

B.B.T.S.A. NEWS

Number 2

September 1998

The Official Newsletter of the British Baton Twirling Sports Association

Welcome to the New Look Newsletter



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Welcome

NEW LOOK TO THE NEWSLETTER

The New look official newsletter of the British Baton Twirling Sports Association is available to ALL registered troupes, FREE of charge and in this issue, you the reader will be informed of what to expect out of further issues.

ON OTHER PAGES

Camp Information
News from the Regions
Troupe Reviews
Quiz Page
Competition Dates
Competition Reports
And
Much More

WELCOME FROM THE NATIONAL BOARD

A BIG welcome to the New looks Newsletter from ALL the members of the National Board. This newsletter is available to All troupes that are registered with the Association, and will reflect the news, views and opinions, with comments and remarks from any member, either individual or troupe. The only way that this newsletter can work is to get as much information from ALL the members. This is your newsletter, so let's all work together and make it a great success.

NATIONAL PRO WELCOMES READERS TO THE NEW LOOK NEWSLETTER

As you can see this is the new look newsletter. The first newsletter was designed as a draft copy to find out from the members what type of newsletter you wanted, these newsletters will be designed for your needs, and it will cost you the members absolutely nothing. ALL BBTSA newsletters will be sent to every member troupe FREE of charge, we are trying to give you the members the very best service that we can, so that you will get all the information that is available to us. Please remember that this newsletter is only as good as the information that we receive from you the members. You can submit any information that you may think is relevant to the newsletter. Adverts with regard to buying or selling any troupe equipment, which your troupe may wish to sell. will be placed in a sell and buy section of this newsletter, also if you have any funds raising event that you wish to advertise these may also be publish. This is just the start of new things to come in the New look Newsletter, so please support it as much as you can, in the future it may be an asset to you and your troupe. All members are invited to place articles within this publication; even if you don't belong to a troupe. All Information will be welcome

Chairman's Question Page



This page is designed for you the member's to pose question's to the Chairman, and National Board Member's.

Question 1.

Could you please let the members know how the Association Started ?

Question 2.

Could you let the members know more about the National Board Members, and who they are ?.

Question 3.

How Many Board and Regional Committee Members are /or have been Troupe Leaders ?

The Answer to these questions will be published in the Next Edition of the B.B.T.S.A News.

If you have any questions, that are of a similar nature, to the ones above, please send them in, and they will be published on Chairman's Question Page.

1998 B.B.T.S.A. CAMP – HOPTON

British Holidays Limited, have spent a large amount of money, updating premises at Hopton Holiday Village, and this years park will be one of the best ever. Members of the Board have been in talks with Hopton representatives, and again the park will be available to members of the BBTSA and their families. The dates of this years camp is from Friday 23rd October 1998, to Sunday 1st November 1998, and as always there will be the BBTSA training staff to make your week more enjoyable than ever.

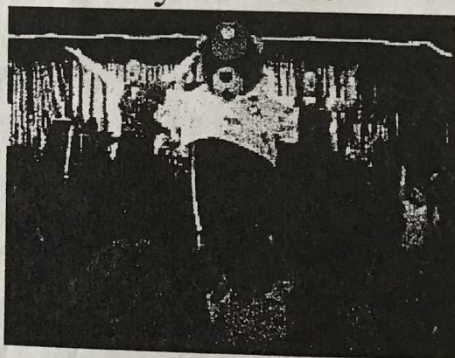
The National Competitions Officers are again hard at work to ensure that the weekend competitions are to run in an organised way as they always do, and that every athlete, and spectators have a most enjoyable time.

By now most of you will have received booking forms and have paid a deposit for the camp, and the balance which was due on 12th September, should have now been paid to British Holiday's Ltd, if you haven't, please do so as soon as possible, and it would be a great shame if you missed out on this years experience, at the New Look Hopton Holiday Village.

The British Baton Twirling Sports Association together with



Invite you to the New Look Hopton Holiday
Village, for the Time of your Life



Above are just two of the attractions at Hopton Holiday Village, a well equipped Amusement Arcade, and of course, the Famous Bradley Bear, these are all available for your enjoyment, on your B.B.T.S.A Camp.

Competition's Report

This page will have submission placed on it by the National and Regional Competition Officers.

B.B.T.S.A . National Championships Portsmouth – Hampshire 2nd to 4th May 1998.

