**JUNIOR LEAGUE 2018!**

Junior League is an exciting team event for selected 9 – 12 year olds.

Criteria for selection: swim fast!

The competition is 25 m swims for 9 years, 50 m swims for the 10 years and over and relay events.

There is no scoreboard or stop watch – it’s first to the finish who gets the maximum points!

1st place – 6 points, 2nd place – 5 points and so on

Newcastle are currently in division 1 which means they can challenge to go to the regional

Teams in Division 1 and fixtures:

NEWCASTLE

TYNEMOUTH

STOCKTON

GATESHEAD & WHICKHAM

DERWENTSIDE

MIDDLESBROUGH

SUNDERLAND

CHESTER LE ST

2018 Heats:

21st January: Billingham: Billingham Forum.

9am Warm up

29th April: Tynemouth: Tynemouth Leisure Centre:

9am Warm up

8th July: Middlesbrough: Neptune Centre

2.50pm Warm Up

Sunday 16th September 2018 \* FINALS \* Venue: Haven Point, South Shields

There are 8 teams. Each team takes part in only 3 out of the 4 rounds as only 6 teams can compete. After the rounds are completed the top 6 teams with the most points go into the June Final. Our aim is to qualify first going into the final and secure the middle lane! We can do it!

ON THE DAY

Your TM will ensure you have all the info for the event. The chosen team, which will vary from heat to heat depending on availability, will travel by coach together to and from the event. There are no exceptions except for those aged 8/9 who may be accompanied by one guardian on the coach. Parents are not invited to travel on the coach due to space, the swimmers are chaperoned throughout by 4 members of the NST approved volunteers and including swim coaches.

The meeting point will be OW Pool, time will be confirmed ahead of each gala. The bus returns to OW pool and we give a rough estimate of arrival time. We ask that parents are there promptly to collect their swimmer.

We do ask parents to come and watch, over the years their support has been invaluable and really helped us to win. For the final this year we will be given a set number of tickets alongside an allocated seating area within the chosen venue. More details for this will be available closer to the time.

DURING THE GALA

From warm up to finish the duration of this is usually 2.5 – 3 hours. **Swimmers MUST stay on poolside throughout.** We ask that parents ensure their bags are packed with all the snacks and drinks they will need for it. With a team of 40 or more swimmers on poolside we must account for their whereabouts at all times. So please help the coaching staff help and tell your child to remain on poolside at all times.

There will be plenty of supervision of the swimmers. There is no ‘marshalling’ at this event, the coaches and TM’s direct the swimmers to the blocks when it is their turn to swim. So it does get very busy and once the gala gets started it moves on very quickly – we would hate to see any swimmers miss their event so it is vital they stay with the team at all times.

Swimmers for the event will need:

Full kit, must be in club t-shirt at all times on poolside

NST swim cap (spare also useful to have)

**Black (or very dark coloured) costume**

2 towels

2 drinks and some small snacks

A good shouting voice!

TEAM SELECTIONS

The aim of the game is to swim as fast as we can and win! Division 1 is FAST, every round will be a mini final. It is the coaches who select the team and what the swimmers swim. For the final though the fastest swimmers will be chosen above all. We do not want swimmers to be disheartened if they are not selected, we ask that they enjoy their part and to remember that the points they contributed could very well take this Club all the way.

GO TEAM!

Above all we want the children to enjoy this team experience. It is one of the very few team events they can take part in over the course of the gala calendar. So ENJOY IT AND GOOD LUCK ALL!

Michele