



School Gym Newsletter – Spring Term 2014



Number (2)

For anyone with an interest in the development of gymnastics in schools

✦ Editorial

Welcome to the spring copy of our BSGA newsletter. We said we would try to print one in each term and this is number two for the 2013/14 academic year.

I'm writing this just a few days after our newly introduced Milano Team national competition at Fenton Manor Stoke-on-Trent. The decision to allow two schools in each competition from each region/home country to enter proved a great success. Concerns about a poor audience for the secondary school competition on a school day proved unfounded. I was delighted to see a significant increase in the number of schools participating for the first time. Almost all secondary school teachers told us they welcomed their competition being held on a Friday.

Most of you will be aware that we have to move forward at present without the financial support we have traditionally received from British Gymnastics (BG). Our request to provide the competition programme within the BG 'Schools Offer' was rejected in late autumn, and with it, any financial support we would have received this year. We will continue to meet with BG in an attempt to resolve our different standpoints.

As a group of volunteers BSGA remains committed to supporting and growing school competitions and thanks the membership for its support. I apologise for the rising cost of competition entries. This is necessary in order to ensure we can independently sustain our activities.

The new sponsorship from Milano Pro-Sport is timely, thank you Neil.



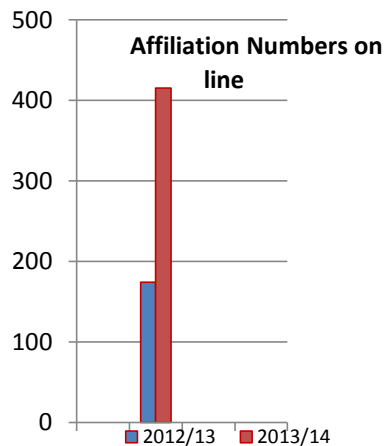
I Howard Todd (Chair)



The Royal Grammar School Newcastle Under 16 Boys Milano Team Champions

✦ Affiliation via Website

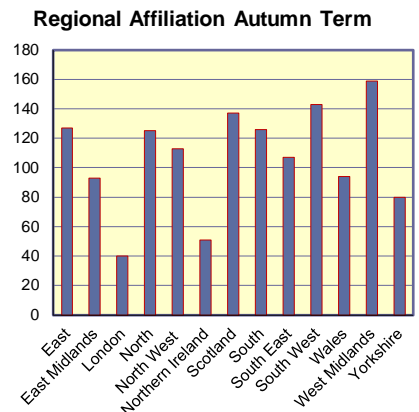
During the current year affiliation via our website has increased almost threefold. Overall the number of affiliations for 2013/14 is higher than last year but



we still have some distance to go to reach our 'stretch' target of 2000. The site has received a large number of 'hits' and is popular now for downloading competition rules and entry forms for both regional and national events

✦ Regional Affiliation Autumn Term

The figures in the graph below show the picture for all regional and home country affiliations during the autumn term.



As a special one-off, pupils wishing to perform in Gym Fest in June, (Display teams), will be allowed to affiliate **for this event only** at the special concessionary rate of £1.00

✦ Ollie Monro retires from South West Schools Committee

Ollie has served the South West Schools Trampoline section in a voluntary capacity for the last decade. He will be greatly

missed by all. Your commentary, (printed below), illustrates outstanding commitment and dedication to our sport. A big thank you Ollie for all you have done on behalf of schools.



"It is with a degree of sadness that I am retiring from being the South West Schools Trampoline Representative after December 2013. There have been several contributing factors that have gone into me making this decision, but after careful consideration I felt that it was time for someone else to take over.



I started organising the South West Schools Competitions in 2004 (which seems like yesterday), and I have had loads of fun and lots of great opportunities along the way.

I have had the honour of meeting and working with British / World / Olympic Trampoline gymnasts through my role as event organiser, including Laura Gallagher; 2013 World Championships Senior Ladies Team Champion (whose Mum Sarah Gallagher has been a long-time supporter of the SW Schools competition with Haygrove School), and Kat Driscoll; three time British Champion, 2012 Trampoline Olympian and Double World Champion at the 2013 World Championships (Senior Ladies Synchro and Team Champion).



Regional Milano Team Champions Under 11 Girls The South

I firmly believe that being involved in the Schools Championships and interacting with the various people involved in the organisation of trampolining nationally (both on the schools circuit and the national circuit) allowed me to take the step up to being the arena commentator for the British Championships – a role I have fulfilled every year since 2010. This role then lead directly to me being the arena commentator for the 2011 World Trampoline Championships – which was a fabulous honour and an outstandingly brilliant experience!!

December 2013 will be the last official schools event that I organise, which will mark 10 years of voluntary service in this role to the BSGA and the South West region. After this competition I will hand over the baton to Danny Anstey (from Zero Gravity Trampoline and Gymnastics Academy) who has stepped forward to take on the role. I will continue to support

him during this transition as he takes on his new position, and support him in moving the schools competition series into a new era of success.