The National Championship's, again took place at the Mountbatten Centre, Portsmouth.
All athletes did extremely well, and listed below, is the roll of honour of the 1998 National Champions

Kelly HENSON	Keeley SMITH	Kerri FRASER	Jennifer MARSDEN
Darci ARTHUR	Tracey McKENNA	Katie TOWERS	Tricia CONNOR
Natalie DAVIDSON	Chelsie BAKER	Sharna JOHNSON	Francesca KING
Louise MOORE	Alanna DARDAS	Donna HUDSON	Zoe BURROWS
Claire FERRON	Jenna WHAMMOND	Charlotte WAKEFIELD	Victoria JOHNSON
Helen CLIFFORD	Cleary CLIFFORD	Kirsty GAUNT	Lisa HANNON
Nicola O'CONNELL	Carly GOODCHILD	Taryn BAILEY	Lousie FLOYD
Gemma PETTY	Carla PULLEN	Kelly UNDERWOOD	Louise PAY
Lauren HOWES	McCayla WOOD	Angela GILES	Charlotte WHYBROW
Dawn ALLUM	Tanya HORTON	Kerry BROWN	Samantha FINNIGAN

Keli LYTTLE

Congratulations to all the above National Champions

A Roll of Honour for All the Overall Winners

Tiny Tots	Natalie DAVIDSON	Juvenile One	Keely SMITH
Juvenile Two	Alanna DARDAS	Junior One	Charlotte WAKEFIELD
Junior Two	Victoria JOHNSON	Senior One	Tracey McKENNA Nicola O'CONNELL
Senior Two	Carly GOODCHILD.	Presented with the Marteen NEEDHAM Trophy on Behalf of the NEEDHAM Family by Clair MORRIS	
Adult	Cleary CLIFFORD		

Congratulations to all of the Overall Winners

A Big Well done to ALL Athletes that took part, as it is an Achievement in itself to reach the National Championships

The European Championships were held at Portsmouth in July, and the World Championships in France in August

Congratulations to All that took part.
Please see LETTER BOX for results

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Dear BBTSA News

World and European Raffle

This was a huge success, raising a total of £1,488.85p for all the athletes to share. My thanks to the Region's and troupes that took part, most of them making a lot of money with the percentage cut. But my commiseration's to the troupes who didn't take part, as they lost out on earning funds. So lets hope they will take part next time. There were 13 prizes in all and they were won by Dawlish. 1-4-11 Region 15. 2-5-7 Majestic's. 3-9-10 Bradford. 6-8 Bellettes. 12 Lydd Ladybirds 13.

The Prizes were all donated and were gratefully accepted
Again my thanks to you

James McGeachy
Nat. Vice Chair.

Dear BBTSA News

My Experience at the European Championships

I arrived in Portsmouth early Tuesday evening. I was very excited and also very nervous. I did not know what to expect. Nicola O'Neil made me feel very welcome. As I did not know anybody, I ended up sharing a room with my Dad. The first night England was playing in the World Cup and I was invited to Lauren's room with all the juniors to watch the match, it was really good. Nicola gave me my England Tracksuit and Baton Bag and it made me feel very much part of the team. On Wednesday we had an early Breakfast and went training. It was hard and very tiring. I got used to practicing my routine over and over again for six hours. I had a music and costume test, which was fine. Thursday was a repeat of Wednesday, We trained some more !!! Those who were competing in Dance and Duo were getting nervous about the next day's competition. As I was a reserve I was praying that nobody would get hurt and thankfully they didn't. This year I went in for the selections for experience, as I have never competed in BBTSA before and was selected as a reserve. The Competition was most enjoyable for me as I had the joys of being part of the team and not the nerves of competing. I was shocked at the standard of the European Countries especially the French and Italians. They were really good to watch. I really enjoyed my stay with the England team. Everybody made me feel so welcome and part of the team. I would especially like to thank Nicola, Bridgett, Jenny and Pam for making me feel so welcome and helping me. I look forward to next year if I am lucky enough to be part of the team again.

