepers have been successfully upgraded, as well as recruiting new people for this purpose, to such an extent that, at one point, there were over 100 officials undergoing training.

Several Judge Level 2s have also been trained (with an enhanced syllabus which includes basic refereeing) to run the increased number of Level 4 meets being run by clubs, so that their swimmers may gain county entry times. To support these new Judge Level 2s in their club galas, several timekeeper courses have been run in clubs, providing them with a cadre of knowledgeable volunteers. Many of these timekeepers have then gone on to study for their Judge Level 1 qualification.

In addition, four sessions were held on the new FINA Rules Update, another three on the syllabus mandatory CPD elements required for officials wishing to relicense, and two Officials Forums.

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

The county ran several galas during the year, and officials have been quick to volunteer their services, not just to run the galas, but also to provide mentored training for officials wishing to upgrade their qualifications. Once again, there was excellent turnout of officials volunteering for the county championships, with over 90 licensed officials offering their services this year.

Synchronised Swimming

Events

All three synchronised swimming clubs in Hertfordshire have been involved in regional competitions and development days, with all clubs having medal success at the last East Region Championships held on 29th March 2014 in Stevenage.

All three clubs have also been involved in the regional talent development squad, with swimmers from Aqualina SSC and Potters Bar SSC passing skill levels at an assessment day in Hertford on 8th March 2014. Trials for the new squad are taking place in May with tougher criteria.

Potters Bar took a 15-17 age-group team to the recreational national age-groups competition in Gloucester at the end of 2013. Swimmers from the talent development squad also went to watch the last day of the national age groups, to learn from some of the country's best swimmers.

Qualifications and officials

Two young coaches, one from Aqualina SSC and one from Potters Bar, achieved a Level 1 certificate in coaching synchronised swimming in August 2013. The coach from Aqualina SSC is now about to attend a Level 2 synchronised swimming course.

Aqualina SSC also had five people attend a basic judge course, and two coaches become qualified as 'basic skills assessors'. These assessors, along with two from Dacorum SSC, updated their qualifications at the skills day in Hertford, so that their qualification is valid for another four years.

Other achievements

Aqualina SSC has achieved swim21 status, the first synchronised swimming club in Hertfordshire to do so. Their head coach also won 'coach of the year' at the Sport Stevenage awards in January 2014.

The future - 2014/15

It is hoped that Hertfordshire Championship synchronised swimming medals can be awarded in the summer of 2014 at a competition to be held in Potters Bar. Clubs are also hoping to get more officials and assessors trained at regional courses.

Clubs will continue to compete at East Region competitions and be offered the opportunity to take part in development days. Several of the county's swimmers are on course to be re-selected for the regional 2014/15 talent development squad.

Water Polo

Obituary

Sadly, Ian Watson passed away in November 2013 after a long battle with illness. Ian represented his counties at swimming (breaststroke and butterfly) and masters water polo.

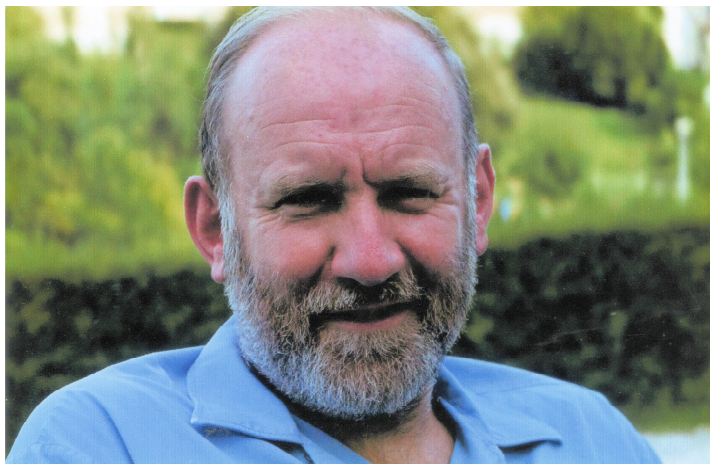
Ian gave many years of voluntary service to Hertfordshire ASA, Surrey County Water Polo & Swimming Association, and the former Southern Counties ASA. He was President of Hertfordshire ASA in 1988, and was also a Life Vice-President.

