

London swimming

The Swim England London Region



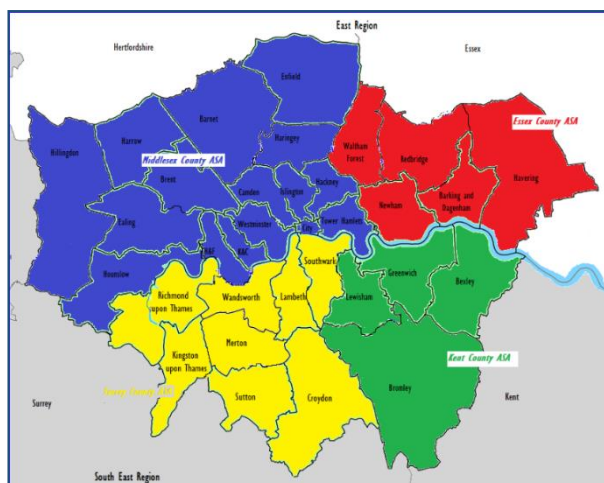
Annual Report

April 2016 to March 2017

Introduction

London Swimming is the regional governing body for disability and para swimming, diving, open water swimming, masters swimming, swimming, synchronised swimming and water polo in Greater London. It is a region of the English governing body (Swim England).

There are four County Swimming Associations working in the Region - Kent and Surrey, which straddle the border with the South East Region, Essex, which straddles the border with the East Region, and Middlesex.



Though comparatively young in its current format, the Region has a long and rich history of leading aquatics as part of the former Southern Counties ASA. Indeed, the Swim England was founded in 1869 in the then German Gymnasium, London (as the Metropolitan Swimming Association).

We want to be an inclusive, innovative and sustainable Swim England region that nurtures our athletic and volunteering talent, meets the needs of our members, and supports our clubs and affiliates. We have four priorities:

- A** activating our talent
- Q** quality volunteers
- U** upholding our clubs
- A** advancing the Swim England London Region

This Report

This report and annual accounts are for April 2016 to March 2017. As we rightly celebrate the achievements of the clubs and their members, it is important that we look to the year ahead and ensure that we not only consolidate them but take the Region to greater success.

One major development that will impact on the Region's success in 2017-18 is the restructuring of Swim England which resulted in:

- the removal of the Swim England participation team from Greater London; and
- the appointment by the Region of dedicated staff (Suzanne Philpot and Kelly Stannard) to support the Region and the Clubs.

Another is the refresh of our strategy to ensure enables us to collaborate with the new Swim England strategy to the benefit of the Region's members.

Thanks

Our clubs and their members are continuing the dedicated and passionate work of their predecessors. The Board is immensely grateful to everyone – particularly the army of volunteers - who has contributed to the swimming disciplines as athletes, teachers, coaches, officials, and administrators; too many to mention in a short report but no less valued. Thank you!!

Activating our talent

Goal

The Region’s goal, which is aligned to the Swim England objectives of increasing the number of swimmers and creating a talent system, is to see more category one members in our clubs enjoying the non-competitive aspects of swimming disciplines and more category two members enjoying the competitive aspects of the sport. The Region also wants to see this talent nurtured and not only appearing in national and international finals but also winning medals.

Swim England Objectives

- Substantially increase the number of people able to swim
- Significantly grow the number and diversity of people enjoying and benefitting from regular swimming
- Create a world leading talent system for all our aquatic disciplines

Membership levels

Swim England membership levels fluctuate from year to year with the peak often coming in Olympic years. London saw a peak in 2012 of 13,045 category 1 members and 7,402 category 2 members in 2012. The number of category 1 member fell back in 2013 then built up to second highest level this decade in 2014. Our category 1 membership reduced by 4.5% (525). Our category 2 membership decreased by 3.9% (328) to the second highest level this decade.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Category 1	12,724	12,829	13,045	10,120	10,755	12,969	11,536	11,011
Category 2	6,862	7,327	7,402	7,157	7,035	7,683	8,333	8,005

Comparisons

In March 2016, Swim England’s category 1 and 2 membership levels were 83,205 and 63,450. London Swimming’s proportion of the national membership at that point was 13.9% and 13.1%. Whereas the Office of National Statistics¹ estimated that 15.9% of the mid-2016 English population lived in Greater London.

