

Devon County Pathway Programme 2017

Devon County ASA are delighted to announce that everything is now in place for our new County Pathway Programme. This is a new initiative from England Swimming to help provide a more defined, cohesive, and aligned pathway, with the aim of supporting swimmers who can demonstrate exceptional technical, psychological, and physical skills. Not only will this programme be focussing on the development of the swimmer, but will also strive to aid in the development of supporting staff – coaches, team managers, and parents.

The syllabus for these camps has been prescribed by the nationally focused England Programme's team to ensure a seamless development pathway within the sport. Across the three days, swimmers will undertake technical work on each of the four strokes and participate in 'swim specific' dry land training. They will also receive three educational workshops, which can be attended by parents/guardians as well. The three camps are due to take place on 23rd April (Exeter Pyramids), 2nd July (Mount Kelly), and 1st October (Mount Kelly).

Invitations have been sent to all 36 selected swimmers and the response has been terrific. We have an experienced team in place for this year with our Head Coach as Greg King, from Mount Kelly, and six skills coaches: Neil Shire (Exeter), Glen Currie (Exeter), Iain Chalmers (Devonport), Neil Edwards (Plymouth Leander), Stephan Lockhurst (Plymouth Leander), and Jac Griffin (Newton Abbot). We also have our Lead Team Manager Lynn Rayment, and Assistant Team Manager Emma Dolton.

Other club coaches from the county are also welcome to attend these day to observe the sessions if they wish to do so. This will help in ensuring clubs across the county are following the most up to date technical practices fed down from national programmes, but also help in their own coach development. As an added bonus, our Young Volunteers will also be attending the first day to take part in stroke/skill analysis and observation.

A recent conference held by the South West Region was attended by our team and other programme staff across the region. This has had great feedback with everyone enjoying the exchange and development of ideas. There was also a talk held during the third weekend of our Age Group County Championships for parent and guardians, which was well attended.

An email will be sent to all the clubs soon inviting Club Coaches to attend these camps as observers. There will be a small charge of £10 per coach for Swim21 accredited clubs, and £20 for others. Please ensure this is passed on to all coaches in your club.