Initially a competitive swimmer at club, county, district and national levels, he was an active, qualified swimming official for many years, always putting the interests of the swimmers first, and subsequently he focused on water polo in Hertfordshire.

He was the club secretary for Hitchin SC for fourteen years, Hertfordshire's county secretary for fourteen years and county water polo manager until 2011. He was the first chairman of the Hertfordshire ASA Management Board.

In October 2013 at the ASA Annual Dinner, he was awarded the prestigious Harold Fern Award by the ASA on the recommendation of ASA East Region, in recognition of his invaluable service to the sport over many years.

His contribution to the county and its swimmers, and his expertise in the administrative affairs of the county was without measure.



General

2013 was a good year for Hertfordshire Water Polo. Two new teams entered the Hertfordshire & District Water Polo League and the Hertfordshire & District Handicap Knockout Water Polo Competition. Hertfordshire teams entered the Junior and Senior Men's East Region Championships, and the London Men's Over 40s and over 50s tournaments. The county had a team in the inaugural Senior Ladies East Region Championship, formed a new girls team for the Junior Championship, and entered a girls team into the London League. Representatives from Hertfordshire clubs attended the Regional Training Centres, and a number of players from Watford went forward to the GB training camps.

Hertfordshire & District League and Knockout Competitions 2013

The League and Knockout competitions grew to ten teams in 2013, with the addition of Spalding and Milton Keynes. Whilst concern was expressed at travelling distances, it was unanimously agreed to accept these entries.

It was proposed and agreed to split the League into two divisions, based on the position at the end of the 2012 season. Had the League remained as one division, this would have meant each team playing 45 games! This would have had a significant impact on fixture congestion for those clubs entering multiple competitions, or for those with just one club night.

There was just one void game (where the match is not played during the season) across both divisions, compared to last year's ten, and twelve conceded matches, as opposed to ten last year.

Hertfordshire & District League 2013, Division 1

Winners : Watford

Watford ran out eventual winners of division 1 of the league this year.

						Points corrections				
	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Void		Points	Goals for	Goals against	Goal difference
Watford	8	6	0	2	0	0	20	116	67	49
Cambridge	8	6	0	2	0	2	18	67	32	35
Bedford	8	5	0	3	0	1	17	41	48	-7
Dunstable	7	4	0	2	1	1	13	24	21	3
Hertford	7	0	0	7	1	2	5	21	88	-67

Hertford were automatically relegated to division 2 and Spalding automatically promoted to division 1. Dunstable and Milton Keynes played in the relegation/promotion game, where Milton Keynes won through.

Division 1 results

11/04/2013	Cambridge	Hertford	20-6
19/04/2013	Bedford	Dunstable	9 – 7
02/05/2013	Cambridge	Dunstable	Conceded by Dunstable
17/05/2013	Bedford	Hertford	9 – 4
02/06/2013	Dunstable	Cambridge	Conceded by Cambridge
05/06/2013	Hertford	Watford	6 – 13
13/06/2013	Watford	Hertford	24 – 2
23/06/2013	Dunstable	Bedford	8 – 6
30/06/2013	Dunstable	Watford	11 – 2
17/07/2013	Hertford	Cambridge	3 – 22
25/07/2013	Cambridge	Watford	15 – 6
02/08/2013	Bedford	Cambridge	Conceded by Cambridge
09/08/2013	Bedford	Watford	5 – 10
29/08/2013	Cambridge	Bedford	Conceded by Bedford
01/09/2013	Dunstable	Hertford	VOID – not played
30/10/2013	Watford	Cambridge	17 – 10
20/11/2013	Watford	Dunstable	25 – 6
16/10/2013	Hertford	Bedford	Conceded by Hertford
30/10/2013	Hertford	Dunstable	Conceded by Hertford
13/10/2013	Watford	Bedford	19 – 12

Hertfordshire & District League 2013 , Division 2

Winners : Spalding

League newcomers Spalding and Milton Keynes played very well and finished in first and second place respectively. Hitchin finished third. Both Biggleswade and Hatfield struggled to raise teams this year , resulting in a number of conceded games.

