



Shirley Pool and Dolphins Annual Club Championships 2018

The Quays, Saturday June 9th 6pm to 9pm

INFORMATION SHEET

Thank you for entering the Championships. It promises to be a very exciting evening with over 150 swimmers taking part. To help you on the night, here are a few tips.

Before:

Entry for spectators is by programme priced £4.00. This can be bought from Shirley Pool before the Gala or on the night from the Quays as you enter. Purchasing them in advance will reduce queuing on the night. Children are free, but think twice about bringing siblings as it is a long hot night for a toddler.

Photography is permitted but videos must be registered at the entrance to the spectator gallery where a badge will be issued.

For those unfamiliar with the Quays, parking is limited directly outside, but there are lots of other car parks nearby. Please note that car parks are now charged until midnight.

Children can start changing at 5.45pm and we aim to have the first race underway by 6pm.

Swimmers should have with them a small towel, a T shirt and a still drink in a plastic bottle. Well fitted goggles are essential. No food or bags on poolside please.

Lockers need a padlock which you can provide yourself or get from the quays (£5 deposit needed), and bags can be left there. Remember to mark all items with your child's name!

On the night we will need some helpers, so if you are available to be on pool side - watch out for the "jobs list" that will go up on the notice board at Shirley pool in the weeks before the Gala!

If your child is a bit nervous then you are welcome to go through with them to get them settled in their groups as long as you have on pool shoes or are barefoot.

For spectators it can get quite humid - so remember to dress down - shorts and T shirt are ideal.

Hopefully everyone will be fit on the night - but if anyone can't make it please remember to call (02380 781901)

During:

Because of the number of children there may be more than one race per event. We try to group children in heats against each other in ability groups with the fastest swimmers in the final heat of the event. The medals are awarded to the fastest children across all of the heats. Sometimes children can get confused if they win their heat but not the overall event. It can be difficult for children to understand – but please try to explain as it avoids disappointment.

We hope to have medals for the fastest 6 swimmers for swim school events, and fastest 3 in Dolphins. Remember that the children that are good enough to take part in this gala are the top 150 from over 1400 that swim at Shirley Pool. So you can reassure them that, win or lose, just by being there – they are amongst the top swimmers in the city.

Remember to remind your children to swim straight and stretch to touch the wall when they finish (there will be an army of helpers on the night that will also remind them).

If you are spectating - and we hope you will come along on this fantastic night – the rule is that you should make as much noise as possible once the race has started and applaud loudly until the last swimmer finishes. We expect everyone to have hoarse voices by the end of the night.

After:

The event should finish by 9pm, however races for little ones will finish before then and you are welcome to leave once your child has finished their races.

Every swimmer receives a medal for taking part – and for being one of the best swimmers in town. There will also be some sweets and a souvenir of what we know will be a memorable evening.

Times and results will be displayed the following week at Shirley pool and on the website. In July there is an awards ceremony where we present medals to the top finishers and trophies to the best boy and girl in each age group.

Finally, advertising space can be bought in the programme, seen by all spectators, so please do leave your details at the pool if this is something you would be interested in. All proceeds go back into the Dolphins swim club to help continue what is becoming a habit of producing amazing and truly talented swimmers.

Once again - thank you for entering – see you there on the night!