



City of Cardiff Swimming Club

Clwb Nofio Dinas Caerdydd

The City of Cardiff Swimming Club evolved from an amalgamation of numerous local clubs. Previously, a Cardiff United Squad existed who were the cream of swimmers from Cardiff City Swimming Club, Cardiff Otters, Roath Park, Welsh Nomads, RAF St Athan and Penarth Ladies.

In 1973, those running the United Squad felt they should be making more progress. In November 1973, they decided to hold a meeting at The Park Hotel and invite three to four members from each club with a view to discussing the best way to develop the emerging local talent to national and international level. During this time Dave Haller, a former Olympian and Head Coach at Southampton Swimming Club had recently been appointed as The Senior Coach for The Great Britain Men's Swimming Team.

The Committee from The Cardiff United Squad and the other Club representatives decided to invite Dave Haller to meet with them. When Dave looked at the set up, he suggested all local clubs consider a merger to form one club: The City of Cardiff Swimming Club.

On January 1 1974, a steering committee managed the merger for three months and in April 1974, The City of Cardiff Swimming Club was launched with Dave Haller as the Head Coach.

One of the first items on the agenda was for Dave to utilise the use of The Empire Pool for club swimming on a Sunday afternoon from 2pm to 4pm, this session was open to all WASA affiliated members. Here, up and coming age group swimmers could enhance their swimming by training alongside their peers and recent Commonwealth swimmers.

In 1975, Dave acquired morning and evening use of The Empire Pool in preparation for the 1976 Montreal Olympics. The 50m pool also hosted a number of Swimming Meets during the run up to The Olympics to provide swimmers with increased opportunities to achieve Olympic qualifying times, as a result The City of Cardiff Swimming Club sent a record eight swimmers to The Montreal Olympics, and these included home spun stars: Anne Adams and Mandy James.

Using its many pools across Cardiff, including one of the few 50m pools in the UK at the time, Cardiff grew and developed quickly to become one of the top clubs in the country.

The demise of the Empire Pool in 1998 took away our opportunity to train locally in what is known as a 'Long Course' facility, but the construction of the 10-lane 50m 'Cardiff International Pool' in Cardiff Bay has once again ensured that we are viewed as one of the best clubs in the UK.

The Olympic Legacy ~ Our swimmers have represented GB in the Olympics in 1968, 1976, 1980, 1984, 1988, 1992 & 2000.

David Davies won silver in the Olympics in Athens 2004 and Silver in Beijing 2008, where Tom Haffield also competed in the 400IM. In London 2012 both David Davies & Ieuan Lloyd were part of Team GB.

In 2014 the club celebrated its 40th year anniversary. Head Coach Dave Haller MBE, retired after the XX Commonwealth Games in Glasgow, which saw a record 6 swimmers from CCSC being selected for Team

We now move forward with the appointment of Graham Wardell as Head Coach. In the last four years the Club has enjoyed strong performances in the National Arena Swimming League returning to the Cup Finals in 2016 & 2017 and winning the B Cup Final in 2018.

With the changes in coaching structure the Club has been able to develop and encourage swimmers with the result that increased numbers are able to compete at the British Swimming Summer Nationals and the three Swim Wales National competitions over the season.

Graham has coached continued our Olympic legacy with Ieuan Lloyd and Chloe Tutton being chosen to swim for Team GB at the Rio Olympics in 2016. For the Gold Coast Commonwealth Games, the Club were proud that Xavier Castelli, Harriet Jones and Bethan Sloan were selected to represent Team Wales.