						Points correction				
	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost	Void		Points	Goals for	Goals against	Goal difference
Spalding	8	7	1	0	0	0	23	63	18	45
Milton Keynes	8	6	0	2	0	0	20	25	34	-9
Hitchin	8	3	0	5	0	0	14	11	67	-56
Hatfield	8	2	1	4	0	2	10	22	38	-16
Biggleswade	8	1	0	7	0	6	4	11	9	2

Division 2 results

Date	Home Team	Away Team	Result
08/04/2013	Biggleswade	Hitchin	8-4
16/04/2013	Spalding	Milton Keynes	10-3
25/04/2013	Milton Keynes	Hitchin	18-1
09/05/2013	Milton Keynes	Spalding	4 - 11
20/05/2013	Hatfield	Spalding	3 - 3
10/06/2013	Biggleswade	Spalding	Conceded by Biggleswade
18/06/2013	Spalding	Hatfield	10 - 4
24/06/2013	Hatfield	Biggleswade	5 - 3
27/06/2013	Milton Keynes	Biggleswade	Conceded by Biggleswade
30/06/2013	Hitchin	Spalding	3 - 16
15/07/2013	Biggleswade	Hatfield	Conceded by Biggleswade
10/09/2013	Spalding	Hitchin	13 - 1
25/11/2013	Hatfield	Hitchin	Conceded by Hatfield
05/08/2013	Biggleswade	Milton Keynes	Conceded by Biggleswade
15/09/2013	Hitchin	Biggleswade	Conceded by Biggleswade
28/09/2013	Hitchin	Milton Keynes	2 – 12
28/09/2013	Spalding	Biggleswade	Conceded by Biggleswade
15/12/2013	Hitchin	Hatfield	Conceded by Hatfield
12/09/2013	Milton Keynes	Hatfield	10 - 6
07/10/2013	Hatfield	Milton Keynes	4 - 12

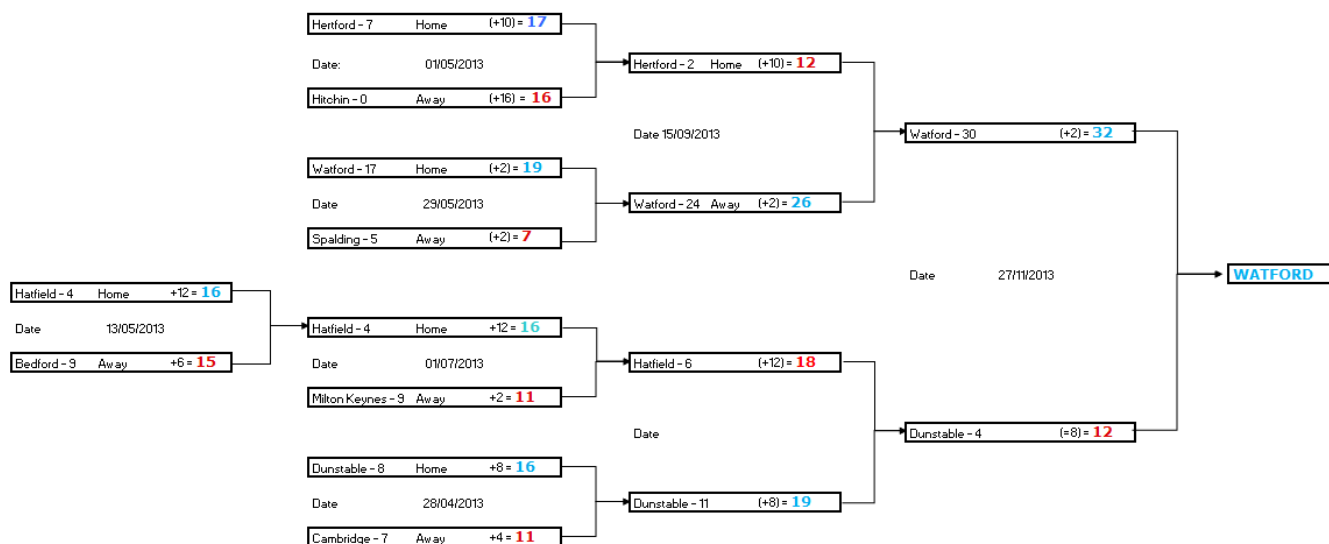
Hertfordshire & District Handicap Knockout Competition 2013

Winners - Watford

The final for the Knockout, held at Woodside in November 2013, was between Watford and Dunstable. The match result on the night was 30 – 4 in Watford's favour, and with the handicap, the result was 32-12.