Nicola Swaine

Dear BBTSA News

In August ,the 1998 World Baton Twirling Championships took place in Lyon, France. Watched by a packed stadium, this was twirling at it's most supreme and England were there taking part. The difference with England and the rest of the World, were that England was there on a shoestring budget, the other Countries were there with help from their Governments , Sport Councils & Sponsorships from Large Companies. Taking Money aside England did very well. All our senior women made the semi-finals for the first time. Our Senior pairs made the final and finished 5th. The team made the finals and finished 6th & our Junior Women finished in the top 20, a great achievement as this would have been their first World Championships. All our athletes have to finance themselves for the trips abroad, in other words they pay for the privilege of representing

Troupe Reviews

This page will be dedicated to Troupe Reviews

SAPPHIRE BATONETTES

The Sapphire Batonettes, are situated in Sheerness, on the Isle of Sheppey, which is in Kent. They were formed from a Breakaway Troupe, in 1985, in the early years; the troupe consisted of about 40 athletes. But as the years passed a number of their members left and the troupe went down to just 4 members, however, when the BBTSA registration time came, the troupe scrapped through with the minimum number of athletes to register. The troupe membership returned to about 20 athletes, and in the past 5 years the troupe have gone up to 30 athletes at one stage. The Sapphire Batonettes, have been associated with the BBTSA since their origins, and have attended the Nationals Championships at Portsmouth, and the highest that the troupe members have reached is 3rd place. This year they will be attending the National Championships in Portsmouth, and hopefully will reach higher placing's, with the eleven athletes that are attending

MERCURY BATON TWIRLERS.

As we are quite new members of the BBTSA, we thought you may like to know something about our corps. Mercury Twirlers were formed in November 1985, by trainer Rachel EMMS, and her mother, Rose SWAINE. Rachel has been a twirler since childhood, and represented England many times whilst a member of the NBTA. She also twirled as a member of a troupe called 'Studio One' as a member of the BBTSA before forming Mercury Twirlers. Although Mercury are quite new to BBTSA twirling, many of the members have been twirling since they were tiny. Some of the girls were lucky enough to go to the USA in 1993, to watch and compete in an open competition. They all did very well, and came home with lots of prizes, including First and Second. In 1995 Mercury joined forces with First Impressions to form a colour guard squad to compete in the NBTA World Championships in Italy. After lots of hard work by all of the girls, trainers, and parents, we are proud to say that we won. Several of our girls competed in the England Squad for the NBTA including Nicola SWAINE, who was European Champion Three Times. Another athlete Annika RIVERS has been placed 7th Nicola was lucky enough to be selected as a reserve for the 1998 BBTSA England Team and enjoyed the recent championships at Portsmouth. Since joining the BBTSA, our girls have been very impressed with the standard of twirling they see at Competitions, especially at the Nationals at Easter, and those who saw the European Championship Competition, could talk of nothing else for days! They are now working hard to perfect routines for the 1999 Selections as they all want to take part in it!. They are also training hard for the October finals at Great Yarmouth, and looking forward to the week very much. The twirling is very different in BBTSA, when compared with what the girls have been doing, and they have had to work hard to adjust to the new rules and styles. The team routines are all set, and Rose is working hard on new leotards, so hopefully it will all come together, just right when October comes. Although we have only been with the BBTSA a short time, we have been impressed with the things that we have experienced. The competitions have all been well run, and very friendly. We were all extremely pleased to see the video cameras being used at the Nationals to support the judges decisions, something we have not experienced in the past. The monthly meetings that we attend are always informative, and everyone is really helpful, even when they are repeating things for the umpteenth time for Rose's benefit! We are all looking forward to a long and happy, and hopefully successful, relationship with the BBTSA.

Continued Letter Box.

their Country. Their Families have to sacrifice a great deal not only for the trips to the major championships but also for the cost of training, this involves the hire of sports halls, the cost of coaches and trainers. This takes place week in week out, for many hours per week, especially as athletes and coaches often live miles from each other. The European Championships took place in July in Portsmouth, England, our athletes performed brilliantly in front of their home audience. For the first time in 14 years we had a male athlete taking part, Kurt Bailey from Norfolk, who finished in the top 3 of the junior men. The group consisted of 11 members finished a brilliant 3rd. We also had junior and senior women in the top 15. With senior pairs in 4th place and the team in 5th place. The BBTSA is the only association recognised by both the European and World Governing Bodies, but within England there are many other smaller associations, like other sports these associations are often localised or are often Majorette orientated. Baton twirling first evolved from Majoretting but then developed into a sport to incorporate both dance and gymnastics, which takes years to perfect. We now have our athletes staying longer within the sport, instead of retiring in their mid teens they are now staying on into their twenties, incorporating university or careers with their sport. It's when you see these top senior teams performing, you realise the years of hard work that have been dedicated to achieving such an ability. I believe that it's about time that people stop sneering at minority sports such as Baton Twirling and start applauding these athletes for doing well, not only for themselves but also their Country in the European and World Championships.

