

BOLDMERE SWIMMING CLUB

Inaugural Open Meet

Press Release: 25th November 2007

Fired up with words of encouragement from Sebastian Coe, supported by 20 major sponsors, and in front of guest Olympians Jane Sixsmith and Joanna Coull, Boldmere Swimming Club capped their phenomenal rise through the ranks of Midland Swimming last weekend when they staged a highly successful two day inaugural open meet at Stechford.

Licensed at Level 2 by the ASA, numerous favourable comments were received from swimmers, parents and visiting officials regarding the high quality of the organisation and presentation of the meet - and with many already committing themselves to next year's meet, the Stechford venue has been booked for November 23rd and 24th 2008

Promoter, Neil Homes said that the success of the event was largely due to the detailed planning and preparation that a dedicated team of parents had done prior to the event, the backing of some major sponsors, the high quality of the officials, and the support of swimmers from so many clubs.

"Having built the foundations, we are confident that we can stage a Short Course Open Meet of high quality which will attract a large numbers of entries from within- and beyond-the Midlands Region. This year's meet has proved that we have expertise and personnel to host such an event, and we have received such positive feedback from those who attended the meet we are expecting many more entries in future years".

150 swimmers from 26 clubs attended the meet with Worcester SC taking the trophy for Top Visiting Club.

9 years old Jake Dixon of Boldmere received the Arthur Barbrook Trophy for his exceptional Breaststroke performances in 2007

Quotes from visiting officials.....

....."A very much merited "Well done" for your first open meet. As a somewhat time served old hand of open meet organisation, I can say that the level of detail and 'class' that has been exhibited was excellent". Andy Jackson (City of Birmingham)

....."I would like to make comment on my experience as an official at your inaugural open meet. The communication leading up to the meet has been exceptional. When I was invited to attend all the necessary information was sent at the same time which ensure that I knew exactly what I was agreeing to. Acknowledgment of my acceptance also arrived in good time. When I arrived, I was given my Officials Pass which had my name on. This was a very nice touch and shows that someone has really thought about it. In short I was treated extremely well and it is very much appreciated.

With regard to the meet itself, as soon as the minor hiccup (session one Presentations) was sorted everything went like clockwork. I would expect there to be a very high attendance next year now that you have proved how well you do things". Graham Bromley (City of Coventry)

Quotes from visiting parents....."Fabulous trophies"

....."What a well organised event".....

.....What a fantastic time our swimmers had at your open meet this weekend. The gala was very well run, relaxed and most of all fun! This atmosphere proved a winning combination for our swimmers who all got PB's in most of their races. I would also like to thank your swimmers who were welcoming and courteous. I am sure that your consequent open meets will also be a great success when word gets around. Many thanks and best of luck.

.....Congratulations on a great inaugural meet. Well organised and friendly, great trophies. I really enjoyed the 'skins' races- a great climax to the day. I also really enjoyed seeing the little ones swim in their time trials-their obvious enthusiasm was great.

Hope to be back next year.

Quotes from visiting swimmers: "I really enjoyed the meet (even though I missed my presentation as I had to go to work (paramedic). I will definitely be attending again.

Thanks again

Stuart Corbett

Bromsgrove Swimming Club

Quotes from guests: I was honoured to be asked to present the prizes which I thoroughly enjoyed, and would be very pleased to support the Open Meet in 2008. I thought the event was extremely well organised, in fact polished to a high degree! It was evident how much hard work had gone into the meet to which I am sure was noted by all. Boldmere Swimming Club must be feeling very proud of what was the first of I'm sure, many more successful Open Meets in the years to come.

Once again, I had a very enjoyable day....the hospitality was excellent and I really felt at home!

Joanna Coull (who learned to swim with and for Boldmere from 1980 to 1986, and in 1988 (age 14 years) represented Great Britain in the 1988 Seoul Olympics. Two years later she won a silver medal in the 4 x 200m F/S Relay representing England in the 1990 Auckland Commonwealth Games).