The presentation of the "Gus Goater" trophy and the winners' medals was made by Grant Chivers, Hertfordshire ASA Past President.

Route to the final



Junior Boys

Hertfordshire still has no formal junior league at present. However, embryonic mixed junior teams have emerged at Hitchin, Hertford and Bishops Stortford, in addition to the established programme at Watford. Further development in the number of players and teams is planned for 2014.

The 2013 ASA East Region tournament was delayed until March 2013. Hertfordshire held trials in October 2013 for the ASA East Region Youth tournament at Watford in February/March 2014 and was able to select two teams to represent Hertfordshire. The A team acquitted themselves extremely well and didn't lose a match, eventually winning the competition in the decider against Essex. The B team showed resilience in playing against all their opponents, and despite not winning a game, came very close against county level teams.

The A team was: P Pickford, J Pickford, J Steinart, H Hudson, C Baker, L Waloscheck, M Rosenfield, J Cook, L Abeywickrama, A Kohler, W Keegan and S Carling.

The B team was: M Kohler, D Santosh, H Turner, R Thompson, L Hutchings, N Cawford, C Turner, H Stewart, S Shah, J Gardner-White, D Gilbey and P Djordic.

Thanks go to Steve Chambers, Nikki Baker and Edi Brikovic of Watford and Steve Cook of Hitchin for arranging and coaching the trials at Watford, and to Watford WPC for hosting the trials during their training sessions.

Senior Men

Hertfordshire entered a team in the delayed ASA East Region Senior Men's competition on 9th March 2014, and was hard pushed in all games (see Chris Stephens write up here). Hertfordshire eventually came 6th.

Team : Peter Pickford (Watford), Steve Briley (Watford), Adam komjathy (Hertford), Tom Gregory (Hertford), Jack ward (Hertford), John Pickford (Watford), Richard Hime (Watford), Jack Pickford (Watford), Richard Young (Hitchin), Luke Rogers (Watford), Dennis Briley (Watford) and Pete Norman (Hitchin)

Men's Over 40s - London

Hertfordshire entered a team in the Over 40s London tournament on 9th March 2014, and whilst competing hard, finished in sixth position out of 6 teams. The team, despite limited training time together, and much like fine wine, improved with time and age, and are keen to better their position in 2014.

Thanks go to Steve Cook for arranging the team this year.

Team : Stephen Cook (Hitchin), Chris Dunn (Hatfield), Jon Lowy (Hertford), Alistair Miller (Hitchin), Nick Savage (Hertford), Martin Unwin (Hatfield), Andrew Watson (Hertford), Neil Cook (Hertford), Jason Hart (Hertford), Aart Konig (Hertford) and Dave Gibbard (Hertford).

Men's Over 50s - London

Hertfordshire entered a team in the Over 50s London tournament, which turned out to be a very close and enjoyable event. In the deciding game, Surrey scored against Hertfordshire, when the referees had failed to notice that Surrey had eight players in the water, and the goal stood. But for this, Hertfordshire would have finished top. Well done to all concerned.

Team : Drago Dunjerovic, Mark Viney, Peter Mole, Dennis Briley, Chris Dunn, Neil Haftell, Nick May, Martin Unwin, Tony Love and Hugh Turner.

Results

Hertfordshire 3 Surrey 3 Essex 3 Sussex 1 Hertfordshire 5 Sussex 1 Surrey 4 Essex 1
Hertfordshire3 Essex 3 Surrey 4 Sussex 0

	Played	Won	Drew	Lost	Goals for	Goals against	Points
Surrey	3	2	1	0	11	4	5
Hertfordshire	3	1	2	0	11	7	4
Essex	3	1	1	1	7	8	3
Sussex	3	0	0	3	2	12	0

Hertfordshire scorers

Peter Mole 3, Nick May 3, Mark Viney 2, Chris Dunn 2, Hugh Turner 1

Thanks to Neil May for organising the Over 50s team this year.

ASA East Region Women's Championship

Hertfordshire entered a team into the first ASA East Region Women's Championship against Cambridgeshire and Essex, finishing third after some tough, but close, games against both opponents.

