



Sunday Training

Its really great to see an increase in the number of swimmers that are attending the Sunday training session.

In the past couple of weeks we have had around 40 swimmers from across swimming squads. We anticipate that this is the number of swimmers who will want to attend the Sunday session on a regular basis.

We can just about cope with this during a normal squad session, but with mixed squads it's more difficult to balance the lanes, and the difference in abilities impacts on all the swimmers.

The result of this is that we feel that the quality of the swimming session is being reduced, as there are too many swimmers of mixed abilities in each of the lanes.

The stated use of the Sunday session in our membership criteria is:

12.30 – 13.10 Young Achievers, Elite and Elite 1

13.10 – 14.00 Seniors, Elite and Elite 1

When membership numbers and interest was lower over the past 2 years the session was opened up. There were occasional peaks, and it was felt that we could handle the numbers. With growing interest we have had to review the session.

I have taken on board the views of committee and coaches and in the short term we will return to the stated squad times for the Sunday session. This will be applied from Sunday 22nd January.

We know from past experience that during the summer months numbers drop off as families engage in other activities. Therefore, we will review session numbers on an on-going basis and if numbers drop off we will invite swimmers to complete additional time.

I appreciate that this feels that I am taking time away. It's in the interest of quality and safety that I have made this decision.

Longer term, the fact that our numbers are slowly increasing again in the junior squads will put pressure on our coaching. We cannot afford to pay more than one coach to lead the session given our current financial situation. Other coaches and helpers do so on a voluntary basis.

I therefore ask all parents to get involved. Having a parent at the end of every lane to help maintain swimmer spacing and lane discipline will be a great help and could even help us to open sessions again if the coaches feel that they can make it work. It will also have a massive impact on the development of your children's swimming.

Jill and Andy are now going to progress the training so please consider putting yourself forward.

I hope that you can appreciate that I don't take these decisions without careful consideration and that I can count on your support.