London Swimming Awards

Athlete of the Year 2016

Emily Watts, Greenwich Royals

¹<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/bulletins/annualmidyearpopulationestimates/mid2016#toc>

Diving talent development

KPI	2016
Proportion of medallists from London Clubs at senior championships	13%
Proportion of finalists from London Clubs at senior championships	12%
Proportion of senior champions from London Clubs	20%
Proportion of medallists from London Clubs at age group and youth championships	32%
Proportion of finalists from London Clubs at age group and youth championships	N/A
Proportion of age group and youth champions from London Clubs	42%
Number of athletes competing at regional championships	78
Number of athletes competing at junior international level	6
Number of athletes competing at senior international level	2

International events

London clubs' divers represented Great Britain at a variety of international events this year, including the European Championships which were held within the region at London Aquatics Centre, the European Junior Diving Championships, the FINA World Series, the FINA Diving World Cup and the Olympic Games.

This year, 6 divers from London Region competed at junior international level and 2 at senior international level.

National events

London Region had representation from several clubs (including Crystal Palace Diving Club, Dive London Aquatics Club and Waltham Forest Diving Club) at national events of all levels, including the National Cup and Championships, National Junior Elite Championships, National Age Group Championships, National Skills Finals and the TID Games.

Regional events

The Region again hosted the Regional "Open" Novice Skills event at Highgrove Pool in the West of the Region. There were 72 competitors from London Region, East Region and South East Region clubs. The winner of the team trophy was Dive London Aquatics Club with 132 points.

Open water talent development

KPI	2016
Proportion of entries from London Clubs at age group and youth championships	9%
Proportion of age group and youth champions from London Clubs	7%
Number of athletes competing at regional championships	100

National events

The ASA made a significant change to its eligibility criteria for the Open Water Nationals during the year resulting in increased opportunities for regional swimmers to swim in the event. The change increased eligibility to the first 3 swimmers in each qualifying age group from each region plus any swimmers with a qualifying pool time (800m for females and 1500m for males). Whilst the Open Water community were encouraged by the change which it had been suggesting for quite a few years as a means of increasing participation and competition, it was somewhat disappointing that the opportunities given were not taken up by London swimmers especially amongst the older boys, where the Region had no qualifying swimmers.

Age Group	No of London Entries	London percentage of the entries
Female		
12	3	11
13	2	7
14	2	8
15	3	9
16	2	9
17/18	2	9
19+	1	10
Total	15	9
Male		
12	4	13
13	3	10
14	2	7
15	1	4
16	3	11
17/18	1	7
19+	0	0
Total	14	8

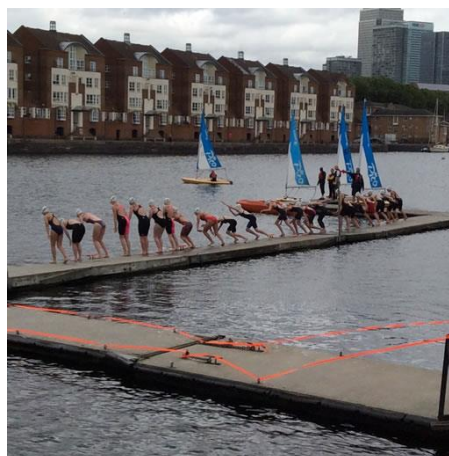
Nevertheless, London clubs' had three medal winners:

- Emily Watts (Greenwich Royals) - gold in the female 12 year olds
- Megan Molloy (Enfield Swim Squad) – bronze in the female 14 year olds; and
- Aarian Lally (Hillingdon) – gold in the male 13 year olds.

