**BLANTYRE AMATEUR SWIMMING CLUB**

Club Secretary: Susan Kerr-McAvoy

 Email: baswimclub\_susan@yahoo.com

 Chairperson: Francis Jones **B.A.S.C**

 **S.A.S.A.**

Club website: www.blantyre-asc.co.uk

Welcome to Blantyre Swimming Club. This guide provides information for new swimmers and their parents / guardians about how the club runs.

Blantyre Amateur Swimming Club has been in existence since 1984 and aims to promote and develop the swimming ability of all its members. The club is affiliated to the Scottish Amateur Swimming Association (known as ‘Scottish Swimming’) and is a member of SASA West District.

**The Squads**

The swimmers are divided into squads (A, B, C, D and Improvers) depending on their swimming ability and technique. Swimmers will progress from Improver through to ‘A’ Squad as their ability improves. Each squad has a qualified coach responsible for monitoring the progress of each swimmer. When appropriate the Head Coach will put swimmers forward for any competitions which suit their level of swimming ability.

**Training Times**

A full list of training times can be found on the Club Web Site. Please use this space to take a note of the times relevant to your squad:

Squad: \_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Training Time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

 Day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Training Time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Day \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Training Time \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

The coaches expect swimmers to be changed, showered and at the poolside at least 10 minutes before their training session begins. There is a full “Code of Conduct” which is displayed on the web site, and which club members should be aware of and adhere to. Boys are required to wear swimming trunks or jammers (long tight trunks), but not baggy swim shorts. Girls should wear swim caps and a one-piece costume.

**Information:**

All up to date information can be found on the Club website [www.blantyre-asc.co.uk](http://www.blantyre-asc.co.uk)**.**

Parents and swimmers should check regular.

**Time Trials:**

On the **last Tuesday of each month** the A, B, C and D Squads come together for time trials at 7pm in the main pool. The swimmers are divided according to age / ability and will swim in a competitive setting - the swimmers are not racing against each other but against the clock. The times are recorded by the entry secretary and head coach, and these times are used to determine when a swimmer has attained a level to enable them to enter external competitions.

Parents should be prepared to take turns at timekeeping. Club Time Trials are a good setting for parents to get used to timekeeping before they have to time keep at other events such as Mini-Meets or Graded Meets.

**Competitions / Meets:**

The club participates in competitions at all levels, ranging from events for inexperienced competitors (Mini-Meets) to Graded Meets and Scottish Nationals. Swimmers’ times (recorded at club time trials) will be compared with the age groups and qualifying times provided by the competition organiser.

Please check the website for swimmers whose times have been put forward for consideration for a Swim Meet. If your child is to be entered for the first time, speak to a committee member and they will explain how the process works.

Each swim (ie.- event) in a meet incurs a fee, ranging from £2 up to £15 per swim. These fees are currently paid by the club, but swimmers who agree to swim and then fail to turn up are required to pay £20, as the club gets £20 per person fine for not attending after agreeing too. Please contact a coach if you are unable to come to a swim meet (eg.- through illness) as this will save the coaches valuable time on the day. Also, be sure to be at poolside at the stated time, as lateness causes confusion and a lot of extra work, and will result in the swimmer being withdrawn.

The Blantyre Swimming Club Championship and Junior Gala take place at the end of the year and everybody in the club should participate.

**Joining Fee:**

New members do not pay a Joining- fee, but however they do have to pay S.A.S.A insurance of £45 at whatever time of the year you Join, within one month of joining. Without this insurance cover we cannot have swimmers in the pool in case of accident or injury. After joining S.A.S.A fees are yearly. Need more info contact club secretary.

All swimmers in Scottish Swimming Clubs are required to be members of SASA (Scottish Amateur Swimming Association), also known as ‘Scottish Swimming’, who are based at the Scottish Swimming Academy at Stirling University. SASA membership includes insurance cover for swimmers whilst training and at competitions.

There is also a £2 admin fee yearly.

**Fees :**

The Club’s swim fees are paid monthly by Standing Order directly into the Club’s bank account. We moved to this system some years ago, as it is much easier to administer and because it avoids committee members having to handle large sums of cash on Tuesday evenings. When a new member joins they will receive a Standing Order form which they should return to their bank (*not* the Swimming Club). TIP: do not state the reference on your standing order as “BASC” or “Swim Club”, but use your or children’s first name(s) or surname/intials as these are easier to trace in the event of queries. Parents are in full control of the standing orders (unlike Direct Debits), and if a swimmer leaves the club, the parents must cancel the standing order – the club will not (and cannot) do this.