Team: Laura Marsh (Hertford), Julia Petchey(Hitchin), Jodie Wilkes (Watford / Hitchin), Mandy Saville (Hitchin), Tina Canty (Hitchin), Hannah Kearney (Hitchin), Tracey Cook(Hertford), Louise Lowy (Hertford), Liz Hourican (Hertford), Andrea Albertova (Hertford), Becky Randall (Hatfield), Isabelle Watson (Hertford) and Joanna Konig (Hertford)

Thanks to Jon Lowy of Hertford for picking up the organising of the Hertfordshire Girls/Ladies teams in 2013. The teams have gone from nothing to entry in London League in less than one year.

Thanks also to Hatfield WPC for the regular use of pool-time in building the ladies and girls teams.

Girls / Ladies – Hatfield sessions, London league entry

Three Hertfordshire girls were selected for the national inter-region tournament held in Walsall - Rhiannon Ellis (Watford), Louise Lowy and Laura Marsh (both Hertford). Across the county there are around 20 active female players, most of who are juniors.

For 2014, it is hoped to enter another Hertfordshire girls team in the London Winter League. Some girls(Born 2000 or later) will also trial for the Icen club, who will be entering a team into the national club championships to be held in Manchester in October.



Players from the successful Hertfordshire Junior teams at the ASA East Region Championships

Club Reports

Watford, membership 110+

Watford continue to be the backbone of the Hertfordshire Water Polo teams, fielding six teams across age-groups and leagues.

Their results, in the main, speak for themselves:

London League(Summer League) Premier Division 1 - 2013/14 season - Men's 1st team relegated to Division 1

London League (Summer League) Division 2 - 2013/14 season - Men's 2nd team remained in Division 2

In the Winter League 2013/14 season, the 1st team won Division 1, but there was no promotion, as the Winter League does not have a Premier Division. They remain in Division 1 for the 2014/15 season.

The 2nd team won Division 3 in the 2013/14 season, and will be promoted to Division 2 for the 2014/15 season.

London League (Winter League) Division 1 Champions - 2013/14 season - Men's 1st team

London League (Winter League) Division 3 Champions, promoted to Division 1 - 2013/14 season - Men's 2nd team

London League (Winter League) Under 16s Division 1 Champions - 2013/14 season - Under 16s 1st team

London League (Winter League) Under 16s Div Two Runners-up - 2013/14 season - Under 16s 2nd team

London League (Winter League) Under 14s Champions - 2013/14 season - Under 14s team - team won all 14 of their matches played.

The Under 17s qualified for the delayed 2013 ASA National Age Group finals which were played in Manchester in late April, beating City of Sheffield (18-2) and current holders, City of Manchester, (10-9). They are due to play Croydon in the semi-finals.

Last April, Watford appointed Head Coach Edi Brikovic to oversee the club's Water Polo development, and from the above results, this appears to be a very successful decision.

43 juniors players attend regional training on a weekly basis.

The cadet / youth polo scheme for players aged 7 - 10 has almost 20 players.

Individually, Watford has produced some excellent young players, with the following attending Regional Training Centre and/or GB training camps.

The following seven players attended England Talent training: Izzy Dean, Jack Pickford, Peter Pickford, Luka Abeywickrama, Hamish Hudson, Paul Botje and Karan Basu.

Watford had nine Junior players in this year's British Water Polo League: Peter Pickford, Jack Pickford, George Sadler, Josh Steinart, Hamish Hudson, Paul Botje, Cameron Baker, Sam Carling and Izzy Dean.

The national training camp at Millfield was attended by Cameron Baker, Hamish Hudson, Sam Carling, Karan Basu, Paul Botje, Louis Walocheck, Eddie Armstrong, Izzy Dean and Abigail Lence.

28 players attended the training camp in Hungary in the summer.

Watford provided seven players for the regional 1997 team that competed in the Inter-Regional in Basildon: Jack and Peter Pickford, Luka Abeywickrama, Alex Norcliffe (East Region), and Hamish Hudson, Adam Nash, Karan Basu (London Region).

Finally, the following played in the regional 1998 team that competed in the Inter-Regional in Liverpool/Walsall: Cameron Baker (captain), Jake Gilbey, Alex Norcliffe, Michael Miller, Jarryd Myburgh (East Region); Paul Botje, Hamish Hudson, Karan Basu, Eddy Mort (London Region), and Izzy Dean in the girls team.

