



## DX Open Meet Newsletter – March 2007

### OPEN MEET 2007

There are only a few more weeks to the first DX open meet. With the entries to the Meet closing on xx Feb, four weeks in advance of the due date, the demand exceeded our expectations. This newsletter is aimed at giving some more information on what to expect.

### From the Chair

I would like to thank the team of volunteers that are putting this event together. We all know that this sport only continues through the many volunteers prepared to give their time generously

Derventio eXcel is the name given to Derbyshire's elite training squad. It provides a professional training programme for all of the swimming clubs within Derbyshire. Entry is according to individual performance and today there are around 60 full time participants. Organised around its two primary locations of Chesterfield and Derby, the swimmers have access to around 20 hours of training per week.

Our chosen values are excellence, commitment, teamwork and fun. the journey to eXcellence is far too long and demanding for us all to not enjoy it (almost!) every step of the way.

We hope that this Open Meet is an opportunity for us all not only to have some fun, but also to see some serious and competitive swimming completed at the same time.

*Simon Taylor*

### From the Head Coach

On behalf of the swimmers and coaches at Derventio and throughout the family of Derbyshire ASA affiliated clubs, I would like to welcome everyone to what I hope is the first of many open meets. We have tried to fit the meet in to the competition calendar at an appropriate point. We hope that it gives swimmers the opportunity to reinforce their racing at the British Championships or, for those who didn't quite make the cut, the chance to race in a fast pool & prove the shape they are in! Enjoy fast swimming everyone! *Mark Rose*

### From the Promoter

We have been very pleased with the response as it is our first Open Meet. Our only disappointment is turning away so many. It does mean that we will look at the format for next year so that the apparent demand can be met. We hope that everyone enjoys the weekend and look forward to receiving ideas and feedback. Enjoy the meet! *Andy Smithurst*

### Derventio Presence

Although this is Derventio's first open meet, Derventio as a squad will not be visible in the pool. While DX are hosting the event, our swimmers will be representing their "home" club. Just by looking at the programme, you could think that our swimmers have not shown up (!) but this reflects the fact that the DX training squad was created to offer Elite Swimming training opportunities for all Derbyshire Clubs. DX only competes as a team in events outside the county.

For the Open meet, the DX swimmers come from: Alfreton, Ashbourne, Belper, Buxton, Chesterfield, City of Derby, Derby Phoenix, Dronfield, Eckington, Erewash, Etwell, Glossop, Hathersage, Ilkeston, Matlock, Ripley, Rykneld, Swadlincote, Treonte and Trident.

### Programme

The programme with the accepted entries is available on the web and we hope that there are no gross errors. A draft programme was posted and several corrections were made as a result.

There are 15 main events being held for both boys and girls giving the 30 events over the two days. With 8 age groups, this means there are 240 medals to be handed out. Overall there are 480 swimmers in 3000 entries.

There are 67 Clubs attending the meet, with the furthest travelled being Jersey! They are also the most southern club with Alloa being the furthest north. There are five clubs with more than 100 male and female swimmers entered.

The most popular event is the 200 Freestyle and it tops both the boys and girls entries. The least popular is the 200 Fly... but there are more girls entered than boys!

The 12&13 year old age group are likely to be the most fiercely contested going from the year of birth. Not surprisingly, there are fewer entries for the older groups. However, there are more older boys than older girls.

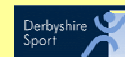
The distance swum over the week end will equate to about 300 miles (over 11 marathons or swimming from Sheffield to Plymouth). Not bad for a week end's work!

### Venue

The Open meet is being held at Ponds Forge International Pool, Sheffield. It will need no introduction to most of the swimming fraternity, as it is one of England's premier competition venues. There will be continuous warm up and swim down facilities available to help swimmers prepare for and recover after races.



Derby CC



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# DERVENTIO EXCEL SWIM SQUAD

## Awards

Awards will be given to the top three placed swimmers in each age group in each individual event. In addition to the individual events there will be the following overall awards:

- Top Team award
- Best Supported Team award
- Top three Boy/Girl awards.

