

GLOUCESTER COUNTY ASA.

WATER POLO

ANNUAL REPORT 2016-7.

REGRETABLELY as the ASA, now Swim England, has not seen fit to hold Inter-County Water Polo Championships for a number of years our players do not have a ladder to climb beyond our own Regional Championships in order to prepare themselves for international honours. Senior players and officials will recall that the Inter-County programme was one of the most attractive events of the season for both Seniors and Juniors. This gulf between junior and senior needs to be bridged in order to raise the overall standard of the game and more importantly provide a incentive for clubs to the widening of the interest in the game.

Currently the County's players can only play up to the level of our own Regional Championship where both the men and woman have put up outstanding performances.

In the Regional Inter County Championships we entered all seven age groups with the following results:-

Under12 Mixed	3 <sup>rd</sup> .	Under 14 Mixed	1 <sup>st</sup> .	Under 16 Boys	1 <sup>st</sup> .
Under 16 Girls	1 <sup>st</sup> .	Under 18 Boys	1 <sup>st</sup> .		
Senior Men	2 <sup>nd</sup>	Senior Ladies	1 <sup>st</sup> .		

Our Senior Coach for the men and boys, John Spicer and Mike Howells with Robert Sme for the ladies and girls, must be congratulated on developing seven teams of around ninety players which will stand the County in good stead for the years to come.

In the Club Men's British Championships, which have only been held for the past five years, Cheltenham S&WP club's men have won four times, finishing with an hat trick of wins. When will this be repeated?

Philip Jones

Hon. County Water Polo Manager.