

HALESOWEN SWIMMING CLUB

REPORTS - 2002

West Midlands League Round 1 – 12th October 2002

Senior Swimmers at Halesowen Swimming Club were in action in the first round of the West Midlands league at Tamworth on Saturday 12th October. The team started strongly and after 26 events lay in joint second place with only four points separating the top four teams. By event 34 the team had fought its way into a two-point lead and after a series of tremendous performances held off local rivals Brierley Hill to finish second in a thrilling end to the gala.

Individual victories came from Matt Cherry, Amy Piper and Katie Summerfield in the Freestyle, Andy Papworth in the Breaststroke, Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke and Verity Emms and Louise Williams in both the Butterfly and Backstroke. Relay team victories came from the 13 and under girls team of Jenny Evitts, Michelle Jenks, Emma Price, Amy Piper and Louise Williams with the Open men's team of Stuart Brown, Matt Cherry, Danny Leaper, Andy Papworth, John Pridden and Stewart Reading supplying a win in the medley relay and a thrilling Freestyle relay victory in the final event of the evening.

Final point scores were Eckington 210, Halesowen 200, Brierley Hill 198, Rugby 174, Leicester Belgrave 162 and Kingsbury 94.

Midland Districts 2002

Another successful weekend for Halesowen swimmers at the ASA Midland District Age Group Championships saw Louise Williams qualify for the National Age Group Championships, in the very last event of the competition the girls 12 years 200m backstroke. Louise will now swim at Sheffield on the 6th August, in her first ever National Championship event.

Personnel best times were also achieved by the following swimmers

Boys 10 years 50m Backstroke	Daniel Summerfield	43.22	35 th
Boys 11 years 50m Backstroke	Michael Edmonds	39.40	28 th
Boys 10 years 200m Frontcrawl	Daniel Summerfield	2.55.23	–
Girls 12 years 400m Frontcrawl	Louise Williams	5.12.66	24 th
	Amy Piper	5.04.67	15 th
Boys 10 years 200m Breaststroke	Daniel Summerfield	3.54.51	34 th
Girls 12 years 100m Backstroke	Louise Williams	1.16.84	15 th
Girls 11 years 50m Frontcrawl	Ricki Ashman	34.42	62 nd
Girls 12 years 50m Frontcrawl	Amy Piper	32.37	45 th
Girls 12 years 200m Backstroke	Louise Williams	2.42.27	11 th

Congratulations to every one who took part in this year ASA Midland District Age Group Championships.

Simon Hillson

Chief Coach Halesowen S.C.

The first week end of the 2002 ASA Midland District BAGCAT championships at the International Pool in Coventry saw all the Halesowen swimmers who took part produce long course personnel best times, with several moving up their age group rankings considerably. For most of them it was the first time they had swum that particular distance in a 50m pool, which is a big difference from swimming at Halesowen.

The results are as follows:

12 years Girls;	Louise Williams -	200 IM	33 rd
		100 FC	38 th
		200 FC	28 th
		800 FC	18 th
		50 Fly	21 st
	Amy Piper -	100 FC	22 nd
		200 FC	8 th
		800 FC	10 th
10 Years Boys;	Daniel Summerfield -	50 FC	52 nd
		200 BK	30 th
11 years Boys;	Michael Edmonds -	200 BK	34 th

Full results can be found on the ASA Midland District website –

www.midlandswimming.org.uk

The most un-luckiest swimmer of the weekend was Amy Piper who took over 3 seconds off her entry time in the 200 FC, to finish with a time 0.02 seconds outside her National Qualifying time for the event. So close yet still so far away.

Next weekend sees all four of the above in action at Coventry again, and they will be joined by Rikki Ashman, and Scot Taylor.

Simon Hillson

Chief Coach

Mercian Summer League Round 3 – 5th July 2002

Senior swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club were in action for the last team fixture of the season in the third and final round of the Mercian Summer League on Saturday 5th July at Bromsgrove. The team achieved a creditable third place on the night after trailing in fifth place after 12 events.

There were six first places on the night from Michelle Jenks, John Pridden and Kate Summerfield in the Backstroke and Matt Cherry in the Freestyle. Relay wins were achieved by Karen Moore, Kate Summerfield, Phillipa McAndrew and Isobel Bruce in the Medley and Natalie Spencer, Sam Hart, Abbi Hadley and Laura Mitchell in the Freestyle. The team also achieved 8 second place finishes.

All team swimmers now look forward to a good break in the summer before returning to action at Leamington on 7th September.

Final point scores Bromsgrove 186, Redditch 183, Halesowen 179, Wednesbury 169, Triple S 158 and Stratford Sharks 155.

