

Aldershot Youth Swimming Club

A member of Rushmoor Swimming Association

Newsletter – Autumn 2014



Aldershot Youth Swimming Club



Autumn Term 2014

Message from the chairman !

Welcome to this edition of our newsletter and especially if your child is one of our 21 new swimmers to join our club this term ! Can't believe we are already in September ! I hope you all had a great summer break whatever you have been up to. First of all it is with sadness that we say good bye to four of our teachers at the end of last term. David Bucket, Chris Patterson, Sarah Mills and Sarah Goody. We wish them well for the future. As a result we are keen to speak to any parent who would like to get involved with assisting and helping our current teachers. Especially if in times gone by you have had a either a teaching or a lifesaving qualification or just someone with a keen interest in Swimming. Teaching swimming is so rewarding when you see the progress your classes are making moving forwards. I am so grateful to every single volunteer we currently have. Our club would not exist without the commitment and the dedication of everyone involved and I'm sure you would agree with that. If you are interested in becoming one of our volunteers then please remember that you would not necessarily have to commit to all three sessions on a Wednesday evening. Please do make yourself known to myself or Linda on Wednesday evenings. We have 144 swimmers enrolled with us this term, please may I remind all 6pm parents and swimmers to form a queue down the corridor before 6pm so we can aim to keep poolside relatively clear before our club time officially starts. I think that is everything to mention at the moment. On behalf of the full committee I hope your children enjoy their swimming lessons and I wish them well in their tests in December !

Chris Gillman FIOS

Volunteer Training - July 2014

Back in July this year most of our volunteers enjoyed their summer social BBQ and activities as a thank you for all their efforts every Wednesday evening. This year we combined the event with Rushmoor Youth Swimming for a training refresher on teaching swimming. The course was led by Richard Bright and the afternoon was a success. We hope all our teachers took points away with them to use within their own teaching with us.

Swimming at Weekends

Please remember to take your children swimming at weekends to give them a good chance of developing their strokes and skills for their tests. A swimming lesson once a week is often simply not enough for your child to learn to swim and be confident in the water. Full details on courses can be found on our club website.

Supervision on the Poolside / Changing Rooms

While our teachers are responsible for your children during their swimming lesson, we do ask for your help supervising your children before and after their lesson in the changing rooms and out on the poolside. If you do come across any children misbehaving then do come and inform Chris or Linda who will deal with it appropriately with the children concerned. We are not responsible for your children before and after their swimming lesson on poolside or within the changing rooms.

Online Questionnaire for Parents

We would love to get your feedback on how we are running the club and on your child's swimming lesson. There is an online questionnaire available on the website. Please do take a couple of minutes to let us know your thoughts. Your feedback is appreciated and we welcome your comments.

Extra Clothing Required

Swimmers in Angelfish 2 and above are required to wear additional clothing for their lessons and their tests. Please check on the website as it is important your child gets practice wearing additional clothes while swimming in their lessons.

Swimmers - Please Note

All pupils should use the toilet, blow their nose and shower before entering the water. Parents of younger swimmers should ensure their children carry out these three actions.

Parents - Hygiene Overshoes

Places for People Leisure (Formally DC Leisure) have asked us to ensure that parents and other spectators wear the blue over shoes provided when on the poolside. If the containers are empty on a Wednesday evening, then do speak to one of us and we will speak to the lifeguards to bring some more on to poolside to fill up the containers.

Useful Water Safety Signs commonly seen



Lifeguards on patrol



Danger, never enter water



Safe for watercraft, not safe to swim



No swimming



Deep Water



Strong undercurrents



First Aid

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Page 2

Upcoming Important Dates

- 29th October 2014 - Half Term (Lessons running as usual)
- 26th November 2014 - Last Teaching Week
- 3rd December 2014 - 1st Test Night
- 10th December 2014 - 2nd Test Night
- 17th December 2014 - Distance swimming & splash time
- 24th December 2014 - Club Closed: Volunteers only
- 31st December 2014 - Club Closed: Volunteers only

A full calendar can be found on our club website.

Club Test Dates

At the end of each course we have two test nights. You can find out your child's test date & time on our club website and notice-board. You must ensure your child is available to be tested on the test night as we cannot guarantee that an alternative assessment date or time is available.

Spring Term Enrolment Fee

Thank you so much to all parents who enrolled after their child's swimming test in July. This really was appreciated and helped a lot with pool planning. Our course fee for our spring term will remain at just £28 !

Certificates & Badges



At the end of each term we run a short distance swim. Certificates and badges can be purchased afterwards for £1.50.

The cost of the certificate and badge for your child's course is included in your course fee.

Why not print this newsletter and allow your child to have a go at our water safety quiz opposite ?

Volunteering on Poolside

We are always on the lookout for new volunteers on poolside to assist our teachers with teaching children to swim. As much as we admire all our young volunteers coming forward to help and to become teachers their selves, it is always very useful to have adults as teachers as well.

If you are a keen swimmer and would like to volunteer within your local community then please do speak to Chris or Linda for further information. An application form will be provided along with an enhanced DBS (CRB) form as well.

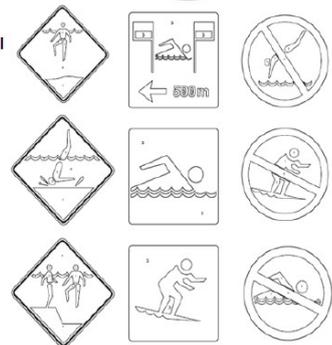
Duke of Edinburgh Award

We allow young people to volunteer with us to achieve their Duke of Edinburgh's award. If you know a young person who is looking for a volunteer placement for this award then do point them in our direction. This can be good starting point to become a teacher in a few years time.

Water Safety Signs Quiz

Match the message with the correct sign

1. Surfboard riding prohibited
2. Beware of shallow water when diving
3. Beware of deep water
4. Surfboard riding permitted
5. Direction to life saving patrol
6. Swimming prohibited
7. Diving prohibited
8. Beware sudden drop-off
9. Swimming Permitted



Facebook & Twitter Reminder

As well as our website, our club also has a facebook page and a twitter account. We use these to publish information and changes to our club calendar and in the unlikely event of any pool closers. FOLLOW or LIKE us today to keep yourself informed on our club news.

