

# ISLE OF MAN SWIMMING ASSOCIATION



## A Note from Clive Parrish, Chairman

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I am delighted to write to you in this experimental newsletter which I hope will become a regular feature in the future.

I am coming towards the end of my third year as Chairman and I believe that IOM Swimming is well placed to move forward. Last year we gave the IOM Swimming Club an increased level of autonomy and the new Committee which includes representatives from the Coaching Team are making good progress with the squad.

### Ideas for Future articles and Features

- *How to Volunteer?*
- *How do I become a Swimming Teacher and/or a Coach?*
- *What is a PB?*
- *How to set 'goals'*
- *How do I progress in Swimming and achieve my aims?*
- *What is a Licenced meet?*
- *Many many more.....*

Once again we had a successful Island Championships and we have record numbers of swimmers representing the island in the National Championships and North West Regional events. Well done to all.

We now look forward to the Island Games in the Isle of Wight next month and the Commonwealth Games on the Isle of Man in September.

I know that some people seem to have been disappointed that we are taking only one 'Man' to the Isle of Wight along with the ladies team. Unfortunately, the 'Consideration' times set for these Games proved to be stretching and as a consequence only two men achieved individual times (Grant Halsall has other commitments and is sadly unable to swim in the Isle of Wight).

The selection Committee did consider whether we should take additional men to make up Relay teams but it was decided that we should only consider individuals with consideration times as originally agreed when the criteria for selection was set.

Sacha and his coaching team are confident that we will have a Men's and Women's team for Bermuda but selection criteria will be reviewed for future events. If you have any thoughts or suggestions please speak with your Club representatives when the time comes.

Whilst some of you may not agree with the decision taken I hope you now understand why the decision was taken.

## Annual General Meetings

Notices for the AGM's for both the Association and Swimming Club have been posted and will take place at the NSC on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> June 2011.

## Features

I hope that if the Newsletter becomes a regular feature that I will receive contributions from Swimmers, Parents, Coaches and volunteers so that the Newsletter becomes a method of ensuring transparency between us all and remove some of the mystic that can be so daunting for swimmers and parents new to the Sport.

If you have any ideas for features or questions that you need answering please do not hesitate to come forward – no question is too simple – don't forget we all have to learn and sometimes those who have been involved for many years forget and assume that we all have the same knowledge! We don't and we are all learning every week.

## How to become an Official

If you have ever wondered how those mysterious people in white at our Galas appeared well it is probably because they were 'railroaded' or pushed in to volunteering – they all started from scratch but got involved to ensure the Galas can continue to be run.

To become an official you will start as a 'Timekeeper' and learn the basic rules of competitive swimming – at your own speed you can, in time, learn to become an 'Inspector of Turns', a Judge, Starter and ultimately a referee – and get an ASA Licence. There are no exams until you become a prospective Referee – you will be helped through a workbook at each level and simply have to show that you understand what your duties are in each role. It is a great way to help out and get a better understanding of the rules of the sport.

So, if you think you would like to give it a go please speak with someone on your Club's committee or e-mail [officials@iomswim.net](mailto:officials@iomswim.net).

## Commonwealth Youth Games

I am delighted to say that we are well on the way to having a full team of volunteers to help out at the CWYG in September – we still need people – Swimmers and Parents to help with the back-up roles – once again if you are interested in helping please speak with your Club reps. It will be a great event and something for us to be proud of.

## Future Newsletters

This is a taster and hopefully we will be able to expand in the future. So if you have any ideas or want to contribute please let me know. [Chair@iomswim.net](mailto:Chair@iomswim.net)

Website – [www.iomswim.net](http://www.iomswim.net)

### Volunteers needed! Do you:-

- *Have IT skills?*
- *Know how to manage websites?*
- *Have an interest in publishing?*
- *Love administration!*

*Whatever skills you have you probably have something to offer – we need as much help as we can get – so don't be shy!*