Nuneaton Junior League Round 3 – 15th June 2002

Junior swimmers from Halesowen Swimming Club encountered tough opposition in the third and final round of the Nuneaton Junior League on Saturday 15th June at Stetchford. The team achieved a 5th place finish but did remarkably well considering the long list of absentees and a string of disqualifications on the night. Special mention goes to the team managers for their efforts in rounding up swimmers at very short notice and to Simon Driver and Chris McKenna who were representing the Club for the first time.

Wins were very hard to come by on the night with Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke producing the only individual victory. The 9 year-old freestyle team of Maria Goodwin, Beth Hart, Hannah Jones and Emma Shirvington produced an excellent win and the 8 x 1 freestyle team of Maria Goodwin, Richard Phillips, Isabella Piggott, Stefan Ashman, Josie Evans, Daniel Summerfield, Laura Mitchell and Sean Taylor rounded off the night with an exiting win in the last race.

Individual 2nd places were secured by Abigail Henderson in the Butterfly and Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke, the 12 years freestyle relay team of Rikki Ashman, Robyn Downes, Laura Mitchell and Natalie Spencer, the 9 year old boys relay teams of Stefan Ashman Matthew Henderson, Jonathan Hunt, Laurence McLaughlin and Richard Phillips who never seemed to be out of the water all night! And the 9 year-old girls of Maria Goodwin, Beth Hart, Hannah Jones and Emma Shirvington.

Final point scores were Boldmere 175, Warley Wasps 154, Orion 154, Cheadle 148, Halesowen 125 and Evesham 119.

Nuneaton Junior League Round 2 – 12th May 2002

Junior swimmers at Halesowen Swimming Club roared back into contention in the Nuneaton Junior League by grabbing a hard fought second place in the second round of the competition. Although the team went into second place early in the evening they were pushed all the way and narrowly held off close rivals Orion.

There were individual wins on the night for Josie Evans the Freestyle and Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke and relay wins for the nine year old boys team of Stefan Ashman, Matthew Henderson, David Hunt, Laurence McLaughlin and Richard Phillips.

The final points scores were Worcester 229, Halesowen 147, Orion 142, Braunstone 136, Bromsgrove 116 and Dove Valley 116.

Midland District Team Events – 12th May 2002

Halesowen Swimming Club entered 28 events in the 2002 Midland District Team event held in the 50 metre pool at Coventry. This events gives swimmers from the Club the opportunity to compete in a long course pool and is an invaluable experience in their development. The day proved to be enjoyable with many swimmers expressing surprise at how different and hard it was to swim in this length of pool.

Special mention goes to Daniel Summerfield, Sean Taylor and Michael Edmonds who were in the pool at 8.30am in the morning at Coventry and were still in the pool 12 hours later at 8.30pm in the Junior League gala at Worcester. Extra special mention goes to Tina Taylor for providing a world class Taxi service and Sue and Steve Summerfield and the increasingly blonde Simon Hillson who not only braved this 12 hour marathon but were also at Wolverhampton all of the following day for the Haden Hill open – well done to all of you!

Mercian Summer League Round 1 – 27th April 2002

The team was in action in the Mercian Summer League Round 1 at Wombourne on Saturday 27th April. The Mercian League gives us the opportunity to pick a wider variety of swimmers and it was extremely encouraging that the team produced an excellent 2nd place and actually led the gala after 12 events.

The team achieved 10 first places with individual wins for John Pridden in the IM, Kate Summerfield and Anthony Shipton in the Butterfly and Richard Ruston in the Breaststroke. Our relay teams performed well with wins for the medley team of Abbie Hadley, Laura Mitchell, Natalie Spencer and Louise Murphy, the medley and freestyle team of Jamie Roome, Sean Taylor, Anthony Shipton and Daniel Webb, the 10 and under medley team of Kimberley Mack, Corrie Edgar, Hannah Cuthbert and Grace Emms and the Open women and men's freestyle teams of Kate Summerfield, Phillipa McAndrew, Jenna Edwards, Karen Moore, Peter Mitchell, Stewart Reading, John Pridden and Matt Cherry.

Final points scores were Solihull 216, Halesowen 195, Droitwich 168, Etwall Eagles 168, Oakengates, 151, Wolverhampton 140.

Worcester Winter League Final – 21st April 2002

Halesowen B were in action at Droitwich in the Worcester Winter League C Final. This team performed well with 16 PBs being recorded on the day. The team recorded 3 second places by Peter Mitchell in the Butterfly, Richard Ruston in the Breaststroke and Ashley Sturman in the Backstroke.

Final points scores were Orion 172, Bromsgrove 135, Triple S 103, Halesowen B 84 and Droitwich 82.

Worcester Winter League Final – 21st April 2002

The senior 'A' Team were in action at the final of the Worcester Winter League at Droitwich on Sunday 21st April. Competition was every bit as tough as expected but with some excellent swims the team produced a deserved 3rd place finish.

