

BETWEEN THE LANES

HASC Newsletter

February 2009

Hi swimmers & our faithful supporters!

There have been so many things going on that I have been asked to send some additional information out to all club members. I have put some of the really important points under 'special notices'!

Good luck to Tyler Ellis, Rachel Maidment, Claudia Ashby & Sean Haisley as they attend NZ Juniors this weekend in Auckland with their coach, Mat Woofe. (NB: training as per usual for Mat's squads). All the best to our senior swimmers as they make their final preparations for NZ Age Group Championships and NZ Division II Champs – both to be held in March. We wish all our swimmers the best of luck as they represent our club at these national meets.

I wish to acknowledge the help many people have given me over the last few weeks as they see I have been struggling with the various jobs I have taken on at the club. In no particular order I wish to thank:

- both HASC committee and exec members who work so many hours behind the scenes to do the very best they can with the time limited time they have;
 - The coaches of the club for their patience and help as we try to sort out issues in & around the pool, the trainings, competitions and general running of the club;
 - The individual club members who do not belong to the committee but do what they can when they can – whether holding an official job title or not;
 - The 3 young Learn to Swim Instructors who have helped fill in with administration duties when I have been unable to;
 - The many Learn to Swim parents who have acknowledged the time I have put into the LTS programme, until a new administrator is found;
- and in fact everybody that contributes. we need every bit of input you can offer in order to improve and build the club!

It is here I wish to let you all know that as of this week (17 March 2009) we welcome on board Stephanie Carey as the new Learn to Swim Administrator for Hamilton Amateur Swimming Club. The Learn to Swim Programme is the foundation for all we need to do in the future for the growth of the club, and so we believe that Stephanie's skills in marketing and promotion, as well as her administrative abilities, will aid the club in promotion of LTS and ultimately in the promotion and growth of ALL club activities. Please make yourself known to Stephanie and aid her in any way you can to settle in to her new role.

Please also note that I will be away from 22 Feb until 15 March. I will leave information both in the shop, tower and chemical room for people who would like information regarding joining the club. If you see a newcomer at the pool please ask if you can assist them and make them feel welcome.

Thank you – Caroline Blair

SPECIAL NOTICES

CLUB POLICIES: HASC Policy Statement No.13 – this policy covers any staff member that finds themselves in a situation where they are alone with swimmers on club premises & states that in order for “the swimmer and staff member (to) remain safe” the “Plan of action for parent(s)” is that “If you arrive at the pool and find that your child is the only swimmer, then there is an expectation for you to stay pool deck until training has finished”. This also means that you need to be aware if there are only 2 swimmers in the pool and there is a chance that the other swimmer will leave early – the parent MUST be back before your swimmer can leave the pool to use the changing rooms. If parents do not arrive in time for their swimmer to leave the pool to change, a swimmer may have to be kept in the water until such time as their parent/caregiver arrives. The action required by parents in this policy safeguards swimmers and staff.

HASC Policy Statement No.12 - this policy is put in place to protect swimmers from ‘harm’ outside the pool premises & states “The swimmers are not to leave the pool deck area until collected by their parent/caregiver. The parent must come down the steps to collect their child.”

HEALTH and SAFETY REGULATIONS: Any child under the age of 8 must be actively supervised by a person over the age of 14. This means that a 12 year old (for example) cannot be left in charge of a 6 year old. An adult or someone over the age of 14 must be on the pool premises at ALL times to supervise those under the age of 8.

HOMEWORK ROOM ENQUIRY:

Alongside the pool shop is an enclosed room that houses a couch, table, chairs and TV. It has been suggested that swimmers could make use of this room between eg: 3.45 – 4.30pm to work in silence to undertake some of their school homework activities. This would benefit all who decide to make use of it as by the time swimmers get home & have dinner it is often getting late to complete homework well. In order for this to be successful we would like an indication from parents who would be keen to see this room set up as a homework/study room. We would also like to have someone in charge in order to have silence maintained during this study period. A suggestion may be that a parent is in charge or maybe we roster on senior swimmers for this role. Your thoughts and comments on this matter would be greatly appreciated. Please email the club with ‘homework room’ in the subject line.

BREAKFAST CLUB:

It is noted that a few swimmers are using the room near the shop (the ‘lounge/homework room’) to have their breakfast in after early morning weekdays trainings before they head to school. It is a great idea to make use of the facility but once again, we probably need adult supervision to oversee this. We can’t expect our coaches to hang around to lock up after the swimmers who wish to stay – yet if the pool is not locked up correctly we run the potential risk of damage being done to the complex or the pool itself. Perhaps if we had a parent roster for swimmers who wish to shower and breakfast at the pool we could ensure facilities are locked up and looked after properly. Any thoughts on this would be welcome. Please email the club with ‘breakfast’ in the subject line.

Awesome Waikato Champs 50m Sprints Many medals, ribbons for top 8 qualifiers and a huge amount of PB's were had by Hamilton Swim Club. A few tears lots of smiles and a wonderful amount of cheers for the relays. Great effort guys. The Junior 200 free relay Team Won lead by Sean, Jenna, Kristy and Tyler!! The girls 400 free relay Team Won lead by Jade, Lauren,

Kirstie and MORGAN. Both of these relays were hard fought for. Morgan knows how to bring it home!! A very interesting finals race was the 10 year old 50 free Hamilton Swim Club took out 1st 2nd and 3rd - Claudia, Chloe, Emanae - well done girls. We then had the Adam and Eve relay Jade and Evan partnered up and got 3rd AWESOME Lauren and Luke (LL team) came in fourth fantastic. Food was beautiful we all went home with a few more kilos - timekeepers and officials a fantastic job. What a FANTASTIC CLUB we have!! (from Ali Ellis)

LEARN to SWIM: bookings are still available for Term 1 classes. For all LTS enquiries or bookings please contact the Learn to Swim Administrator at hasc@hamiltonswimmingclub.org.nz or leave a message on the pool ph: 838 1232.

If you have information you think is relevant for the club newsletter please email information to the Coaching Convenor by the 20th of the month to the club email address. Please put "Newsletter Info" in the subject line. If you have information that is relevant to the website please email it to the webmaster (Moses Cherrington) by Thursday of each week at moses@infozen.net.nz.

HASC Committee hasc@hamiltonswimmingclub.org.nz Please note that comments & notifications written in newsletter are as accurate as possible at time of publication of newsletter. We apologise if any omissions occur. They will be noted in the next newsletter or sent out by email to general emailing list.

House Rules:

- * One month's written notice must be given when leaving the club or payment will be due for the following month.
- * Non swimming children MUST be supervised at all times whilst in the swimming complex. Parents please keep the 5 years and under at one arms length from you all the time.
- * Showers are to be TURNED OFF as this is only wasting Club money, we pay a levy for water and obviously the power to heat it!!
- * Footwear to be worn to and from the pool especially at SWIM MEETS.

It is great to see all the pools overflowing with young and older swimmers, lots of laughter a few learning tears, and a fantastic atmosphere - lets carry the great attitude into 2009.