 The monthly fees (agreed at the 2015 AGM) are :

 A and B Squads - £30 per month

 C, D and Improvers Squads - £25 per month

Should fees be persistently unpaid, then the committee reserve the right to suspend a swimmer’s membership until full payment has been made.

 Should a swimmer be absent for an extended period (e.g.- due to illness), then please speak to the Treasurer so that an arrangement can be made for temporary suspension of fees. The swimmer’s place in the club would still be kept until they are fit again. The Treasurer and Secretary will be present at the poolside on time trials nights (last Tuesday of the month) and anything to do with fees, other payments or membership matters can be dealt with then.

**Swimshop :**

We have a swimshop offering swimming costumes, trunks, water bottles, polo-shirts, bags and other items. The swimshop is set up at time trials on the last Tuesday of the month at the poolside, but items can be obtained at other times by contacting the swimshop co-ordinator Debbie, or use the Contact us page on website. The swimshop coordinator can also advise you on where to get other items which we do not stock.

Blantyre Swimming Club Members should wear club swimwear, polo-shirts and (especially) club swimming caps when competing in external competitions.

**Swimming Club Committee :**

The Club is run by a committee, elected at the Annual General Meeting. The committee members are parents who all help to run the club in a voluntary capacity. There are a number of tasks necessary to ensure the smooth running of the club, and it is important for these tasks to be shared out and for as many parents as possible to be involved. New parents are very welcome to get involved in the committee. Meetings are open for any parents to attend. If you have anything you would like discussed, however, you should speak to the club secretary beforehand, or email baswimclub\_susan@yahoo.com

Or use the contact page on website.

**Fundraising :**

The Club regularly organises fundraising events, and we would expect everybody to participate. Funds raised will always go towards the club, and often towards special events for the young people, such as an outing at the end of the session.

**Child Protection :**

The club has a designated Child Protection Officer who ensures that all adults working with the swimmers are checked by Disclosure Scotland, in accordance with the Child Protection Act. The Child Protection Officer is also the contact person for any concerns about child protection. We have a total ban on the use of mobile phones at the poolside and within the changing area, so please make phone calls from the main foyer.

 Please note that no photographic equipment (ie.- cameras, camcorders, camera phones) may be used at the poolside at any time without written permission being obtained from the Child Protection Officer. This also applies to external competitions, in accordance with the Child Protection Regulations of SASA.

**Consent Forms :**

On joining the club you will be asked to fill out a consent form. These forms are extremely important (particularly in the event of illness or injury) and all swimmers must have one filled out with up-to-date information. Parents are responsible for informing the club secretary of *any* changes to their child’s circumstances (i.e.- medical details, change of address, change of mobile phone nos. or change of emergency contact details). All information on these forms is treated in confidence and is kept in a safe place.

 **Swimming Club Contact Details : Who to contact about what !**

**Debbie Jones - Head Coach** (01698) 825441; 07886 101579; baswimclub\_debbie@yahoo.com

* anything to do with coaching, trials, your child’s progress, injuries, training information

**Susan Kerr-McAvoy - Club Secretary / Membership Secretary -** 07796992259 baswimclub\_susan@yahoo.com- membership, info on swim-meets/time trials, SASA membership

**Debbie Jones** - **Treasurer** - 07886101579 ; baswimclub\_debbie@yahoo.com - anything to do with money, fees, standing orders, fees and fines for meets

**Swimshop** - baswimclub\_debbie@yahoo.com

* swimwear & equipment; costumes, polo-shirts, bags, bottles etc.

**Frank Jones - Chairperson** – Contact us on webpage - items for committee meetings, liaising with external organisations, general issues

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**Derek Kelly** – **Child Protection Officer** – baswimclub\_cpo@yahoo.com

* for any questions or issues relating to child protection, members’ welfare etc.

* If you have any questions about any aspect of the Swimming Club, then please ask any member of the Committee, or email baswimclub\_susan@yahoo.com use **contact page** on website. Please also feel free to speak to your child’s coach about their progress or anything you might want to discuss before or after session.