The team achieved 5 first places on the day by Rick Andrews and Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke, Andy Papworth and Scot Taylor in the Breaststroke and the mixed Open Freestyle team of Phillipa McAndrew, Matt Cherry, Kate Summerfield, Andy Papworth, Verity Emms and Rick Andrews.

Final points scores were Stourbridge 165, Redditch 152, Halesowen 134, Broadway 88 and Oldbury 58.

Nuneaton Junior League Round 1 – 13th April 2002

Junior swimmers at Halesowen Swimming Club found the going tough in the first round of the Nuneaton Junior League on 13th April and battled hard all night to finish in fourth place. Wins on the night were hard to come by with Josie Evans, Michael Edmonds and the 9 year old boys Freestyle relay team of Richard Phillips, Matthew Henderson, Laurence McLaughlin and Stefan Ashman providing some welcome cheer.

The team achieved 7 second places with Richard Spoor, Sean Taylor and Simon Harris in the Breaststroke, Anthony Shipton in the Butterfly, Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke and the relay teams of Matthew Henderson, Richard Spoor, Stefan Ashman, Richard Phillips and Anthony Shipton, Daniel Webb, Ashlee Guttridge and Sean Taylor.

The final scores were Hinkley 179, Camp Hill 178, Broadway 168, Halesowen 148, Dove Valley 119 and Leicester Neptunes 94.

Worcester County Championships and Age Groups – March 2002

43 members of Halesowen Swimming Club were in action at the Worcester County Championships throughout March and recorded the best set of Club results for a number of years.

Rick Andrews continued his outstanding form at County level and produced Championship winning performances in the 400 and 1500 Metres Freestyle. There were also wins in the age group competition for Michael Edmonds, Verity Emms, Phillipa McAndrew, Amy Piper, Stewart Reading, Scot Taylor and Gareth Webb who produced 20 first places between them.

Chief Coach Simon Hillson was delighted with the results and said, "This has been a memorable first County Championships with the Club for me. Out of the 242 events in which our swimmers took part they achieved an incredible 179 personal best times. To have 74% of performances swum in record times is impressive by anybody's standard. More importantly we have 8 swimmers who have achieved 21 District standard times and Rick Andrews has also achieved the national standard in the 100 Metre Backstroke. My congratulations go to all swimmers for their achievements and are just deserts for all of their hard work over the past months."

Warley Wasps Trophy Gala - 23rd February 2002

Halesowen Swimming Club's junior team were in action again at the Warley Wasps Junior Trophy Gala on Saturday 23rd February and missed out by just one point on second place. The team were in close contention all evening and after being only one point behind after 36 events they were unable to make up the deficit despite a thrilling finish to the final relay event.

The 9 year old team produced the best performances of the evening with wins for Stefan Ashman and Beth Hart in the Freestyle and Maria Goodwin in the Backstroke with Hannah Jones and Emma Shirvington joining the victorious girls Freestyle relay team. There were also wins for Corrie Edgar in the Breaststroke, Josie Evans in the Freestyle and Michael Edmonds in the Backstroke.

The team will be in action again at Stetchford pool in the first round of the junior league on 13th April.

The final points score were Stourbridge 187, Warley Wasps 152, Halesowen 151, Wyre Forest 105 and Fox Hollies 74

26th January 2002, Redditch Trophy Gala

Following the recent success of Halesowen Swimming Club's senior team it was the turn of the juniors to get in on the act at the Redditch Trophy Gala. The team swam superbly all evening and were cheered on enthusiastically by the large gallery of supporters. After event 31 Halesowen were level on points with Walsall but were unable to hold on against the first division team and missed out on victory by just 8 points. Special mention goes to Maria Goodwin, Beth Hart, Roxanne Sweeney, Amy and Thomas Kirkham, Matthew Henderson, Jonathan Hunt, Richard Phillips, Tom Sinden and Richard Spoor who were representing the Club for the first time.

Chief Coach, Simon Hillson said, "Following last week's outstanding win by the senior team it was great to see the juniors doing the same. To beat two first Division Clubs and only miss out narrowly to strong opposition means that we can confidently push for promotion ourselves."

19th January 2002, Worcester Winter League Rd 1

Swimmers at Halesowen Swimming Club secured a brilliant win in the first round of the Worcester Winter League and finished 35 points ahead of closest rivals Solihull. The team grabbed wins in 25 out of the 40 events and 27 members of the team swam personal best times.

New Chief Coach, Simon Hillson was delighted with the victory and said, "I could not have asked for more from the team and am thrilled with the performance. The nature of the win was equally matched by the tremendous support from the dedicated volunteers that went to make my first night with the team truly memorable. We can now look forward to what promises to be a great year".