

Grangemouth Amateur Swimming Club

Summer 2011 Newsletter

Grangemouth Amateur Swimming Club has joined the **F.I.R.S.T. Development Program** (Falkirk Integrated Regional Swim Team). There has been intensive talks, sub groups and meetings to discuss this followed by a communication to all club members to express any concerns members may have. We only received 2 concerns from the whole membership. We have also arranged an open meeting to discuss face to face. This has been arranged for Saturday 11th June at 5pm at Grangemouth Sports Complex GP room (room on the right before you enter the changing village) and will be hosted by the sub group set up to do the initial investigations and the final recommendations. All club members are welcome. We plan to issue a 'Parental Fact Flyer' following this open meeting which will cover the questions and subsequent answers raised. This will be available to all club members early next week

Swim Shop Sale - we have lots of stock going at reduced prices! Get along and see what bargains you can get. Also we have a wide variety of goggles and club gear - shorts and t-shirts, bags, hoodies and caps all at very good prices. Swim shop is on the first Tuesday of each month

The **Summer Zone Challenge** took place on Tuesday 31st May and was a great success! I am sure you were well impressed at how smoothly and professionally our club gala's are run. Well done to all our swimmers who performed fantastically and to those who won a medal, I know some of them won their first ever medal (don't know who was more chuffed the kids or the parents!). A huge THANK YOU must go to Val Holmes our gala conveynor who organised and runs the whole event (yes on top of coaching, committee etc. etc.!) and to Elaine Millar who ran our meet manager system for the first time on her own! Thanks also to all the Gemini zone kids who came along to help and also to all the parent who helped on the night. Remember if you want to get involved in anything at the club please, please volunteer. There is a section later in the Newsletter with jobs needing filled

Bag Packing - we have a bag packing day organised for Saturday 23rd July at Tesco in Reading from 12noon to 6pm. There is a notice on the club board for you to add your name. We would be pleased if EVERYONE committed to do even just an hour to help the club out. This is a big fundraiser for us and a very worthwhile one! It is hoped the proceed from this will cover the cost of the pools for all our Zones Swim Days

Club Captains - we have delayed the voting of our new Club Captains - if any swimmer wants to put their name forward please e-mail the.nimmos@hotmail.co.uk before Tuesday the 14th June 2011. Voting will take place over the following 2 weeks

Swim Camp - we got some very disappointing news last week to say our residential Swim Camp at Tulliallan Police College has been cancelled as the pool has been closed due to Health and Safety. Because of the short notice it has been impossible to organise another but we have managed to organise a Swim Day on Sunday 7th August at Falkirk High School

Summer opening times - the school pool training usually stops when the schools finish up for the summer however we are hoping to secure some school pool time for part of the school holidays. We are still finalising this so will send out an e-mail, put a notice on the website and on the club board so everyone should be informed. Training will at Grangemouth Sports Complex will continue throughout the summer as normal

Gala Subsidies - the club is currently spending more on training costs that we are bringing in so to address this the committee has decided to reduce the gala subsidy. At present we subsidise £1.50 per swim for the first 5 swims and GASC pay for the 6th and subsequent swims. With immediate effect the club subsidy will be £1.50 for **all** swims so parents will be asked to pay a portion of the total number of swims the swimmer has

SASA Membership Number - A few people have been asking where they can find their SASA membership number (Scottish Amateur Swimming Association). This can be found using the following link: <http://www.swimmingresults.org/customerservices/membershipcheck/members1.php>

Timekeepers Course - we are hoping to hold a Timekeepers Course in August. This only takes 2 hours on a Tuesday night and allows you to timekeep at internal and external gala's. For anyone who goes to gala's you will see how many officials are needed to run a gala and give it full accreditation (allows the swimmers times to be official). You also get to sit and have a cup of tea prior to the gala starting and get a free lunch if you timekeep the 2 sessions! Better than sitting stewing in the balcony spectating - and you would be doing the club some good! So please add your name to the list on the club board. We need at least 8 people to allow the course to run

Finally are you able to help with any of the following:

- **Fundraising and Sponsorship** - anyone interested or able to help with this? Do you know how to get money for your local club? If you do please let us know and speak to someone at the club desk
- **Operating our Electronics** - would you be interested in learning to operate the club computer system we use to run gala's? We desperately need a few people to come forward and help or else we won't be able to run our own gala's or our 2 external ones which raise a lot of money for the club
- Would you be interested in **shadowing our Gala Conveynor** and helping out the organising and running of our gala's. We only hold a 4 year (over 6 days/and or nights)

If you want to know anything or are unsure how things run at the club just ask at the club desk and we will be more than happy to get someone to speak to you