Hertford, membership 25+

Hertford have grown and expanded in 2013. With the help of Jon Lowy, they have expanded their junior girls section sufficiently to enable Hertfordshire to form a representative side for the first time in many years.

Hitchin, membership 25+

Hitchin ran termly mini and junior taster sessions, through the year, with local swim clubs, which proved very successful. They are planning to start weekly sessions to continue the expansion into 2014, and are hoping to have joint training sessions with other local, developing groups and clubs.

Hatfield, membership 10+

Hatfield still maintain a senior team, playing in Division 2 of the League and in the Knockout.

Paddocks Piranahs (Bishops Stortford), membership : 20+

A new team has formed at Bishops Stortford, under the guidance of former England Ladies coach Mick Musgrave. Consisting mainly of younger players, they are a very welcome addition to the Hertfordshire Water Polo scene.

Training

Hertfordshire organised a regional level Table Officials course in September 2013, tying in with a tournament at Hitchin. Eight individuals attended, passed the theory during the daytime, and gained practical experience in the evening tournament. Two have now gained their regional Table Official qualification, and others are being assessed.

A Level 1 Coaches course was run in November 2013. Two players from Hitchin attended and passed.

Two individuals from Paddocks Piranahs (Bishops Stortford) club attended the grade D Referee course in June and have achieved their full qualification. Two Watford juniors attended the course and passed the theory exam.

Discipline

There were no disciplinary issues in the 2013 season connected to Hertfordshire teams.

Looking Forward to 2014

The Development plan for 2014 centres around four key themes:

1. Grow the number of juniors (boys and girls) entering the sport, via existing clubs
2. Grow the number of new clubs / groups
3. Continue the expansion of ladies / girls section, in particular
4. Stabilise the existing setup – new rules introduction, county equipment etc (to enable all Hertfordshire clubs to use electronic scoreboards and timing) and training.

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 Drago Dundjerovic.

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 Bryan Thompson.

The Wilkinson Sword

The sword is awarded annually for achievement in the sport of swimming. The recipient this year was Adam Brown.

ASA Award - Harold Fern Award

Ian J. Watson - Hitchin SC

Regional Aquaforce Awards

These recognise the value of the volunteer to the sport of swimming in our region. The following Hertfordshire volunteers received Aquaforce Awards:-

Bryan Thompson- Harpenden SC (Club volunteer of the year)

Amy Thompson- Harpenden SC (Outstanding contribution by a young volunteer)

Amy Bryant – Aqualina Synchronised SC (Outstanding contribution at county/regional level)

Peter Jewell – Dacorum DC (Volunteer coach of the year)

National Aquaforce Awards

Bryan Thompson- Harpenden SC (Club volunteer of the year)

ASA East Region Awards

The Jeff Cook Salver which is awarded to the individual, team or club who has made a significant contribution to sport of swimming within the region, was presented to Ian Mackenzie - Hoddesdon SC.

ASA East Region Silver Pin

Craig Hunter – Hatfield SC

Sheila Mackenzie – Hoddesdon SC

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.

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.

Chris Sage has been our President this year, and, as a county, we have been very fortunate in the support that he has given. Chris has represented the county and supported our athletes at many competitions and events, presenting medals and trophies. Thank you, Chris!

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

I find it very hard to believe that my year in office as Hertfordshire County President is now nearly completed. From my first appointment at the ASA East Region Inter Counties event in July 2013 at Luton, where I walked into the hospitality room and didn't recognise one person, up until now, I must say that I have genuinely enjoyed the past year.

My initial nerves and trepidation at not knowing many people from the other aquatic disciplines, other than diving, were soon overcome at that first event at Luton, and I have been made to feel very welcome at all other events that I have attended, ever since, and I would like to express my gratitude to all the officials, organisers, coaches and volunteers alike who have made this happen.

My involvement in diving as a club coach, committee member and team manager, together with being a national/international diving judge/referee and a Hertfordshire ASA diving committee member has meant that I haven't been able to attend as many events and meetings as I would have liked to, and I apologise for that. However, I have had the privilege and pleasure of attending disability, open water and competitive swimming events, along with synchronised swimming and diving competitions. Unfortunately, I was unable to attend any water polo events, and again I apologise.

