

Exeter Gymnastics Club  
Coaching Director AGM 2013 Report dated 4th November 2013.

**Another special year to remember, so busy with a numerous memorable events:**

1. **Gym Mark:** A new cycle Gym Mark accreditation is being completed for 2013 to 2014 and in we expect to be re-accredited shortly. The website continues to develop steadily and the club Face Book offers current news and events on the face page. Communication continues to develop with the 'Suggestion Box' and 'Parents Forum' sessions on a Friday evening which can be open or personalised pre-booked sessions. Should there be any suggestions or input for these forms of communication please speak with me or Suzanne. Thank you.
2. **Membership:** Membership numbers have basically stayed the same....we are mostly full in all areas of membership. This term did see a large drop in the Gym Tots with most starting school and joining after school sessions. The 2013/14 BG Club Gym Net membership programme reflects a 100% registration with BG at the start of the membership year. It should be noted that we continue to have the highest membership registration in the South West Region and the club membership now stands at 1180 members.
3. **Workforce:** As usual at this time of the year we regret the loss of coaches to working roles and to universities. This year Megan Howell has left for Bristol University and will be sorely missed, but we wish her every success in their new career and look forward to her social visits when ever possible. Also Bev Spragg is on a ten month sabbatical travelling the world but we are fortunate that the team will be able to cope in her absence under the strong leadership of Suzanne Finch aided by Jane Lewis and Gaby Little on the girls side and Jessica Collier, Will Trafford & Taylor Cleave on the boys side. At this point I would like to congratulate all teams of coaches for coping with the demands and responsibilities. We currently have 35 paid staff on the workforce and they are fortunately supported by an army of volunteers.
  - a. **Welfare Officer:** Yvonne Budd (To be relieved in Dec '13 by Kylie Baker)
  - b. **First Aiders:** Jayne Reid, Scarlet Reid, Jessica Collier.
  - c. **Club Management:** Suzanne Finch.
  - d. **Coaches:** Congratulations to the following coaches for passing courses this year:
    - Kate Goodwin General Level 2
    - Hannah Kennedy General Level 2
    - Gaby Little Women's Artistic Level 2
    - Scarlet Reid Women's Artistic Level 2
    - Jayne Reid Pre-School Level 1
    - Vikki Charters Pre-School Level 1
    - Currently attending Level 1 Courses with Assessment in 2014, Rachel Finch, Will Trafford, Taylor Cleave, Elliott George and Michael Konopco.
    - Award Scheme Coaching Course: 12 Candidates - Sarah Hole, Daniel Iley, Myles Buckingham, Jake Petersen, Morgan Cleave, Joe Barnes, Danielle Bell, Rhiannon Jones, Kelsey Marratt, Emma House, Isabella Glenny & Yasmin Nelmes.
    - All Coaches over 16, a total of 42 have successfully completed the required "Safeguarding & Protection Course" and all hold an indate "Enhanced" CRB.
  - e. **Judges:** With the Olympics over the new judging cycles rolled out this year and we were fortunate with the following volunteers:
    - i. **Mens:** Steven Jehu, Kyle Baker, Tim Champion & Ed Scott at Regional Level. Justin Stone, Ian Honnor, Myles Buckingham & Joseph Barnes at Club Level and at County Grades Level:

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Finlay Culver-Evans, Daniel Stone, Keelan Freeman & Jake Petersen.

- ii. **Womens:** Attended Regional Course: Jayne Reid, Scarlet Reid, Vikki Charters, Rachel Finch & Gaby Little. Club Level: Elicia Down, Amy Prideaux, Amy Finch, Lucy House, Morgan Cleave, Kelsey Marratt & Lucy Phillips. Devon Judging Level: Jane Lewis, Rachel Hemus, Kate Goodwin, Hannah Kennedy, Emma Dodd, Megan Cameron, Eleanor Clemens, Isabella Glenn, Ezme Long, Becky Lake, Dannielle Bell, Rhiannan Jones, Taylor Cleave & Jodie Magrath

**4. Volunteers:** Continue to support the Club Officers, Administration Staff & Coaching Programme continues to receive support from a number of areas:

