WOMENS ARTISTIC REPORT 2015

Womens Artistic competition participation numbers increased again in 2015. In the first part of the year 63 gymnasts entered Compulsory Grades 5 - 1, 43 gymnasts entered National Grades 4 - 1, and 117 gymnasts qualified from their county competitions to enter our Club & Regional Grades finals. And in October 235 gymnasts entered our In Age, Out of Age, FIG and Challenge competition. This has put pressure of the number of judges required for each competition, with SRWTC now requiring a judge to be provided with every competition entry. Clubs have adjusted to this throughout the year and the majority of South clubs now have a qualified judge which can only benefit the club and their gymnasts as well as contributing to the smooth running of our competitions.

We also moved to online entry for the October competition following the training that BG provided. This enabled us to manage an unexpected high number of entries as we could see potential numbers of gymnasts and we were able to produce a draft running order and review the number of judges required before the closing date. It also enabled us to view coach’s qualifications, membership, DBS and Safeguarding status and prompted clubs to address any issues as they were unable to submit their entry until they had completed this.

Financially this year, the competitions that we have held have resulted in income of £16602.30 with costs of £11861.07 giving us a profit of £4741.23 which gives us a much stronger financial footing than previously.

The South has enjoyed both success at International and National Competitions both as a team and individually. The highlight of the year being Kelly Simm of Dynamo competing as part of the GB Womens Artistic team that qualified for Rio 2016 and won a bronze medal in the team competition. In addition Amelie Morgan of Slough Gymnastics Club won Compulsory Grade 1 and recently as a first year British Espoir finished 4th overall and won gold on beam, silver on vault & floor. Following the recent BG Age Group competition, Bryony Ludlow of De Mond Gymnastics Academy has also been selected for GB Development squad after finishing 4th overall in Level 3.

In order to build on these successes and support our South gymnasts and coaches working along the Compulsory Grade pathway and competing at National Challenge or British level, SRWTC re introduced South Region Squad in the second part of 2015 and held sessions bringing in guest coaches to provide additional support. The feedback received from these sessions has been really positive and we are in the process of selecting gymnasts for 2016. The first session has already been planned and the guest coach booked.

Performance Pathway camps due to be held in the South in October were cancelled and rearranged leading to our Planned Choreography workshop being rearranged to 2016.

We have also held the final Club Judge course of this current cycle resulting in 18 new qualified judges for the South ready for our competitions next year.

South Dates for 2016

16th & 17th April 2016 Compulsory & National Grades at Dynamo GC

24th April 2016 South Region Grades 6 – 1, at venue tbc

3rd July 2016 South Region Teams at Abingdon GC

24th & 25th September 2016 South Region Voluntary Levels In & OOA and Challenge & FIG, at venue tbc

Jayne Heathcote
Chair SRWTC