Regional events

The Region held another successful event The London Region held another successful Championships at Surrey Quays Watersports Centre in July 2016 with an entry of around 100 swimmers. The event has run for 4 years now and the entry has always been around this level.

We would love to see more entries from London clubs as the event can accommodate around 100 more swimmers.



Swimming talent development

KPI	2016
Proportion of medallists from London Clubs at British Summer championships	6.4%
Proportion of finalists from London Clubs at at British Summer championships	0.6%
Proportion of senior champions from London Clubs at British Summer championships	2.1%
Number of athletes competing at senior international level	1

International events

Congratulations to Aimee Willmott who qualified to represent Great Britain at the Olympics in Rio.

National events

National Summer Meet 2016

The National Summer Meet is Swim England’s biggest domestic swimming event of the year. It forms part of a swimming competition structure in Great Britain whereby the top ranked swimmers in each event are invited to compete at the British Swimming Summer Championships. The next ranked swimmers at English affiliated clubs – or those who have chosen to be ranked as an English swimmer – are invited to compete at the English Nationals. The rankings are on swimmers’ performances at level 1 meets during the qualification window of March, April and May of the same calendar year.

British Summer Championships – July 2016

The Region’s clubs achieved 37 finalists with ten medals. The finalists were: Daniel Stepton (Barking & Dagenham), Brock Whiston (Barking & Dagenham), Meghan Byrne (Barnet

Copthall), Yaron Gerber (Barnet Copthall), Jessica Frankland (Beckenham), Kahoru Harazawa (Beckenham), Natasha Sinha (Beckenham), Ben Hooper (Borough of Harrow), Pavan Marwaha (Borough of Harrow), Alexander Ireland (Bromley), Imogen Meers (Bromley), David Bloomfield (Brompton), Spencer Williams (Brompton), Elizabeth Boeckman (Chelsea & Westminster), Georgina Boyle (Chelsea & Westminster), Isabella Hindley (Chelsea & Westminster), Christy Moon (Chelsea & Westminster), Charlotte O'Leary (Chelsea & Westminster), Oludasi Adefisan (Croydon Amphibians), Anton Akopian (Ealing), John Britton (Ealing), Brodie Judge (Ealing), Jahrel Murphy (Ealing), Ceara Barber (Hillingdon), Leon Berchie (Hillingdon), Jemima Hall (Hillingdon), Loulou Vos (Hillingdon), Michael Gunning (LACPP), Eleanor Mitchell (LACPP), Edmund Ashton (LACPP), Lewis Binning (Romford Town), Amy Marren (Romford Town), Georgia Milton (Romford Town), Samuel Beverley (St Paul's School), Michael Rees (Sutton & Cheam), Kieran Rutter (Sutton & Cheam) and Sophie Fussell (Teddington).

The medalists were:

Gold: Ceara Barber (Hillingdon)

Silver: Kahoru Harazawa (Beckenham), Imogen Meers (Bromley), Jahrel Murphy (Ealing), Ceara Barber (Hillingdon), Amy Marren (Romford Town)

Bronze: Daniel Stepton (Barking & Dagenham), John Britton (Ealing), Michael Gunning (LACPP), Michael Rees (Sutton & Cheam)

Two Ealing SC relay teams made finals.

ASA Summer National Championship 2016

London achieved 100 finalists with 47 medals (5 Gold, 17 Silver and 15 Bronze). Special mention to the following gold medal winners: Amrita Robertson (Borough of Waltham Forest), Spencer Williams (Brompton), Ceara Barber (Hillingdon), Lewis Clifford Stephenson (Brompton) and Lewis Binning (Romford Town)

British Swimming Winter Championships 2016

These took place for the second year and London achieved 18 finalists with five medals.

