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3rd December 2016

To Parents, Guardians and Carers of all GAW Athletes

ANNOUNCEMENT OF A NEW CLUB STRUCTURE

For some considerable time, we have been working towards improving the potential for the Club's athletic performance whilst ensuring we also improve sustainability in administrative terms. We are now able to do this and a few changes will be implemented in January 2017.

Change is never easy to implement or accept and I acknowledge that some individuals and families will be affected more than others. The changes, however are essential if we are to continue to increase our levels of competitive success whilst driving forward as a sustainable and supportable organisation. Your Club Committee discussed the arrangements last week, accepted the proposals and agreed to implement the changes with effect from Tuesday 3rd January 2017.

The intention with these changes is to build upon some amazing performances and successes, both from hugely talented individuals but also from the Club as a team. Our representative footprint at championships, County, Regional, Scottish and English or ASA National levels has increased dramatically, and given the right environment to develop in, the signs are great for our swimmers in the future.

Your Representatives have all the administrative information you will need, such as new swimming groups, fees and swimming times and you coaches stand ready to answer any questions or concerns you have from a coaching perspective. The major changes are as follows:

- A new swimming group structure will be implemented which will require some individuals to move between swimming groups. Coaches and Reps will inform all athletes as required (Annex A).
- There will be considerably more flexibility for the movement of athletes between swimming groups to match individual performance, ability and potential.

- New swimming times will be implemented from 3rd January 2017. These times have been agreed with GMBC and fit into the Borough's aquatics development plan alongside all other clubs (Annex B).
- Fees for over half of Club members will not change and those members being promoted would have experienced similar changes under the current system. The other changes that are required now and effective from 3rd are calculated to bring those members back into a fair parity with other areas of the Club. Fees will of course remain under review and susceptible to external influence.
- More swimming time will be available to many Club members.
- There will be no planned sessions on Sundays across the whole Club, recovering many lost hours due to competitions and galas and freeing up valuable family time.
- Coaches of swimming groups will undertake to provide individual feedback on progress and potential on a six-monthly basis and, exceptionally as required.

The Head Coach and I firmly believe that these changes will present the greatest opportunity for us as a Club to progress competitively long into the future and see Gateshead and Whickham ASC firmly as the most progressive swimming club in the North-East region. I hope we can rely upon your support and understanding to ease the implementation and 'bedding-in' of the changes and that we can all watch the progression of all our children with great pride.

I'm really excited about these changes and believe that 2017 will be a year of even greater success for the Club and the people that matter most:

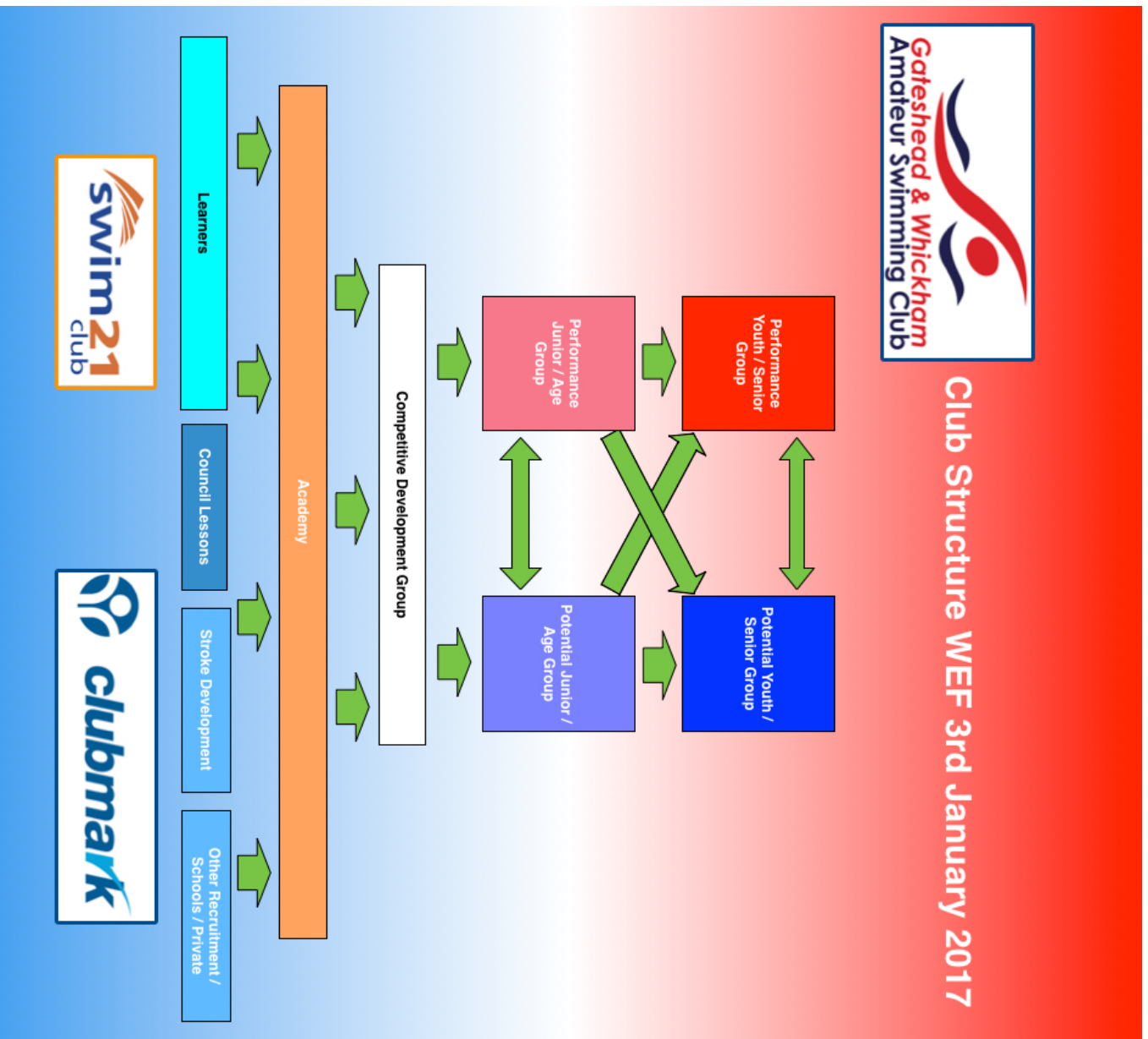
Our swimmers!