Twirling will still carry on with families making sacrifices for their children to realise their potential, some financing would go a long way to make things easier. Spain is hosting the Europeans in 1999, with the Worlds being hosted in America. Yes England will be represented, but with either a depleted squad or with some people facing major hardships

With regards

M. Deeks pp

Nicky O'Neill

Coach, Judge, & Technical Committee Member for the above.

Dear BBTSA News,

At the beginning of August, I had the pleasure of attending the World Championships, in Lyon, France. Over the four days of competition, I along with 2,500 other people in a packed audience, witnessed some superb and inventive displays of baton twirling, in individual, pairs and team events. All of the England representatives performed excellently, with the two junior's women, Victoria JOHNSON, finishing in 16th place and Nicola BAILEY in 18th place. In the senior women's all three athletes reached the semi-finals for the first time ever with: Cleary CLIFFORD in 16th place, Tracey McKENNA in 17th place, McCayla WOOD in 20th place. A superb achievement. The composite team was made up of 10 athletes: Helen CLIFFORD, Cleary CLIFFORD, Ann Marie NICOLS, Lianne STONE, Leanne McCEACHY, McCayla WOOD, Carla BULL, Tracey McKENNA, Kathy HEWITT, Caroline DONAGHUE

The team finished in 6th place in the finals, which was very credible, when you saw the standard of the other teams. Also in the senior women's pairs, Helen and Cleary CLIFFORD, finished in 5th place, with an excellent performance. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Pam and Jenny for all the help and support I had in attending the Worlds, and on the social side, we had an excellent time, with all the parents and supporters. I certainly had a great time and I hope, I can know people who in the past, I have just nodded to, among my friends now because you were a great bunch of people.

James McGEACHY Nat. Vice Chair

Regional News Bulletin

The Association has 16 regions; this page is dedicated to news from those regions.

REGION 6

The Troupes and Adult members from Region 6 would like to welcome the new look newsletter, and explain a little about themselves.

Region 6, is located in Maidstone, Kent, and covers an area of Kent, Sussex, Surrey, Part of Essex and South London. It borders onto Region 5, and Region 3.

The Troupes that are in Region 6 are. Twilight Twirlers, Queenborough Baton Twirling Team, Hampden Park, Sapphire Batonettes, Sussex Supremes, Thurrock Golden Twirlers, Mercury Twirlers, Expressions, and Future Image.

The Regional Officers are:

Brian Gregory – Chair

Steve Gunn – Vice Chair

Sharon Fuger – Secretary/Training Officer

Bill Sims – Treasurer

Beryl Hatton – Membership Secretary

Audry Turner – Competitions Officer

Les Worthington – Public Relations Officer

Good luck from all at Region 6, for the newsletter to be every success for the future.

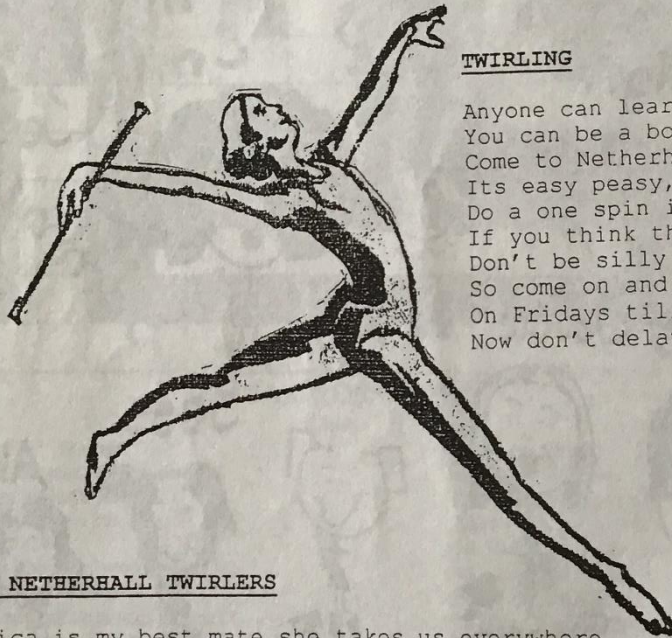
Space on this page is available for ALL regions to place a news bulletin

THE TWIRLERS AND JUDGES

Netherhall twirlers are the best,
We will beat all the rest,
None or the judges names is Sue,
She never smiles at you,
All the grown ups do your hair,
That makes the judges stare and stare,
The new hair spray is quite a pong,
All our dances go with a song
We march and March untill we drop,
And hope the judges soon stay stop,
They look at me , Iv'e come third,
It,s as easy peasy as lemoncurd,
One of the girls she came first,
And afterwards she nearly burst,
Do judges really smile at you?
Not very often, but sometimes they do.