The finalists were: Daniel Stepton (Barking & Dagenham), Yaron Gerber (Barnet Copthall), Lewis Clifford Stephenson (Chelsea & Westminster), Anna Hopkin (Ealing), Cristian Rotundo (Ealing), Ekaterina Avramova (Ealing), Aimee Willmot (LACPP), Jarvis Parkinson (LACPP).

The medalists were:

Gold: Lewis Clifford Stephenson (Chelsea & Westminster), Anna Hopkin (Ealing) (twice);

Silver: Jarvis Parkinson (LACPP); and

Bronze: Ekaterina Avramova (Ealing).

Inter Counties

This took place at Ponds Forge, Sheffield on Sunday 23rd October 2016. All London Counties are in Division One and a very strong performance from all the swimmers gave:

- 3rd place – Kent,
- 5th place – Middlesex,
- 7th place – Surrey,
- 14th place – Essex

Regional events

London Summer Championships

These championships in 2016 were spread over a longer period due to pool availability – the London Aquatic Centre was being used for the LEN championships as was therefore unavailable to us during the regionals window.

Youth Championships

Congratulations to the following who received three or more Gold medals:

- 5 Gold medals: Brodie Judge (Ealing);
- 4 Gold medals: Ben Hooper (Borough of Harrow), Ellie Grant (Borough of Redbridge), Spencer Williams (Brompton), Elena Sheridan (Romford Town), Michael Rees (Sutton and Cheam); and
- 3 Gold medals: Tamara-Elise Elliott (Beckenham), Alexander Borisov (Camden Swiss), Anton Akopian (Ealing), John Britton (Ealing), Kieran Rutter (Sutton and Cheam) and Morgan Penney (Wandsworth).

Age Group Championships

Congratulations to the following who received three or more Gold medals:

- 7 Gold medals: Emily Iley (Borough of Waltham Forest);
- 6 Gold medals: Lewis Binning (Romford Town);
- 5 Gold medals: Joe Overton (Enfield Square);
- 4 Gold medals: Imogen Meers (Bromley), Liam Brennan (Romford Town); and
- 3 Gold medals: Caroline Lewitt (Chelsea and Westminster), Dillon Chana (Hillingdon), Frances Newe (Dulwich Dolphins).

The Len Badcock trophies were awarded to Merissa Booth (Hillingdon) and Callum Woolfenden (Bexley)

Due to us holding the Youth Championships at the beginning of April the Last Chance meet was an opportunity to move up the rankings to be invited to the British and National Championships.

London Winter Championships

These were held in November and were short course. The following achieved three Gold medals each: Ben Hooper (Borough of Harrow), Spencer Williams (Brompton), Lewis Clifford Stephenson (Chelsea and Westminster), Ekaterina Avramova (Ealing), Oscar Jameson (Ealing) and Michael Rees (Sutton and Cheam).

Athlete development

London Records

Two records were broken this year. Michael Gunning (LACPP) in the 200m Fly achieved a long course record of 1.58.55 at the British Summer Championships. Ealing SC broke the long course record for the 400m Men's Medley relay with a time of 3.50.78.

Development Camp

The Athlete Development camp was held over two days at Sylvestrian Leisure Centre, Snaresbrook. The objective of regional development days is to reinforce the work of the National Talent team. The athlete workshops were on Fundamental movement, Swimming nutrition and Performance Life. They also had various pool sessions, two of which were on Stretching and Blood Flow.

This camp also included development for the coaches. Those that attended were Tony Beckley (Beckenham SC), Martin Jurco (Leander SC), Rick Hall (Hackney Aquatics), Gary Inch (Borough of Redbridge SC), Stewart Park (Borough of Harrow SC), Alexander MacDonald (London Aquatics Performance Programme), Wojtek Slusarczy (Croydon Amphibians SC) and Ezter Kiss (Kingston Royals SC).