Thank you



Andy Strickland
Club Chair

Gateshead and Whickham ASC New Structure – 3rd January 2017



Performance Group – Youth / Senior – Head Coach Ken Nesworthy		
Monday (pm)	Blaydon	5:00 to 7:00
Tuesday (am)	GLC	5:30 to 7:00 (5:15 Poolside)
Tuesday (pm)	GLC	5:00 to 7:00
Wednesday (pm)	Birtley	5:00 to 7:00
Thursday (am)	GLC	5:30 to 7:00 (5:15 Poolside)
Thursday (pm)	Heworth	7:00 to 9:00
Friday (pm)	Dunston	5:00 to 7:00
Saturday (am)	GLC – Water	6:45 to 8:30
	GLC – Land	9:00 to 10:00

Performance Group – Age Group – Coach Paul Armstrong		
Monday (pm)	Blaydon	5:00 to 7:00
Tuesday (am)	GLC	5:30 to 7:00 (5:15 Poolside)
Tuesday (pm)	Birtley	7:00 to 8:30
Wednesday (pm)	Birtley	5:00 to 7:00
Thursday (am)	GLC	5:30 to 7:00 (5:15 Poolside)
Thursday (pm)	Heworth	7:00 to 9:00
Friday (pm)	Dunston	5:00 to 7:00
Saturday (am)	GLC – Water	6:45 to 8:30
	GLC – Land	9:00 to 10:00

Potential – Youth / Senior Group – Coach Sue Thorpe		
Monday (pm)	Birtley	7:30 to 9:00
Tuesday (am)	GLC (As directed by Coach)	5:30 to 7:00 (5:15 Poolside)
Wednesday (pm)	Heworth	7:00 to 8:30
Thursday (am)	GLC (As directed by Coach)	5:30 to 7:00 (5:15 Poolside)
Thursday (pm)	Birtley	5:00 to 7:00
Friday (pm)	Dunston	7:00 to 8:30
Saturday (am)	Birtley	7:00 to 8:30

Potential Age Group – Coach Graeme Bradley		
Monday (pm)	Birtley	7:30 to 9:00
Wednesday (pm)	Heworth	7:00 to 8:30
Thursday (pm)	GLC	7:30 to 8:30
Friday (pm)	Dunston	7:00 to 8:30
Saturday (am)	Birtley	7:00 to 8:30

Development Group – Coach Ross Bradley		
Tuesday (pm)	GLC	6:00 to 7:30
Thursday (pm)	Birtley	5:00 to 7:00
Friday (pm)	GLC	5:30 to 7:00

Academy Coaches Karen McCallum, Helen O'Halleron, Mel Allot		
Tuesday (pm)	GLC	7:00 to 8:00
Friday (pm)	GLC	7:00 to 8:30

Masters Group		
Tuesday (pm)	Birtley	7:00 to 8:30
Wednesday (pm)	Dunston	7:00 to 8:30
Thursday (pm)	GLC	7:30 to 8:30
Saturday (am)	Dunston	8:00 to 9:30

Learners – Teachers Karen O’Halleron Hutchinson, Carole Holgate		
Tuesday (pm)	GLC	6:00 to 7:00
Friday (pm)	GLC	7:00 to 8:30

New Swimming Group Monthly Fees

Group	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat	Total Hours	Monthly fee
Per Y&S	2	3.5	2	3.5	2	1.75	14.75	£93
Per Age	2	3	2	3.5	2	1.75	14.15	£88
Pot Y&S	1.5	1.5	1.5	3.5	1.5	1.5	11	£74
Pot Age	1.5		1.5	1	1.5	1.5	7	£62
Dev		1.5		2	1.5		5	£48
Academy		1			1.5		2.5	£42
Learner		1			1.5		2.5	£23