

Synchronicity Synchro / Artistic Swimming Club 2018/19

Moira Norden Coaching Clinic:

Moira Norden visited the club in October 2018 for a week-end to share some insight into what judges look for when judging figures and routines in a competition, dry land training drills and how to choreograph a routine.

FINA Judges School:

Club coach, C Whindus was nominated by CGA to attend the FINA Judges School in Cape Town in July 2018. Once again, the school proved to be very beneficial and there was insight into the new figures for the 2017 – 2021 FINA season for Artistic Swimming.

NAG 2018, Pretoria:

The club entered novices Jodi and Kenzie Malan (figures and duet); Theo Williams and Sophie Rusconi (figures and duet); Nicole Hattingh (figures, duet and solo) and Thando Maseko (figures and duet) to the competition as well as Hannah Trumpelman (figures, solo and duet), Rachel Lewis (figures, sole and duet) who entered the age group section.

It was a juggle for many parents to travel back and forth from the event in Pretoria and the club was criticized by Louise Blignaut for failing to have swimmers present for the awards ceremonies.

By the same token, the scheduled Opening Ceremony was not attended by any officials from AG or SSA,

Kingfisher Invitational and Level 1 competition:

Kingfisher hosted this small event at the beginning of March 2019 and it was good to have another local competition, providing a further opportunity for the girls to compete. Level 2/3:

Level 2/3 competition (Cape Town):

Nicole Hattingh and Jodie and Kenzie Malan competed in the Level 2 event and gained valuable solo experience.

Louise Blignaut, the SSA Artistic Swimming representative ordered myself off deck, saying that I was not registered as a judge and therefore should be replaced. This was most inconvenient for the club organisers who had to scramble for another judge.

Moira Norden objected to this late and poorly timed decision on Louise Blignaut's part, especially as she had attended NAG and had seen me judging throughout that competition. For my part, I apologized to Barracudas and I have written a letter to CGA, objecting to Blignaut's handling of the matter. I am very puzzled as to why SSA failed to notice this technical error as I would never have been accepted into the FINA Judges School as an unregistered judge/official.

Artistic Swimming numbers:

The membership of Artistic Swimmers has dwindled, following NAG. I feel that CGA could perhaps assist in this regard by encouraging swimming clubs to direct swimmers to the sport of Artistic Swimming once they have exhausted their interest in swimming.

An assistant coach has come to light in the form of an ex-swimmer from Holland who now resides in Joburg and she is willing to assist during the week with coaching.