In attendance at all of these aquatic events, I found one common theme that we must all be very proud of in the county, and that is the professional way that these events are organised and implemented. I feel that this makes a difference to the athletes competing, and as they are the ones putting in the hours of commitment and dedicated training, I believe we owe it to them to make the events the best we can, and to also make it an enjoyable experience for them all, whether they be competing in their very first event or their 100th event. I have seen first hand that this is achieved in the county, and again this is down to the hard work of the officials, organisers, coaches and volunteers. I have no doubt that we need to continue to maintain this very high level of competence in the future.

In the past year, I have also met many parents and athletes, and it is quite clear that we all have this love of sport in common, albeit as a retired athlete or competing athlete, and that's why we continue to be involved in sport. It also makes me ask the question, 'What would we do without it?' - I don't know. However, I do know that this love is the reason why so many of us have the need to put something back into sport, and that is why the foundation for future aquatics in the county is on such a sound footing.

Thanks again to everyone for making my year of office such an enjoyable time, and I hope to see many of you in the future. I would like to also wish my successor the very best for the forthcoming year.

Chris Sage



Hertfordshire Amateur Swimming Association

Summary of Accounts

for period

1st April 2013 - 31st March 2014

prepared by

**Grant Chivers
Finance Officer, Hertfordshire ASA**



Balance sheet

	31.03.14	31.03.13	31.03.12
Assets			
Cash and bank accounts	£78,684.62	£70,118.18	£75,352.10
Debtors	£15,450.00	£15,786.25	£4,576.00
Tangible assets	£354.00	£994.00	£1,048.00
	£94,488.62	£86,898.43	£80,976.10
Liabilities			
All liabilities	£675.00	£2,949.35	£26,264.73
Working balance	£93,813.62	£83,949.08	£54,711.37

Assets and Liabilities

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

Breakdown by Activity

4

	31.03.14	31.03.13	Difference
Diving discipline			
Income	£1,282.00	£647.00	£635.00
Expenditure	£1,280.00	£1,881.00	-£601.00
Surplus funds	£2.00	-£1,234.00	£1,236.00
Swimming discipline			
Income	£56,455.27	£60,484.99	-£4,029.72
Expenditure	£51,095.95	£68,117.14	£17,021.19
Surplus funds	£5,359.32	-£7,632.15	£12,991.47
Water polo discipline			
Income	£1,095.00	£0.00	£1,095.00
Expenditure	£848.67	£185.00	£663.67
Surplus funds	£246.33	-£185.00	£431.33
Workforce Development			
Income	£1,823.35	£0.00	£1,823.35
Expenditure	£4,983.49	£6,035.97	-£1,052.48
Surplus funds	-£3,160.14	-£6,035.97	£2,875.83

Further details for Swimming Discipline - for 01.04.13 - 31.03.14

Area	Income	Expend	Surplus
Swimming Counties 2013	£70.00	£1,515.55	-£1,445.55
Swimming Masters 2013	£2,197.60	£1,904.55	£293.05
Swimming National Intercounties 2013	£1,130.00	£3,780.04	-£2,650.04
Swimming Daplyn 2013	£1,519.00	£1,092.33	£426.67
Swimming Development Meet 2013	£4,229.40	£4,745.59	-£516.19
Swimming Counties 2014	£46,306.62	£34,687.84	£11,618.78
Open Water Champs 2013	£0.00	£276.20	-£276.20
	£55,452.62	£48,002.10	£7,450.52

Notes to accounts

- 1 This document is the summary of accounts for Hertfordshire ASA for the year 1 April 2013 to 31 March 2014. 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 2014
- 4 This page shows the income and expenditure of the competitive disciplines. There was no income or expenditure associated with "synchro" in this FY or the previous one
- 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 FY13/14 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.

HERTFORDSHIRE AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

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www.hertsasa.org.uk

Keep up to date with what your county is doing

Forums – Chairman's/Club, Coaches, Officials

Committees – Disability: Diving: Workforce Development:

Synchronised Swimming:

Swimming, including Masters & Open Water: Water Polo

Events: Courses: Contacts: Galas: Competitions