

## INTER CLUB GALA EXPECTATIONS

The following document details the leagues that Boldmere Swimming Club are entered in along with the expectations for athletes selected for each gala representation.

Boldmere Swimming Club is entered in 3 Leagues.

1. Mercian League  
This is a League for age groups 10, 12, 14 and Open. Swimmers with a Midland Swimming Championship Time achieved in any event are not allowed to swim in this league. Swimmers who achieve a Midland Swimming Championship Time during a league gala shall be permitted to continue swimming in that gala (there shall be no penalties during that gala), but shall not be permitted to swim in further league galas within that year. It is important for athletes and parents/carers to understand that the club and coaches will be very proud of all athletes gaining a speeding ticket, as this shows great progression.  
<http://mercianleague.co.uk/>
2. Nuneaton and District Junior League (Diddy League)  
The aim of the Nuneaton and District Junior League is to provide athletes from the ages of 9 to 12 with the opportunity of competing against the fastest athletes in the Midlands. This team will be selected on ranking times/form for the fastest team to be selected. The top teams from the Nuneaton and District League will compete in a Southern Semi Final and the second team in the Nuneaton and District League will compete in a Northern Final and then a National Final. Boldmere enters an A and a B team.
3. The National 'Arena' League  
This is a League for age groups 11, 13, 15 and Open. The aim of the National Arena League is to provide athletes the opportunity to compete with all of the clubs in the Midlands over three rounds. This team will be selected on ranking times/form for the fastest team to be selected. The top 8 teams from the Midlands are placed into a National virtual gala together with the top 8 teams from every other region. The top 20 ranked teams in this virtual gala will then compete in National A and B Finals. <http://nationalarenaswimmingleague.org>
4. Friendly galas  
From time to time we enter friendly galas against other clubs, each have their own swimmer criteria and can be a great opportunity for all swimmers to gain race experience.

## Expectations

All Competitive and Performance Squad members of the Club must be prepared to represent the Club when selected, unless an acceptable reason is given to the Coach or Team Manager. All parents/carers and athletes are expected to make themselves available if selected and be aware of all dates of leagues they are likely to be selected for. The dates are available on the Boldmere SC website.

## Team Travel

1. For any competition venues further than 26 miles from Wyndley Leisure Centre, the club will hire a transport coach. **ALL** team members will be expected to travel on the coach **TO** the gala, so that the team can become 'competition ready' and the coaches, team managers and team captains are given the opportunity to motivate and prepare the whole team for the gala. In exceptional

circumstance where own travel arrangements are necessary or required this must be agreed in advance in writing (email) with the coach or team manager.

2. The cost of the coach will be detailed on the 'Team Selection Sheet'.

3. The club takes a team manager and two chaperones with coaches, to all competitions. Spaces will be available for parents/carers to travel on the coach, but may be limited. Priority will go to parents/carers of the youngest athletes.

4. Parents/carers: Carers must inform the team managers if emergency contact details differ from those which the club has on its internal system. Should children be taking any new medications, or be taking travel tablets, the team managers (and club) must be informed.

5. Athletes that are travelling FROM the gala with parents/carers, and not returning on the transport coach must have informed the Team Manager stated on the Team Selection Sheet in writing (email) of this intention in advance of the competition.

### **Club Kit**

1. All athletes must wear Club Kit on poolside. For Inter Club Galas this is the Boldmere Swimming Club main kit - t-shirt for all rounds and shorts for finals (T-Shirts from other events such as Nationals or Swim Camps should not be worn poolside). If the club has been successful in finding a sponsor for T-Shirts for the league, then these T-Shirts must be worn.

2. All athletes must warm up and race in the black and red Boldmere Swimming Club cap.

3. If swimmers selected for their first gala do not have the required Club Kit or Club cap they should make the Team Manager aware so that, where possible, kit can be loaned. Club Kit should be ordered as soon as possible after selection.

### **In Gala Expectations**

1. All team members should make an effort to thank officials for timing/judging their races. We want to be portrayed as a competitive team that is grateful for the support of volunteers.

2. No athletes are allowed to get changed until all the results of the gala have been announced and the team manager or coaches allow athletes to get changed. We turn up as a team, we leave as a team.

3. Athletes must stay with the team at all times. It is important not to leave to go to parents/carers during the competition. If an athlete requires the toilet or needs to leave poolside, the team manager or chaperones must be informed.

4. Athletes are not allowed phones, or electronic devices on poolside (phones can be kept inside kit bags on poolside if parents are not present to look after them). Athletes fully engaged in the gala.

5. These competitions are highly competitive, and all athletes are expected to encourage and cheer on their team mates during races throughout the gala.