Amiens Development Opportunity



In January 2017 London Region took a team of 26 swimmers and 5 team staff to a meet in Amiens. The meet was in the same location as the previous two years except this year the meet was not part of the French Swimming Federation "Golden Lanes" circuit. The meet programme was slightly different, although still covering the full Olympic events, it was held over two full days and Friday afternoon. There were A, B, & C finals for all events except the 800 & 1500 Free. As the

meet started on Friday afternoon (2pm warm-up) we were able to travel on Friday morning so saved a night in the hotel and the associated meals. The cost savings also allowed us to take along an extra coach, which was used to bring a lesser-experienced coach who hadn't been away with the region previously (Jim Walker from Sutton and Cheam who had a swimmer on the team). The meet whilst not the same high standard as the previous 2 years, still proved to be exactly the experience/process that our swimmers needed at this time of year. As most had not swum any long course meets since last summer this meet provided a great introduction to this new part of the season for our swimmers. The format of this meet (morning heats, a rest period and then returning for evening finals) is something that we only experience in this country at Nationals so to give this opportunity to our swimmers is a really invaluable/ positive exercise.

The team had a full range of experience from Olympic finalists (Aimee Willmott) through to age groupers who made their first Nationals last summer (Pietro Lombardo). However, all the team interacted extremely well and supported and encouraged each other. Aimee also gave a talk on the last night about her swimming “life” and the meets she has attended. This was very well received by the other swimmers (& Staff) and there were some very interesting questions asked.

All of the swimmers made finals in most of their events and the coaches really emphasised the need to step up from heat to final irrespective if the final outcome was not a best time. We came away with 14 gold, 8 silver & 9 bronze places.

The arrangements were, as usual, very smooth and the hotel and all food very good – our hotel was just a short walk to the pool and had a full range of shops close by.

Thanks to Loraine Cousins the team manager, the coaching staff of Tony Beckley, John Adye, Jim Walker, and Kay Grimshaw & Bram Montgomery (both of whom were selection panel members) and to the continued support of London Swimming. The Region has always been at the forefront of these overseas trips and certainly the swimmers involved all benefited from the opportunity with a number of other regions are now following our example. This year in Amiens, we were joined by the East Midlands Regional team who also felt the meet offered the right level of competition and valuable early season long course racing.

Water polo talent development

KPI	2016
Proportion of London teams at British Championships	12.5%
Proportion of London Clubs medalling at National Age Groups	17%
Proportion of National Age Group Champions from London Clubs	33%
Proportion of Regional Teams medalled at Inter Regionals	50%

International Events

London has had good representation on the international stage. Congratulations are due to Ben Tnkler Davies representing England and the GB senior men’s team, Kathy Rogers, Lily Turner, Isabelle Dean, Mhari Nurthen and Katy Cutler who represented GB u19s. Ashley Castle represented GBR at the u19 European Qualifiers. Freddie Pearson, Alex Waller and Jamie Spencer Boyce played for England u19s, Sasha Tinkler Davies for England at the u17 EU Nations and Ethan Stauton, Aril Pandya and Maclaren Crawford for England u17s. Holly Campbell has represented Scotland in their senior women’s team, with Heather and Isobel Keith doing the same for the Scottish u19s team. Jamie Spencer Boyce, Ethan Stauton, Poppy Mayall, Lily Turner and Katy Cutler represented England at the ESSA International Tournaments in Malta.

National Events

Inter-Regional Championships



Three of the six London teams entered in the Inter Regional Championships medalled with the u18 boys gaining silver and the u16 boys and girls bronze. Out of a field of 10/11 teams in each competition this was a great achievement!

British Championships

Otter were runners up in the women's British Championships in a close fought match against City of Liverpool 8 – 5.

British Water Polo League

Otter came 3rd in the Super Fives with Otter Lutra and West London Penguin placing 5th and 8th in Championship 1. London Clubs are strongly represented in the men's British Water Polo League with Polytechnic, West London Penguin and Sutton and Cheam finishing 3rd, 4th and 5th in Championship 1, Croydon 3rd and Ealing 6th in Championship 2 and Otter 6th in Championship 3.

