

Volume 1, Issue 1. March 2009

Welcome to the first e-newsletter issued by the Thomian Aquatic Sports Union(TASU), a body formed of Old Thomians for the specific purpose of providing assistance towards the development of College Aquatics.

This newsletter will, being the inaugural issue, gives a brief description of TASU and its activities, whilst also providing information on upcoming aquatic events and the performance of the college aquatics team in meets already held this year.

THE THOMIAN AQUATIC SPORTS UNION

The Thomian Aquatic Sports Union (TASU) was formed in January 2008 with the sole aim of improving College Aquatics through the provision of funds and equipment. TASU is affiliated to the Sri Lanka Aquatics Sports Union and the Old Boys' Association and has the privilege of having the Warden, S Thomas' College as its Patron.

TASU also works hand in hand with the present committee of the OTSC to encourage school-leavers to represent the Club. In addition the OTSC has asked TASU to propose office bearers for the positions of Club Captain, Swimming Captain and Water Polo Captain.

This years working committee was appointed on the 30th of January 2009 and consists of the following Old Thomians;

Mr. J.V.E. Perera – Vice President

Mr. D.M..Ranasinghe - Treasurer

Mr. N.R.Dabare – General Secretary

Mr. D De Fonseka – Events Secretary

Mr. A.Ameer - Aquatics Coordinator

General Committee

Mr. S.P.Wickremasinghe Mr. M.P. Bollegalage
Mr. S.T de Alwis Mr. L.D. Bartholomeusz
Mr. R.Ranasinghe Mr. S Vedamanikkam
Mr. B.E.J. Fernando Mr. R. Warnapura

The overriding need for this year is to accommodate the budgets presented by the Water Polo and Swimming Coaches respectively for additional equipment, nutritional supplements etc. The combination of both budgets have exceeded Rs. 1mn, and daunting though the task maybe, the members of the committee are committed to raising this sum in order to develop aquatics in College.



MEETING THE ATHLETES PARENTS

TASU is of the opinion that the development of Aquatics in College cannot be achieved without the participation of the athlete's parents. Therefore a forum was arranged in February 2009 at the College Hall in order to introduce TASU to the parents and to encourage them to be involved in areas such as team spirit and nutrition.

FUND RAISING

TASU has intimated requests for assistance to Old Boys Associations in the United Kingdom, United States of America, Australia, Dubai and Sri Lanka in its efforts to furnish the funds required to meet the requirements of the Thomian Aquatic Program. However, given the current economic situation world over, TASU will also be organizing fund raising efforts through the organization of events locally to augment whatever funds are collected through sponsors, well wishers and Old Thomians.

As such, the event organizing arm of TASU, Blue Wave Incorporated. has organised a Beach Party dubbed '2Xtreme' which is scheduled to be held on the 4th of April 2009 at the La Voile Blanche Beach Lounge. The La Voile Blanche is an exclusive location which has earned a name for itself as the quintessential Beach Event setting. The owner is an Old Thomian who has graciously given us the location free of charge in this effort.

Tickets to this event will be available at the OTSC, La Voile Blanche, The Royal Jordanian AirLines Office opposite Thurstan and other selected locations which will be publicized in the near future. (see attached poster)

Further to the above, TASU also plans to approach Old Boys to assist by becoming members of TASU for a onetime fee of Rs 2500/-. The benefits are not in gaining any facilities or privileges but rather the gratification of knowing that you have ensured the continuation of the fine tradition of producing outstanding Sportsmen at S Thomas' College.

COLLEGE AQUATICS PARTICIPATION IN 2009

<u>Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Union Novices Championships – 19/2/2009 – 21/2/2009</u> S. Thomas' College placed second overall with a cumulative score of 144 points.

Sri Lanka Schools Association Novices – 26/2/2009 – 28/2/2009

S. Thomas' College placed second overall with a cumulative score of 104 points.

<u>Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Union Age Group Relay Championships – 7/3/2009</u> S. Thomas' College placed first overall with a cumulative score of 154 points.

TASU feels that the athletes and coaches should be commended for their effort and determination which has made it possible for the S Thomas' College Swim Team to bring the Relay Championship trophy back to College after an absence of 7 years.

All the above meets are of restricted entry where each school is allowed a maximum amount of entrants to level the playing field. As such their victory is a clear indication that the Aquatics Team has no lack of skill and needs only to be sufficiently motivated and have the correct training apparatus to take College back to its days of Aquatics supremacy.



AGE GROUP RELAY CHAMPIONS 2009



Kneeling(L-R)- Kinuka Kandanarachchi, Joshua Thanjeratnam, Anam Sourjah, Randev David, Dinal Dias, Philip Joshua, Dillon, Shevan Ebenezer

Seated(L-R)- Eranga Fernado(Swimming coach, Snr. Squad), Enoch Jayasundara, Darith de Silva (Captain), Mr.Nesaseelan(Master-in-Charge), halith Peris(Vice Captain), Chanuka Perera, Kumara Senaweera(Swimming Coach, Jnr. Squad)

Standing 1st row (L-R)- Vinosh Fernando, Isuru Kahadawala, Shanel Sahabandu, Jonathan Thanjeratnam, Piyal, Ryan Mahegoda, Kumarasinhge, Shanon Ebenezer, Cassim

Standing 2nd row (L-R)- Ashane Francis, Sachitha Jayathilake, Mevan Induruwa, Aqeel Sourjah, Sean Gunesekara, Virendra Perera, Deelaka Weeraratne, Lolitha Degambada, Keshan Munasinghe, Jineth Perera

Standing 3rd row- (L-R) - Naveen Goonewardene, Devshan de Mel, Hashaka Senanayake, Dineth Francis, Yuvin Wijesinghe, Pruthvi Peris, Sachin Indrakumar, Irfath Shabdeen, Arnold Fernanday

Standing 4th row- Dilan Goonewardene, Arjun de Alwis, Shehan Setunga, Norwich Paranavithana, Jaliya Gunethilake, Savith Warnapura, Senitha Gunewardene



UP COMING SRI LANKA AQUATIC SPORTS UNION EVENTS

The following are events scheduled by the National Body, the Sri Lanka Aquatic Sports Union for the Months of April and May 2009. Dates of meets are subject to change at the discretion of SLASU, but will be notified where ever possible.

It would be considered an act of encouragement if Old Thomians could be present at such events, as this would be a boost of confidence for the present boys.

April

National Short Course Swimming Championships – 2/4/2009 – 4/4/2009 Venue – Hillwood College, Kandy

Mandatory Selection Trials for Asian Youth Games – 23/4/2009 – 24/4/2009 Venue – Sugathadasa Aquatic Facility

<u>May</u>

Under 20 Water Polo Championships – 2/5/2009 Venue – Police Sports Club Swimming Pool

Pentathlon Swimming Championships – 15/5/2009 – 16/5/2009 Venue - Sugathadasa Aquatic Facility

We hope that the information contained within this e – newsletter has been of some value to you as an Old Thomian and will strive to bring such information to you on a bi-monthly basis.

TASU, in keeping with its motto "Invictus Ab Aqua" is wholly committed to supporting the College Aquatics Program towards the day when S Thomas' College, Mount Lavinia is once again "Invincible in Water".

Please feel free to contact TASU for information or comments at tasu.sec@gmail.com