The Top Team award is based on the accumulated points across all the events. The Best Supported team will be decided by the obvious presence and volume of their supporters. Get your party hats out!

The top three boys and girls will be determined from BAGCAT points or GB points as appropriate to the age group. There are cash prizes for each age group.

## Entry Forms and Registration

The heats will be run without cards and swimmers are assumed to be swimming unless we are told otherwise. In order to make the heats run smoothly, please give as much notice as possible of any withdrawals. Withdrawals can be notified in advance by e-mail to [yvettederventio@hotmail.co.uk](mailto:yvettederventio@hotmail.co.uk). On the day, they can be made up to one hour before the relevant session starts in person at the meet office (Omega Suite at Ponds Forge), PRIOR to the start of each session's warm up. Unfortunately, there will not be any refunds.

If you are withdrawing from an event, please tell us before the start of the warm up for the session in which the event is due to be swum. After this time it will be assumed that you are swimming the event and a lane will be allocated to you. Withdrawals after this time may result in an empty lane. Heat start lists will be printed for each session and will be given to competitor stewards and meet officials.

## Officials

Thank you to the many volunteers, Club Officials and representatives of Derbyshire ASA who are giving up their time to help the meet go smoothly. There is always a shortage of timekeepers, judges and etc and their help is essential to the operation of any gala. If you are interested in helping out, please contact Andy on [andy@rrealm.wanadoo.co.uk](mailto:andy@rrealm.wanadoo.co.uk).

## Donations

We have received numerous donations for the raffle and other prizes and hope to be offering a wide range. Many thanks go to all those who have donated prizes and gifts, in particular Boots.

## Contacts

Please check our web site at [derventioexcel.org.uk](http://derventioexcel.org.uk) for more information on the club and the Open Meet.

## Dignitaries

We have invited a number of supporters and dignitaries to open the event and make presentations. These include all Derbyshire ASA Club Chairmen plus representatives from Derbyshire Sport, Local authority sport development, East Midlands ASA and the sponsors. Those present will include:

Cllr W Burrows & Mrs B Burrows – Derbyshire CC  
Mayor Cllr T Mulcaster and Mayoress Cllr J Brown (Chesterfield BC)

Cllr Fred Elliott – Derbyshire Dales DC

Cllr John Ahern and Mrs P Ahern (Mayor and Mayoress, City of Derby)

## Sponsorship

We are pleased to announce that the whole event has one main sponsor. Lovell is delighted to partner with Derventio Excel as main sponsors and be associated with their role in the performance development of talented young swimmers in Derbyshire.

Lovell have partnered with Derventio since their launch in September 2004 providing funding for their "swim to the top" scheme. They have closely followed the progress of DX as it has established itself within British Swimming.

Lovell is the country's leading provider of affordable housing working in partnership with housing associations and local authorities. The company specialises in mixed tenure developments operating at the cutting edge of urban regeneration to create truly sustainable communities.

Sponsorship of individual races is coming in and with the range of races, there is scope for more. Currently, the sponsors include:

@road Ltd                      Derby Engineering Unit Ltd  
Equipment Logistics Ltd      Holly Bush Pub, Makeney  
MNR Coaching                  Zest Health and Beauty, Clay Cross  
Ormonde Leisure                  Volkswagen Parkway (Derby)  
Professional Ventilation Services,  
Seamers                          Tiddlers Day Nursery, Clay Cross  
Plus personal sponsors by Mr&Mrs Graham, Mr&Mrs  
Abbott, Joyce & Barry Helliwell

## Photographs

The usual rules and regulations concerning photography will apply. There will be a professional photographer present who will be taking photos. Images should be available to view and buy over the weekend. We are also preparing a video of the Meet. It may be possible to accommodate specific requests for particular footage. Please contact Andy Smithurst for details.