National Age Group Championships

Otter were National Champions in the u19 and u15 girls competition. Ealing took bronze in the boys u15, Otter 4th in the girls u17 and Beckenham 6th in the boys u15.

Erin Andrews (right) was top goal scorer in the girls u15 Championships.

Athlete Development

Ashley Castle (San Jose University), Kathy Rogers (Michigan University) and Mhari Nurthen (University of Hawaii) won water polo scholarships to play and study in the US.



There has been a number of very successful development tournaments facilitating the growth of water polo at new clubs or new water polo teams in existing clubs such as Haringey Aquatics, Brent WPC, Hackney Aquatics and Otter SC/Chelsea & Westminster SC.

The London School of Economics and Imperial have both engaged in the University Water Polo programme exceedingly well and have grown numbers to the university sessions – particularly Imperial who are planning a 'Glow in the Dark' water polo to attract new recreational members.

Quality Volunteers

Goal

The Region's goal, which is aligned to the Swim England workforce objective, is for the Region to have a skilled and sustainable workforce of volunteers who enjoy, feel proud and are recognised for their achievements.

Swim England Objective

Deliver a high quality, diverse and motivated workforce within swimming

Membership

Category 3 membership of the clubs is a useful indicator of the number of volunteers in the region though it is not an exact figure because:

- Category 3 membership covers all members who are not in the other categories (not just volunteers); and
- it does not identify category 1 and 2 members who also undertake volunteering roles.

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Category 3	2,690	2,526	2,511	2,439	2,462	2,904	2,852	2,992

After a small 2% fall in 2016, Category 3 membership rose 4.9% (140) in the year to March 2017 to the highest level this decade.

London Swimming Awards

The Region is extremely grateful to everyone who works in the clubs, county associations and at regional level for their contribution to the sport and the disciplines. Volunteers, in particular, are the lifeblood of the sport and without their passionate, selfless and dedicated support the sport and the athletes and clubs would struggle to continue. These awards are just one of the ways that we try to recognise the contribution that people make and say thank you.

Coach of the Year 2016

David Court, Bromley SC

Jeff Cook Salver 2016

The Jeff Cook Salver was awarded to Kay Grimshaw for her outstanding service to the Region.

Dave and Flo Barnes Trophies 2016

The Flo & Dave Barnes awards are for an individual (male and female) who has made an outstanding contribution as an official or poolside helper (this may include teaching, assisting with coaching or other poolside activities). The Flo Barnes Trophy was awarded to Marion Westwood (Barking and Dagenham) the Dave Barnes Trophy was awarded to Stephen Westwood (Leyton).

Long Service Awards

The first of these awards given out at the Annual Council Meeting in September 2016 and more will be given out in September 2017.

Volunteering in diving

Officials

London Clubs were represented at National events by two national judges. There are a programme of officials development in the next year (2017/18) based around the National Skills Finals which the Region are hosting. Volunteering in open water swimming.

Volunteering in open water swimming

Open Water is a specialised area of swimming and it operates in a very different environment to other areas of the aquatic disciplines. There is a different British Swimming Officials Qualification with a separate license. At present, London has 4 qualified Open Water Referees and a Level 1 official with 3 further officials under training (the qualification approach is similar to pool swimming with a course and workbook which has to be signed off). The Region has run a couple of courses to provide training during the last year and will continue to run them. The region would also like to congratulate Steve and Marion Westwood on being appointed to the FINA list as Open Water Referees for the period 2017-2021.

Running events also a lot of other volunteers and the Region would appreciate any offers of assistance in running the Regional events.

On behalf of the region, thanks, in particular, need to go to the committee who run the Region event – Steve and Marion Westwood, Richard and Susan Whitehead and Brian Kapp. Without their effort and time the event would not happen. A thank you also needs to go to Matt Heathcock and Damien Bryan for their work on the Open Water Talent Camp (supported by Dean Walker from the ASA Clubs Team).

