aquaFORCE the asa volunteers

VOLUNTEERING NEWS

MAKING A DIFFERENCE

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the asa swim for life

aquaFORCE the asa volunteers

WELCOME TO THE WINTER EDITION OF MAKING A DIFFERENCE

It's a belated Happy New Year from the ASA Volunteer Engagement Team!

Welcome to the first edition of Volunteering News for 2014. This year brings a wealth of international sporting competition, including the long awaited Commonwealth Games in Glasgow. As our athletes prepare for the final part of the journey, as do the thousands of volunteers who are currently attending training on the last leg to becoming Clyde-siders.

The Commonwealth Games will be supporting 15,000 volunteers to make the journey to the games, but why not take the opportunity in this New Year to think about what you could do in your local community.

There are endless volunteering roles available in aquatics. Why not take the opportunity this New Year to try something which you have never done before. How could you help in your local club, community or region? Visit the **volunteering section** of the ASA website to find out more.

This New Year has also seen the ASA say a fond farewell to Head of Volunteer Engagement, Francesca Kelly as she takes up a new post with the Youth Sport Trust!

If you would like to know more about aquatic volunteering please contact **volunteering@swimming.org** – we hope to hear from you soon!

The Volunteer Engagement Team

Steph Elliott
Young Volunteer and Technical Officials Co-ordinator

Becky Milnes
Volunteer Development Co-ordinator

IT'S COMPETITION TIME!

Would you like to see your club featured on the front of the next issue of Volunteering News?

If the answer is yes, get your cameras ready because we want to hear from you! All you need to do is a send us a photograph of your club volunteers in action, this could be one volunteer or everyone who plays a part. All submissions will receive a special edition Aquaforce pin badge.

The winner will see their photograph on the front cover of Volunteering News, and two runners up will have their volunteer photographs printed inside. Please send your photographs to **volunteering@swimming.org** with the name of your club, your address and the names of the volunteers. The deadline to submit your photo is 21st March 2014. We look forward to receiving them!

THE ASA MAKE VOLUNTEER TRAINING MORE ACCESSIBLE

In order to support volunteer training to become accessible to all, the ASA is waiving the costs of the Aquatic Helper Workshop, Young Aquatic Leader Certificate and Team Manager Workshop.

For more information on how to organise a volunteering workshop, please visit **www.swimming.org/asa/volunteering** or contact **volunteering@swimming.org**.

AQUAFACT

The world's largest swimming pool (Crystal Lagoon) is in Algarroba, Chile. Drawing its water from the ocean, the 1,013m pool holds 66 million gallons of water and is the size of 20 Olympic swimming pools. The pool costs over £2 million a year in upkeep costs. Wow!

ASPIRING YOUNG LEADERS ATTEND NATIONAL YOUNG COACHES AND OFFICIALS ACADEMY

In December 2013, Loughborough University played host to over 200 promising young coaches and 20 young officials.

Funded by Sport England, and delivered by the Youth Sport Trust in conjunction with Sports Coach UK and Sports Officials UK, the national academies offer a unique development opportunity for aspiring young officials and coaches across a number of national governing bodies.

Young coaches from across the disciplines attended the camp, developing their coach philosophy, coaching self and discovering the type of coach they would like to be. The coaches not only had the opportunity to learn from one another, but from their coaching peers across a multitude of sports.

Young coach, Ollie Sayer said, "My experience at the camp was very enjoyable and extremely beneficial, not only applicable to sport but also in everyday life. The NYCA has given me confidence that I will be able to pass onto others. It has also taught me new approaches and skills in a variety of different areas that I have never considered before which I hope I can adopt to help young swimmers to enable them to develop to their full potential."

The 22 young coaches will now embark on a 12 month development programme delivered by the ASA which will continue to challenge them and develop their knowledge and skills.

The National Young Officials Academy added a new strand to the programme for 2013. Eight young officials from the ASA were given the opportunity to attend the three day camp delivered by Sports Officials UK.

Young officials had the opportunity to develop skills to enable them to cope with high pressured situations in a sporting environment, make good decisions and understand the importance of being objective and promoting fair play.

"The NYOA was a great experience," said young official Isobel Woollons, "I've met many new friends who share similar interests and ambitions who I will keep in touch with. It has provided me with new skills, confidence and people I can reach out to with any queries I may have. The NYOA has inspired me to become a better official and gain more qualifications."

The young officials will now embark on a 12 month development programme delivered by the ASA to support their development.

For more information on the National Young Officials and National Young Coaches Academy, and information on how to apply in 2014, keep reading 'Volunteering News'.