- **The Friends:** have continued their marvellous support with the shop this year and raised considerable funds for the club charity. They have also organised the Club Awards Night last November a really great night. Sadly we have in losing Jay also lost his parent Liesa and Keith Thompson from the friends as well. It is hoped they find their London area location as comfortable as their Devon abode and we wish them all the very best.
  - **Volunteer Coaches:** Yvonne Budd continues to serve four nights a week as a volunteer, what would we do without her? Also we are thankful for the services of Emma Prior with Junior Squad Girls and Chloe Miller with the Cheer Groups.
  - **Young Leaders:** A number of young leaders volunteer as award scheme qualified coaches to support the club as assistants in the coaching programme, as planners and event organisers and are to be congratulated for the support they give: Danielle Bell, Megan Cameron, Eleanor Clemens, Finlay Culver-Evans, Kate Davey, Honor Fermor-Kissane, Elliott George, Isabella Glenn, Charlie Havill, Emma House, Rhiannon Jones, Michael Konopco, Becky Lake, Ezme Long, Jodie Magrath, Jack Mahoney, Yasmin Nelmes, Amy Prideaux, Rose Tregedon. The following have attended a Regional Conference Leadership Training Module, Rachel Finch, Will Trafford, Edward Scott and Taylor Cleave.
  - **Students on Work Experience:** This year we have had Elicia Down, Kelsey Marratt, Morgan Cleave and Lucy Phillips for one week attachments from school.
  - **University Volunteers:** We still get a number making contact however it is rare for this interest to materialise into anything regular, but it is good that it happens.
- 5. Boys Performance Squads:** The Boys Elite Squads on the Gifted and Talented Child Programme continues and is working very well for the senior boys, though of course we have said goodbye to Jay Thompson who has moved to South Essex Gym Club in Basildon as a result of a family relocation. Daniel Iley, representing Scotland has been selected for the 2014 Scottish Commonwealth Games Squad and has achieved the qualification score in his recent International in Sweden! All the junior boys as members of the South West competed in the National Elite & Club Grades with **Victor Yeo becoming the National Elite Level 2 Champion** and will retain his selection into the National Elite Squad. Victor will also now commence Day Time Training on Thursdays to supplement his evening hours. Steven Jehu continues as the Head Coach of the boys at the club and is to be congratulated for the high level of success achieved by his gymnasts. Steven also continues to serve as coach to the South West Regional and Devon County squads and will conduct the Performance Pathway Clinics in the region.

**6. Girls Performance Squads:** The Girls in the Elite Squads continue to enjoy opportunity to train during the day

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on the Gifted and Talented Child Programme and has reflected in stronger performances in their Grades and in their last two free exercise competitions. It is hoped that this progress will continue into 2014. Over 27 girls successfully passed their club Grades, 10 girls passed their National Grades and Rochelle Hamilton-Kendall passed her Compulsory Level 3 and reserve for the South West Team at National Finals. Vikki Charters & Scarlet Reid lead the competitive groups and are to be congratulated on the achievements of their gymnasts both have taken over the day time training from Mike.