Volunteering in swimming

Once again, we need to be reminded that nothing would happen without the wonderful and dedicated volunteers in London. The Events Team works very hard to ensure that all those hours of training see fruition on the big stage. Thank you to them for all their hard work.

The Swimming Committee has a Volunteer Development Leader (Jackie Bedford) who is responsible for driving up the number of volunteers, and their skills. The Region has also appointed a Regional Swimming Official's Coordinator (Ralph Shortland) to act as the regional lead with regard to technical officials.

London Swimming needs more support from both technical and non-technical volunteers. For more information on volunteering please contact Ralph Shortland and Jackie Bedford.

Coach Development

20 coaches from 16 clubs attended the regional coach development programme. Topics covered were Characteristics of female athletes, Planning, Conversion to perform effectively and Considerations to coaching in the transition phase.

Volunteer Workshops

The Region through the Club Committee is seeking to provide support to enable our clubs to have trained volunteers, especially in some of those core areas needed as part of the SwimMark (formerly Swim 21) programme. We have put on safeguarding and team manager courses over the last year and have also been engaged with younger volunteers through the delivery of a Young Volunteer Programme.

Youth Volunteering Programme

Over the past 6 months we have delivered a young volunteer programme consisting of 2 development days which were attended by 32 young people from across 11 different clubs. The days included; Young Aquatic Helpers Award, Team Manager training and ASA Timekeepers course as well as bespoke sessions on social media and goal setting. All attendees thoroughly enjoyed the days, leaving with some useful qualifications and having shared experiences with other young people in the region. All of the young people involved are now volunteering regularly at their clubs and some have gone onto starting on the teaching or coaching pathway. Following the success of the programme, and it being over-subscribed, we will look to expand the programme for 2016-17.

Upholding our clubs

Goal

The Board’s goal, which is aligned to the ASA Objective of building, developing and maintaining a quality sustainable club infrastructure and network that meets the needs of the community it serves, is for the Region’s clubs to be sustainable, have diverse membership and be valued by their communities and partners.

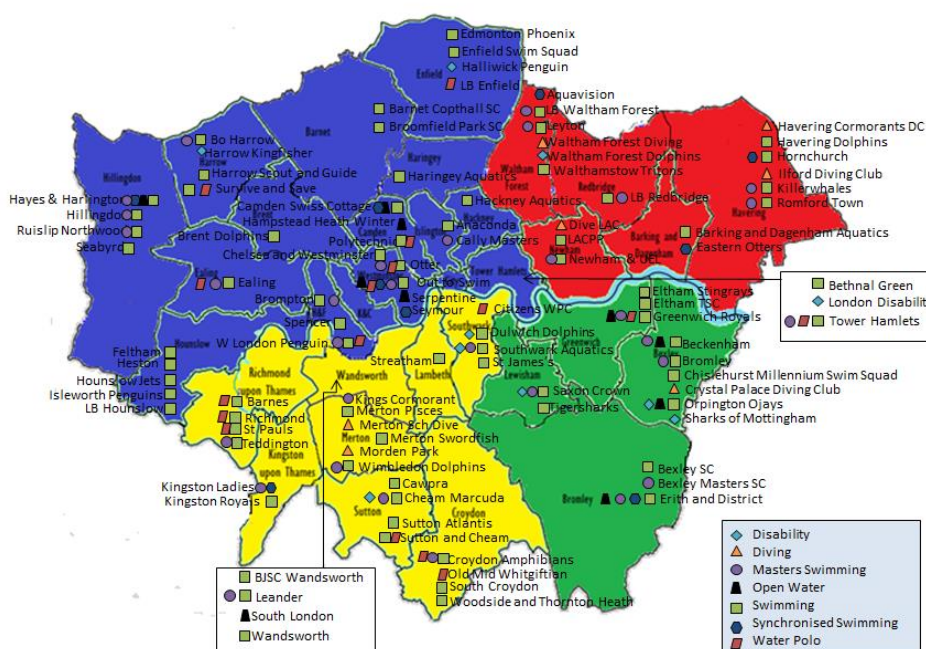
Swim England Objectives

- Substantially increase the number of people able to swim
- Significantly grow the number and diversity of people enjoying and benefitting from regular swimming
- Create a world leading talent system for all our aquatic disciplines
- Deliver a high quality, diverse and motivated workforce within swimming
- Provide leadership and be able to be the recognised authority for swimming
- Strengthen our organisational sustainability for future generations

