

# **TAWA SWIMMING CLUB**

Coaches Newsletter May 2014

Hi there Tawa club members and parents;

Just a quick note to welcome you all to the 2<sup>nd</sup> term here at the Club.

You will notice a few changes here this month, both in squad movements and in patronage at the Tawa pool.

*As you may know, Keith Spry pool in Johnsonville is closed for refurbishment until February 2015.*

*With that comes increased public patronage, the transfer of WCC Learn To Swim programs to our pool and the associated traffic congestion at the pool.*

*Please be careful in the car park when both walking and driving in the afternoons as so far it has been horrendously busy out there and just yesterday there were several close calls.*

There have been several movements in the senior squads taking effect as of the start of this term. There is a natural progression through the squads from the Clubs lanes through to the Performance squad. Promotion by necessity however, filters down from the top as lane/squad space becomes available.

As of today, the senior squads are pretty well set, and over the next week or so and as the junior swimmers return to the pool after the holiday break, the junior squads will be sorted. Several swimmers have already been invited to progress to the next squad.

You will be advised by your coach this week if you are in line to be moved.

## **Tawa Swimming Club on the National Stage**

Last week saw the culmination of the National Long Course competition season. Since January we have competed and several major meets commencing with Wellington Long Course Champs, and progressing through NZ Juniors, Division 2, NZ Opens, the local Division 3 competition, and NZ National Age Groups champs.

Without exception, the Tawa Swimming Club performed with distinction at all these meets.

We as a club will always be at a numerical disadvantage to many other high profile clubs both nationally and regionally, yet we continue to compete at the highest level, something to really be proud of.

In brief:

### **Wellington Long Course Champs**

39 swimmers, *up from 26 in 2012 and 2013*  
54 medals including 25 Gold, *up from 42/19 in 2013 and 27/6 in 2012*  
4<sup>th</sup> placed Wellington team, *up from 7<sup>th</sup> in 2012*  
2<sup>nd</sup> placed Wellington 12 and under team, *up from 8<sup>th</sup> in 2012*

### **NZ Junior Championships**

10 swimmers, *up from 5 in 2013, and 1 in 2012*  
4<sup>th</sup> placed team in NZ, behind three major Auckland clubs.  
25 medals, 12 Gold, 9 Silver, 4 Bronze  
3 National Champions  
4 swimmers invited to Swim NZ training camps (Joel, Jack, Danika, Jenna)  
Best performance by a Tawa team at this meet ever\*

### **NZ Division 2 Competition**

3 swimmers away to compete in Hamilton, 2 first time Tawa Reps  
25<sup>th</sup> place team in NZ  
5 medals, 2 Gold, 1 Silver, 2 Bronze

### **Division 3 Competition**

16 swimmers  
38 medals, 17 Gold, 9 Silver, 12 Bronze  
70.4% pb ratio

### **NZ Open Championships**

2 swimmers contesting 3 events  
Returning 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> place finishes  
Best performance of a Tawa team at this meet since the late 1990's\*

### **NZ National Age Group Championships**

7 swimmers contesting 40 events  
2 medals, 1 Silver, 1 Bronze  
14 top ten placings  
4 swimmers selected for Wellington regional relays  
2 swimmers selected for Swim NZ training camps (Katie Trott, Joel Crampton)

As you can see, the club is in a very strong position in local and national competition, and I believe that strength will only increase in the next few seasons.

The growth of the club has led to greater success, which in turn leads to increased growth.

As you personally, improve as swimmers and move up within your lane to the pointy end and find yourself leading, it is a good chance you will soon be ready to be moved to the next squad.

If it is not yet your time to be promoted, you might find yourself now leading the lane, with the opportunity to swim more freely and improve to the point where you will be next to be promoted.

*As I found in the Police and from interaction with the military, as soon as you are competent, you are promoted and immediately become incompetent, until you learn your skills required of you in your new position and become competent, and then..... you are promoted once again.... And so the cycle goes.*

To the parents and officials of the club, thank you for your support and the ends you all go to for your children, as is the life of a swimming parent.

Best wishes on behalf of your coaches,

Jason McPhee