

Chippenham swimmers do the double

CHIPPENHAM Amateur Swimming Club has become the first ever to achieve the double honour of winning both Division 1 and Division 2 of the Wiltshire League.

It is a fitting triumph for the club's centenary year and it means that next year it will have two teams competing in the first division. The division will be composed of Chippenham 'A' and 'B' teams, Swindon Dolphins and Wroughton.

The club completed the double on Friday in a gala at Wroughton. A slightly weakened 'A' team competed with a 45-point lead in the table and, although Swindon Dolphins emerged, the winners by 13 points, it made no difference, and Chippenham took the championship.

Final Division 1 placings were: Chippenham 'A' 563 points, Swindon Dolphins 531, Wroughton 391, Salisbury 332.

The 'B' team completed their Division 2 fixtures at Westbury and although Westbury beat them their lead was so great that it made no difference.

Final Division 2 placings were: Chippenham 'B' 551 points, Westbury 488, Marlborough 420, Pewsey 308.

Chippenham Life Saving teams were unopposed once again in the county life saving competitions at Wroughton on Saturday.

Results: Chippenham men 217 points; Chippenham boys 202; Chippenham women 203, Chippenham girls 211.

The next gala is on Saturday, October 15, at Wroughton, and on the following day attention will be on the speed and sponsored age group competitions at Calne Sports Centre.

The club is holding a centenary party for the juniors at St. Paul's Hall on October 22, and a centenary ball is being held on November 11.

Successful Growth Of Water Polo

TWO years ago a decision was made to start a polo section in Chippenham Amateur Swimming Club and this has been an enormous success.

A sub-committee was formed to handle fixtures, etc.

Under the coaching of Alan Benest and Mike Lewis we now have a polo section which is respected in the county.

This season in Wilts League Division 2, the senior team have won a maximum 12 points from six matches. Leading goal-scorers were Alan Benest (12), Mike Woodland (9).

In the Wilts Knockout Tournament, Chippenham are again through to the semi-finals.

To reach these standards and many more in competitive swimming one must have facilities and water time. Although we shall have three nights a week through the winter months, all sections of the club will not be accommodated.

Our programme each year is to try to operate these sections: Learners in armbands; improvers after armbands; teaching of correct strokes; moving on to training sessions; preparation for competitive swimming time trials for team selection; competition in league galas and inter-club galas; travelling to provide competition for our swimmers; synchronised swimming; personal survivals; life saving, teaching the skills plus training for competitions up to national standards; trampoline sessions to assist divers.

We must not forget our adult classes at Calne on Mondays, when they strive to gain their first certificate.

(Contributed).



Chippenham swimmers win major awards

Mr Frank Webb (third from left), chairman of Chippenham Amateur Swimming Club supporters' committee, presents the Sharks team captain, Julian Webb, with the inter-house challenge trophy during the club's award presentation night on Saturday.

CHIPPENHAM Amateur Swimming Club's most successful season ever was reflected in the awards presented on Saturday at the Bridge Centre.

SWIMMING NOTES

Two years ago we commenced competing in winter galas mostly in the Bristol and West area. At that time we were finishing at the lower end of the results. But through the last two winters we have trained hard at Colerne, recently at the Weston-super-Mare course, and last week at Highworth.

Most clubs that beat us in those early winter galas, we have now beaten. Most recently was on Saturday evening when we avenged a defeat inflicted upon us by Bath Dolphins a few weeks ago at Bristol.

Bath Dolphins were the hosts on Saturday when everyone watched an excellent evening's swimming.

Some of the awards were presented by Mr A. Morris, president of the Western Counties Amateur Swimming Association, and Mr B. Nicol, president of the Wilts county association, who both congratulated the club on its successes.

The club won the first and third sections of the county league and the boys and mixed relay events. They were first in the open air competition and took the Buckle Trophy.

Club awards totalled 17 gold, 18 silver, 11 bronze, 39 one length certificates, 29 quarter miles, 23 half miles and 20 mile certificates.

Members took three Amateur Swimming Association gold awards, a silver and five bronze, and six British swimming gold awards, 20 silver and 18 bronze.

Mr Chris Tilley, secretary, reported that the men's team had won the county life saving competition and the women's were runners-up.

Other awards included ASA personal survival, 2 honours, 11 gold, 15 silver and 20 bronze.

Medley, under 15, boys. Paul Winterton, David Hutchens, Jonathan Freegard; girls. Ruth Baker, Elizabeth Bull; over 15, boys. Julian Webb, Mark Rees, Alan Mallas; girls. Shirley Green, Susan Chapman, Vallie Marshall.

Novice events, freestyle, 55 yds, under 11; boys. Keith Gullis, Ian Amor, Adam Winterton; girls. Anne Murray; under 13, boys. Gary Evans; girls. Allison Elms and Ruth Murray; under 15, boys. Ian Murray, Colin Hutchens, Kevin Hale; girls. Linda Elms, Leslie Durham, Jane Blackmore; under 17, boys. Robert Broadhead, Adrian Gilbey, Martin Freegard; girls. Shirley Green, Vallie Marshall, Susan Chapman.

Diving: boys. Stephen Hall, Julian Webb, Nigel Higgenbotham; girls. Shirley Green, Susan Chapman; men. Mark Rees, Alan Benest, Stephen Hall; women. Shirley Green, Susan Chapman.

Best supporting club swimmers: girl. Susan Chapman, boy. Stephen Cooper.

Ivy Lane at home in the water