Affiliations

Affiliation levels at the end of each the financial years were:

	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Number of clubs	118	118	118	117	117
Number of affiliated bodies	18	18	19	19	19



Club Development

If volunteers are the lifeblood of the sport – and they are – clubs are the bedrock upon which it is delivered and developed. The Region also recognises that it has a mix of clubs – ranging from very small to some very large – and is conscious, also, that operating in London presents unique challenges that are often not seen in the more rural parts England. To help the Region understand more of the issues and to identify areas and programmes that need to be put in place, the Region has commissioned a project, which will be led by Suzanne Philpott (our new Regional Executive Officer).

Diving

5 London Clubs benefitted from the London Diving Club Development Grant this year (Barnet Copthall Diving Club, Crystal Palace Diving Club, Dive London Aquatics Club, Haringey Aquatics Diving and Wandsworth Swimming Club). The Grant was put towards a range of development tools including equipment such as upgraded video playback systems, crash mats and ‘Nipper Tippers’.

Open water

We have a number of specialised open water clubs like Serpentine SC , Hampstead Heath SC but the majority of our swimmers at age group level are within our mainstream clubs. The Region recognises that this will continue to be the case in the future and it is hoped that the work undertaken in activating our talent will lead to more clubs looking into partaking in Open Water – there are shorter distance events available if a club wants to have a go.

SwimMark (formerly Swim21)

The SwimMark programme is managed through the Swim England Club Team rather than directly by the Region.

As at the end of March 2017, the Region’s Swim Mark position was 41 accredited clubs (out of a total of 114 clubs), which is a 36% uptake. This is well below the national average of 52%. The Region continues to support those clubs who are SwimMark accredited or actively working towards it with bursary funds to enable the club’s staff to become better qualified – some £4,500 was provided last year. As part of the SwimMark process, a sub-committee of the Club Development Committee will review the quarterly accreditation submissions in advance of them going to the National Committee for ratification.

Communication

The Region has updated the monthly club newsletter and continued to issue the strategic bulletin. It will look at other initiatives in the forthcoming year. There are plans underway to extend the Region’s website including with the introduction of a calendar.

Advancing the ASA London Region

Goal

The Board's goal is for the Region to have good governance at board and committee level, be engaged with and promote the members' and clubs' needs across the Region and the aquatic discipline.

Swim England Objectives

- Provide leadership and be able to be the recognised authority for swimming
- Strengthen our organisational sustainability for future generations

The Board

The membership of the Board in 2016-17 was

President (non-voting)		Colin Robson	term ended September 2016
		Ralph Shortland	appointed September 2016
Vice President (non-voting)		Di Gamble	elected September 2016
Chairman		Dave Fletcher	
London Representative on ASA Sport Governing Board		Kay Grimshaw	
Elected		Jackie Bedford	
		Jean Cook	Re-elected September 2016
		Norman Edgell	

		Peggy Etiebet	
		Kay Grimshaw	Elected September 2016
		Alex Harrison	Re-elected September 2016
		Kathy Hook	
		Colin Robson	term ended September 2016
		Ralph Shortland	
		Richard Whitehead	
Divisional Business Manager / Regional Executive Officer (non-voting)		Suzanne Philpot	

The Board would like to thank Nick Ibrahim (Club Development Chairman) and Nigel Grey (Disabled Swimming Chairman), who both stepped down during the year, for their service.