



SEPTEMBER 2020 NEWSLETTER

Welcome to the Consett ASC Newsletter! This newsletter is from the club, about the club and for the club. Please do send any feedback, suggestions or ideas to newsletter@consett-asc.co.uk (even if it's just to let us know this is being read 😊).

Keeping in Touch

Facebook: 'Consett ASC (2020)' – Follow us for important updates – this is a 'Secret Group' so please contact us on the website initially so we can invite you to join

Website: www.consett-asc.co.uk

Club Update

It seems a lifetime ago since I wrote our last newsletter in March. The timing of the newsletter, in hindsight, was very surreal. We'd had our regular committee meeting shortly before the newsletter and then the UK entered lockdown a matter of weeks later, which saw massive changes for us all and the temporary closedown of the Swimming Club.

As most are aware, the pool at Consett Leisure Centre is out of use for the foreseeable future. At the time of writing we do not have an update on expected reopening date, we are aware there are rumours however once we have an official update we will cascade this to all members.

Since the lockdown eased and swimming clubs have been allowed to return to the water, we have been very grateful to source pool time at The Louisa Centre for a very limited number of our members. The return is for an extremely limited number of our members due to guidelines we need to follow (further updates on this below). A lot of work, time and effort went into getting us back in the water (at least 10 hours of video calls in less than 2 weeks, coaches visiting the pool, risk assessments, hours of messages and phone calls, and that was just the prep before we could communicate with members).

For those that we haven't been able to bring back yet, thank you for your patience and we can't wait for you to return as soon as the guidelines and procedures we need to follow will allow us to do so safely.



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Welfare Office Update

Lisa Walton is now stepping down from her role as Welfare Officer within the swimming club, one of many roles that Lisa has carried out for the club over a long period of time. The Committee and coaching team would like to thank Lisa for all of the work she has done for the club. Lisa was one of a vital team of people who ensured that the club continued through a very difficult period several years ago and laid the foundations for the club to be in a strong position as it is today.

As Lisa steps down, we would like to welcome Susan Forster who has volunteered to take over the role of Welfare Officer. Susan is very much a welcome addition to the team, and we look forwards to working with her. Unfortunately at the moment the only people to enter the Louisa Centre are swimmers and coaches, however Susan can be contacted via welfare@consett-asc.co.uk and has kindly sent her photo so people are aware of who she is for when we can return to the pool:



Guidelines and Policies

Those who have returned to swimming have been directed to our dedicated Covid 19 area of our website and asked to review all of the information we have provided prior to returning to swimming.

As part of our guidance we confirmed we follow both government and Swim England Guidelines, and urge anyone displaying symptoms to self-isolate until government guidance dictates they no longer need to. All will be aware that if you are advised you have been in contact with someone who has tested positive for Covid 19 (or have tested positive yourself) then you also need to self-isolate. There have been a number of instances whereby schools have asked whole year groups to self-isolate whilst they confirm who has been in direct contact with someone testing positive, in the cases I am aware of this is



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normally a small period of time until the actual 'bubble' has been identified, and at which point those that have not been in direct contact are advised they no longer need to self-isolate.

Our guidance (which has been verified by Swim England) is that **anyone** advised to self-isolate **must do so** until either the isolation period ends, or you are advised you no longer need to isolate. Even if you strongly believe you have not been in direct contact, if you are told to self-isolate then you **must follow this guidance and not attend swimming.**

Reminders/Updates for Louisa Centre

- Policy is that parents will drop swimmers off at the doors on entry to the pool and collect from the door when swimmers exit. If **any** parents wish to allow their children to walk to/from the pool unaccompanied, then the coaching team **must be informed in advance**
- Entry/Exit Process:
 - Could we please ensure the following is strictly adhered to:
 - When waiting to enter Louisa Centre **we must** wait to the left of the building (as you face the building) and **must adhere to social distancing**
 - When collecting swimmers, process is as above however to the **right of the building**
 - Please remind swimmers that they must enter and exit the building in the groups/bubbles they are called in, and this **must be in a socially distant manner at all times.**
- Swimmers can only swim at their agreed sessions and must not deviate away from this unless prior agreed with a coach or the Treasurer.
- Payments:
 - Massive thank you for the adaptation to how we are handling admission payments
 - Next payment is due to be paid on 25th September (please stick to this date as it helps reduce my admin time 😊)
 - A number of people have requested I issue a reminder in advance, so I will do so a few days before.
- Allocated sessions:
 - If you have been offered a session and have not replied so far, please check (email treasurer@consett-asc.co.uk) that the session is still available, as quite a few are now full to the limited capacity we can allow in.