

BSC Selection of Swimmers Ethos

The Club attends a number of external team meets, the aim of these meets is to provide swimmers with opportunities to swim as part of a Club team and as part of our development of swimmers encouraging competition, experience and confidence in a supportive environment.

The ethos of the Club is to give as many swimmers as possible the opportunity to swim as part of the team, however the conditions of the meet requirements constrain us in what we can provide.

In all cases, we have to submit our team requirements to attend a meet, months in advance;

- 1) Do we want to attend?
- 2) How many teams do we want to enter – this is wholly dependent upon your feedback when we ask for your commitment.
- 3) Therefore, if we ask you to commit, we expect you to put these dates in your diary and stand by them.
- 4) Pay for attendance and if we then don't attend due to lack of swimmers, pay the heavy fines.

We also go into team meets with the following goals;

- 1) Swimmers enjoy themselves.
- 2) Swimmer's swim to the best of their ability.
- 3) Swimmers support the team, by swimming the races the head coach requests.
- 4) Give encouragement each time a team member swims by being vocal and where possible be at lane ends giving encouragement.
- 5) As long as the previous goals are achieved, swimmers look where possible to attain a personal best.
- 6) The team achieves the best position in the gala as they can, irrespective of us coming 1st or last.

The Head Coach selects the team and has to adhere to a number of constraints;

- 1) Max team size.
- 2) On some meets based on your response, we put forward a joint team with Tring to provide more opportunities for swimmers to compete.
- 3) Most times we must cover 4 age groups (Under 12, Under 14, Under 16 & Open), although we do not necessarily have the right amount of gender specific swimmers for each age groups, some swimmers will need to swim up.
- 4) Relays are normally gender specific however sometimes they are mixed, this means there are less opportunities for swimmers to swim, we normally aim for one individual race and two relays.
- 5) Races swimmers swim are picked based on what "The Team" needs, not what a swimmer is necessary good at, #itsallabouttheteam
- 6) We try and utilise as many swimmers as those who have advised us that they are available. If they are not selected for a Round, we will try and utilise them in other Rounds.
- 7) Reserves;
 - a) Those who are not selected could be placed as reserve. Reserves are not listed in any particular order and the head coach will select a reserve based on the needs of the team.
 - b) Reserves are requested when an initially selected swimmer becomes unavailable for some reason.
 - c) We could call upon a reserve up until midday for an evening meet.