Warrington Dolphins LDSC – Annual Boxing Day Dip 2004

The Dolphins were again grateful to the Budworth Sailing Club for extending their facilities to eleven swimmers who entered this years 60m race. However, due to modernisation work at the Clubhouse no showers were available. The briefing this year was held in front of the sailing clubhouse. The race organiser Andy Wright briefed the swimmers on the course. He attempted to convince the swimmers that despite the snow and icy around the Clubhouse that the water temperature was high as there was no ice on the surface. This obviously encouraged the swimmers by the comments they made. With the organiser finding no reason not to swim he handed over to the race referee who proceeded providing a regular countdown to the start.

As usual a few swimmers become extremely competitive and this year was no exception with Toby Hirst, Christian Wade and Mark Blewitt entering the water with a sprint. The remainder made a more considered entry. Toby quickly plunged ahead of Mark and maintained his lead at each of his turns. Despite failing to do any tumble turns he maintained his lead to the finish. However, due to complicated handicap system that only penalises the previous year's winner, so that they can't win 2 years and the run Mark was crowned as winner. However, Toby may not have collected the trophy but he did collect the price of a Dolphins mug to mark his fast swim.

Mark Blewitt confessed that he was a little disappointed with his time, as this was part of his preparation for his' Cook Strait' New Zealand in March. There could be no better preparation! Good luck, Mark.

1st Mark Blewitt - Haslingdon 2nd Toby Hirst - Winsford 3rd Christian Wade - Warrington Dolphins 4th John Glynn - Warrington Dolphins 5th Fionna Lynch- Warrington Dolphins 6th Joe Coy – Warrington Dolphins 7th Colin Hirst - Stockport Metro 8th Helen Tristam - Warrington Dolphins 9th Lesley Feakes – Warrington Dolphins 10th Andy Wright - Warrington Dolphins 11th Chris Byrne – Warrington Dolphins

Andy Wright