START YOUR JOURNEY AS A YOUNG LEADER WITH THE ASA CLUB CAPTAIN

The ASA Club Captain is a 90 minute interactive online resource. It aims to equip you with the necessary support and guidance to enable you to become successful in your volunteering role.

The resource has been developed for recently appointed Club Captains or young people who would like to take on this role in the near future. The Club Captain is also ideal for young volunteers who would like to develop their leadership skills. You do not have to be a current Club Captain to use this resource.

The Club Captain is available via the IoS online free of charge to all volunteers registered with an IoS account. If you do not currently hold an account, don't worry. It's free and only takes a few moments to sign up! **Click here** for more information.

If you have any further questions about the Club Captain resource please contact volunteering@swimming.org

CALLING ALL WORKFORCE CO-ORDINATORS!

If you have recently become a Club Workforce or Volunteer Co-ordinator, or if you would like to take on this role in the near future – the ASA's Workforce Co-ordinator guide aims to provide you with support, advice, guidance and templates to assist you in your role.

The online guide takes around 45 minutes to complete, with additional time to develop your own Workforce Development Plan. The online guide is available free of charge from the **IoS online**.

ASA WELCOME'S NEW RECRUITS TO THE NATIONAL YOUTH FORUM

The ASA welcomes six new members to the ASA National Youth Forum; Eleanor Bamber, Laura Bennett, Lucy Palfreman, Matthew Machin, Oliver Hooper and Zak Mulvaney.

The new members will join Alex Harrison and his team to work with the forum over the next two years.

For more information on the National Youth Forum please **click here**. You can get in touch with the ASA Youth Forum directly by emailing **asayouthforum@swimming.org.**

ASA YOUTH FORUM TOOLKIT

Engaged young people are essential to ensure the sustainability of our aquatic clubs and swimming communities. All too often, decisions which affect young people are made with no opportunity for them to be involved in the actual decision making process.

Young people are more likely to engage with all aspects of their club, and develop as capable young leaders, if given guidance and support from experienced club members. Providing young people in your club, county or region with the opportunity to work together with their like-minded peers, to have an impact on their surroundings can have a profoundly positive effect.

The Youth Forum Development Toolkit provides guidance and advice to those wishing to develop a Youth Group, Forum, Council or Committee in their club or county.

To support the toolkit, the ASA have also created a number of document templates which you may need during the start up process. These templates can be used and adapted to suit the needs of your group.

HOW CAN CLUB LEADERS SUPPORT YOU?

CLUB LEADERS
Better business skills for sport

Club Leaders is the perfect opportunity to take advantage of free club support and development advice to improve the way your club runs.

Club Leaders provide business support and tailored advice to meet the demands of the day-to-day running of your sports club and support you in the areas that can really make a difference. Delivered in partnership with Price Waterhouse Coopers, Club Leaders offer free administration, business and finance support to ensure the ongoing sustainability of your club. Big or small, there is something for everyone, with designated training being offered in a number of key subject areas vital to the successful running of your club through mentoring, seminars, and a range of learning modules.

You can gain immediate, specific advice through e-learning modules on:

- Simpler Finance
- Evaluating Market Options
- Organisation Structures
- Managing Capital Projects
- Get Your Cash Flowing
- Budgeting
- Effective Facilities Management
- Developing a Marketing Strategy

Or attend a Club Leaders seminar to really get to grips with the material. Club Leaders are running seminars up and down the country on:

- Understanding your Club's Finances
- Planning and Monitoring your Club's Financial Performance
- Financial Policies and Procedures
- VAT and Sport Clubs
- PAYE and Employment Statues
- Developing a Marketing Strategy
- Effective Organisation Structures

Club Leaders have regional reps to support you, therefore if you are unable to attend any of the seminars they can organise tailored seminars to meet your needs at a location which is convenient for you. To improve the way your club operates today visit **www.sportenglandclubleaders.com** or for further information and guidance please contact **club.leaders@uk.pwc.com**.

GET YOUR HANDS ON THE YOUTH FORUM LOGO!

If you are creating a Youth Forum or if you already have an existing youth group, you can sign up to receive the appropriate regional, county or club ASA Youth Forum logo.

You will be able to proudly display the logo on all of your Youth Forum material to highlight that you are part of the wider Youth Forum network. Only clubs who have signed up to the network are able to use the logo.

You will also be signed up to the following upon completion of the logo application form:

- Youth Forum Briefing Note – keeping you up to date on the Youth Forum's activities. Information on how your forum can get involved.
- ASA Volunteering News – the quarterly newsletter which is your one stop shop for everything volunteering!

Click here to download the toolkit, logo application form and supporting templates. To contact the Youth Forum or for general questions or enquiries, please contact **asayouthforum@swimming.org**