- 7. Recreational Gymnasts:** The recreational programme of: Baby Gym (38), Mother & Toddler (318), Gym Tots (102), Boys Recreational (134) and Girls Recreational (326), sessions continues to improve and has been a great success with a well motivated team of coaches delivering a positive structure of development. The performance level of the recreational gymnasts continues to improve which again was reflected in the improved results of the Badge Reward Scheme Testing, the Club Competition, Teign View Invitation and the Exeter Challenge Competitions this year. There is to be a greater effort in the new year to encourage more gymnasts to take up the opportunity to compete with their peers and to challenge their skills. There continues to be a waiting list for most age bands. FreeG (Freestyle Gymnastics) continues to grow and now offers a great opportunity for the boys over 8 years and has increased to four sessions a week with the hope of monthly "FreeG Blast" sessions on Sunday morning in the near future.
- 8. Cheerleading:** The Cheerleading Group has adjusted their organisation with the Junior Starlites having the services of an acrobatics coach to start their training on a Saturday and this has fundamentally free up spaces in the 10+ recreational girls sessions. The Cheer Group (**29**), Senior & Junior Starlites (**28**) all on Saturday afternoon, the Cheer Tots (**13**) and Adult Cheer Groups (**20**) operate on Friday and Thursday respectively under the guidance of Jennie Packham and Hannah Kennedy. The cheer team have been fortunate and welcome a new volunteer coach, Chloe Miller who has ten years of experience as a cheerleader and coach. The Cheerleaders have continued an extensive programme of Displays, Fetes, Carnivals this year as well as establishing the first ever Exeter Cheer Festival which hopefully will be a permanent event in their annual programme. Next year there will also be a visit from the "Cheer Team Revolution" from America who will staff a series of clinics over 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> August 2014.
- 9. Adult Gym:** Sadly we have just lost the services of Brendan after four years as the adult gym coach he will be sadly missed but I'm sure his replacement will cause a stir in the organisation it is to be Steve & Vikki Jehu (welcome back Mrs Jehu!!) and the relief team will continue to be Mike and Vikki Charters.
- 10. Camps & Improver Courses:** The Easter and Summer Camps were a great success this year as were the three day Improver Courses during school half-terms and holidays, these programmes will continue in 2014. The Reward Badge Testing Scheme has been a total success with over one hundred and forty gymnasts attending each of the five sessions and will continue to be in the programme for 2014. Cheer Spirit Awards have successfully been added to the testing programme.

### **11. Gymnasts Competition Performances in 2012:**

All results are or will be available on the website but it should be recorded that the competition performance results in the Open and Intermediate Levels have been much better this year and we have made progress in performance of our routines. The policy of coaches and gymnasts looking to the basics continues and also the policy to challenging the gymnasts to commit themselves more to their work is paying off. We do have squads that are

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hard working, happy and balanced in potential. In the girls Devon competitions we have improved on the situation of last year and achieved very good results, we also had a 100% passes in the Girls Club Grades. The new junior squads of boys and girls are developing very well and hopefully will raise our performance level in 2014/16. Special congratulations to the gymnasts who became Devon and South West Champions this year. A special recommendation should go to Daniel Iley who this year has elevated his performance in the Scottish National Squad and is in line for selection in their team for the Commonwealth Games! Well done Dan and Steve and thanks to his parents for their unfailing support, a truly magnificent effort by all concerned.

### **12. Premises:**

There has been considerable effort by Ian & Helen Honnor to move plans forward to develop the current training facilities and the future plans for another building. The decision has been made by the trustees that we should move forward towards fulfilling the plans for the Reception and Bike Shed before the current planning runs out and perhaps the removal of the tiered platform which would give us another bar station and improve the beam and pommel stations. Action Plans are being considered and drawn up.

### **13. Miscellaneous.**

The Club continue to host Regional, County, Schools and Recreational Competitions as well as Regional and County Squad Training sessions and training visits from Ellen Tinkham pupils with their physiotherapists continue. We also play host to the Exeter University Team who currently train on Mondays in preparation for the British University Games in March 2014.

- The Club also run the Devon Schools Floor & Vault for BSGA under the leadership of Yvonne Budd.
- I currently serve SWAGA Chairman, Adviser & Mentor to the Regional Gymnastics Area Manager and the Regional Work Force. I am also a Director of the new English Gymnastics Association Ltd.
- The Club are represented at the Exeter Council for Sports & Recreation Committee meetings.
- Yvonne Budd serves as Treasurer to DAGA and Devon School Registration Secretary.
- I would like to thank the Club Work Force for all their hard work this year on the membership and the improvement of standards in all aspects but particularly in the level of coaching and care to the gymnasts. May I also thank the Trustees, Friends and Club Members for the excellent support in 2013.
- The current Lease and Agreement between the Exeter GC and EOGC (Mike Euridge) is operating correctly and most successfully and it is confirmed that the premises are inspected regularly by a competent person and that the club is registered with the new Fire Risk Assessment Requirements which came into force on 1<sup>st</sup> October 2007.

*Mike Euridge*

Mike Euridge Coaching Director Exeter Gymnastics Club.