Judges stare

We take the floor, what a scare,
Dancing, twirling all with flare,
One judge here, one judge there,
Oh to compete without a care.
We take the floor, what a scare,
Oh judge please smile and show you care,
One drop here another glare,
My nerves won't stand there,
So come on judges give a big smile
And we will show our twirling style.



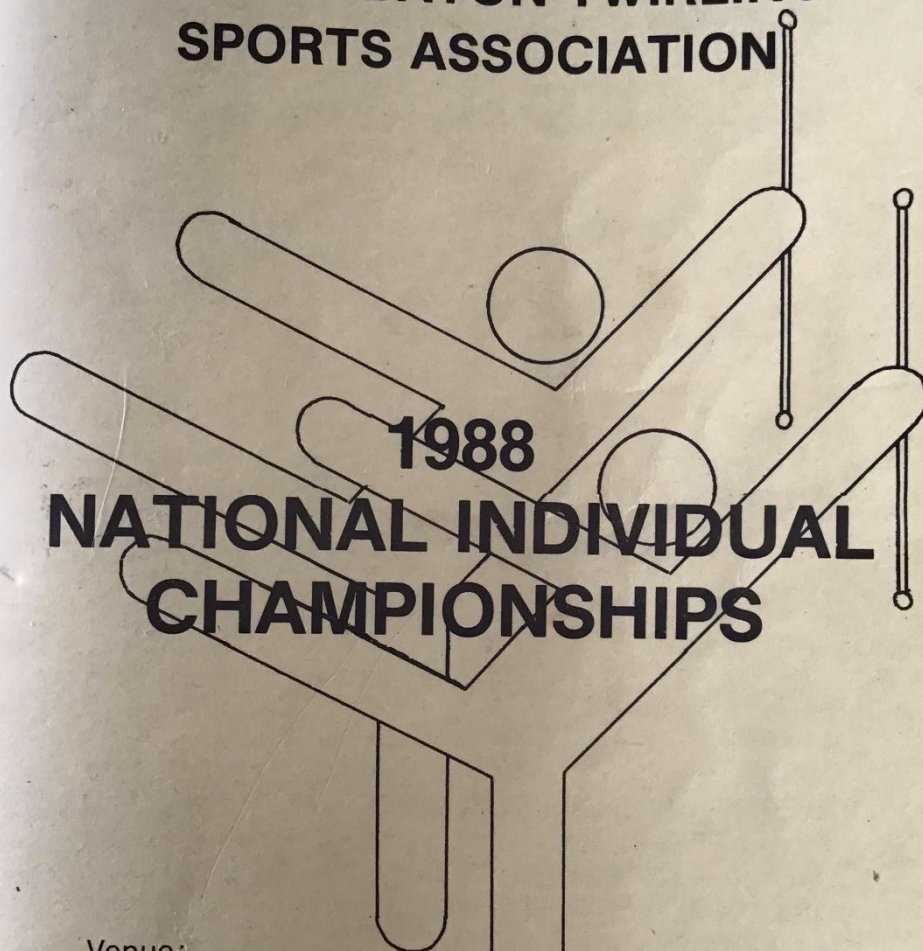
TWIRLING

Anyone can learn to twirl,
You can be a boy or Girl,
Come to Netherhall,
Its easy peasy,
Do a one spin is pretty easy,
If you think that yuor too old,
Don't be silly it's time to roll,
So come on and join up today,
On Fridays till seven,
Now don't delay.

THE NETHERHALL TWIRLERS

Monica is my best mate she takes us everywhere
Sarah is her daughter and she helps us with our hair (at
the competitions)
Lyn is good at marching, Debbie is as well,
Chris looks after our leotards and Monica does as well.
Elle and Jackie are sisters they help us out with dances.
Summer, Jo and Kirstie are friends and never do much
dancing.
Emma and Louise are friends eturally.
Alison and Shona are always having fun.
Zoe and Jade are quiet they never talk to me.
Florence and Sophie are the small ones of the bunch.
Sangita is very good at twirling, Shes always munching
into some crisps.
Shelly Helen and Rachael never stop their talking..

**BRITISH BATON TWIRLING
SPORTS ASSOCIATION**



**1988
NATIONAL INDIVIDUAL
CHAMPIONSHIPS**

Venue:
MOUNTBATTEN CENTRE; ALEXANDER PARK;
PORTSMOUTH:

Date:
April 30, May 1st & 2nd 1988 (Sat., Sun., Mon.)