

Suffolk County ASA Presidents Report 2008

I have enjoyed my time as president this year representing my county at numerous events. Suffolk should be very proud of the wonderful depth of talent in all age groups, from the very young to our masters.

The March championships continues to raise the bar and the swimmers responded with many PB's, regional and national times. I was unable to attend the Developments in June but the results show Suffolk swimmers are a force to be reckoned with on a regional and national scale. This proved to be so when we won again in the Inter Counties gala at Hatfield and then coming 8th in the National Team Championships at Sheffield. I would like to add that the team were a joy to be with over the weekend, not only did they behave so well they were great fun. Well done Alison Vintner it's not easy taking a group of 12-17yr olds away for a weekend!

I attended my first open water event at Whittingham lake in July. All I can say it was quite an experience.

I would like to add a mention for the masters, they sometimes get forgotten but masters' swimming is an integral part of the county scene and Suffolk have some brilliant masters who represent their clubs at regional and national level. I would like to thank Ashley Buck who took over last year as Masters Manager and got together a team that actually gave unbeatable Essex a run for their money at Colchester. The Suffolk team came second with only a few points behind Essex. This year Ashley has worked hard again and hopefully we can emulate the age group team and knock Essex off their perch!

Swimming clubs have their ups and downs but I would like to mention St Felix and congratulate Sue Purchase on producing some wonderful swimmers who hopefully may fulfil their dreams in 2012.

I would also like to mention Beccles who went to the developments in June and showed that a small club with a good coaching structure and dedicated parents can achieve their goals. I had the privilege of being asked to present their medals and trophies at their pool last month and it took ages as there was so many give out!

Finally as I hand my chain over to Jill Walker and get back in the pool I would like to thank everybody for their help and support. I would like say how proud I have been to represent a county that is strong and continues to follow the long term development of its swimmers.

Vicki Buck