I am so grateful for the opportunities that have come my way, and I want to thank everyone for their unwavering support of me in the various roles that I have



fulfilled over the past decade and who have supported me throughout my time as the Trampoline Schools Representative. This thanks is directed especially towards my dedicated team of helpers from Axis Trampoline Club, my friends and family and particularly my ever understanding wife without whose generous support I could not have run these events over the past 10 years.....their service and dedication amazes me every year, and for this I am eternally grateful.

I will still be active on both the regional, national and schools circuits, so hope to see as many of you at these events as I can.
Very best bouncy regards to all in sport,
Oilly :)

Regional Grants allocated

The South West, North West, North and West Midlands were all successful in their applications for a **£500** grant to engage new schools in BSGA competitions.



Results from the Milano Team Competition 7th & 8th March

Scores from the winning teams and regions are published here. You can download a full set of the results from the website www.bsga.org

Milano Regional Teams Results

Under 16 Male	G	South East	216.350
	S	West Midlands	215.110
	B	North	213.990
Under 16 Mixed	G	North	217.900
	S	South	217.240
	B	North West	213.810
Under 16 Female	G	South East	229.782
	S	South	225.998
	B	Scotland	225.849
Under 11 Male	G	North	210.313
	S	West Midlands	205.249
	B	South	203.982
Under 11 Mixed	G	London	218.850
	S	West Midlands	213.540
	B	East	209.710
Under 11 Female	G	South	220.200
	S	London	218.150
	B	South East	215.250



Milano School U 16 Girls Team Champions
Tonbridge Grammar School

Milano School Teams Results

Under 16 Male	G	Newcastle RGS	111.980
	S	St John's	110.560
	B	Walton le Dale	110.360
Under 16 Mixed	G	Chalfont C Col.	111.560
	S	Newcastle RGS	109.720
	B	Knutsford	108.900
Under 16 Female	G	Tonbridge GS	114.899
	S	Tormead	114.883
	B	Streatham & Clap	113.816
Under 11 Male	G	Chalfont St Peter	106.050
	S	Coppice	105.616
	B	Upperby	105.230
Under 11 Mixed	G	Hornsby House	111.160
	S	Coppice	109.860
	B	Woodmansterne	107.690
Under 11 Female	G	Maltman's Green	112.050
	S	Bute House	110.000
	B	Ysgol Pencae	109.250

Milano Team National Finals 2014

The inaugural Milano Team National Final had many 'firsts' throughout the weekend: the first ever BSGA competition sponsored by Milano Pro Sport; the first time fourteen new schools had taken part in a Schools National Final; the first time that schools had had their scores added together to give a regional total in every category; the first time that part of the competition had been held on a Friday and my first time as a commentator/ announcer!

Whatever you may think of the latter (lol) I thought that the two days of competition was an outstanding success, conducted within a very friendly, stress free and warm - in all sense of the word - environment! The emailing of music prior to the competition, to Sue Hemus, for which grateful thanks must be offered for this very time consuming task, helped enormously towards the smooth running of the competition over the two days. (Please remember to email your music for the School Gym National Finals before 3rd May.)

It was fantastic to see so many new schools at this event, showing the strength in depth within our regions and hopefully encouraging them to work together as a team in the future. Friday's senior competition proved to be popular with schools and the audience alike, proving the prestige that secondary Head Teachers give to a BSGA British Championships, allowing their examination pupils to compete on a school day!

From my position as announcer I had a great perspective on the running of the whole competition, and one of the things I would like to improve upon is the 'marching in' of the gymnasts for each round. If you have any gymnasts who would be willing to be marshals for the day in May, in order to help me choreograph a less haphazard entrance to each round, thus providing a more professional display to the audience, then please contact me.

Thank you to Neil Fox for his generous sponsorship and I look forward to the next Milano Team Championships in 2015. I throw a challenge to each region, to encourage your boys' teams and let's try to have every region with a full entry! Go on, you know you want to!!

Vicki

The Future of the Milano Team Competition

Although the event was a huge success we are keen to improve further. Ideas for next year include a prize for the school that designs the best banner. The banners will then be displayed around the room to add colour to the performance arena. Together with the support of our sponsors we have other ideas to improve the staging of this prestigious competition. Please let us know if there are other ways we can improve.

Gym Fest 2014 "The Commonwealth" Fenton Manor June 14th and 15th

At the time of going to print there were still some spaces for performers. Please see the advert below and contact Vicki if you are interested, but move quickly.



The poster for Gym Fest 2014 features a colorful sunburst graphic at the top. Below it, the BSGA logo is on the left, and the text 'Gym Fest 2014' is in a large, colorful font. The theme is 'The Commonwealth'. The text asks if schools would like to be part of the first BSGA festival, offering an opportunity to meet old friends, make new ones, and perform in a relaxed and enjoyable atmosphere. It provides a link to the BSGA website for downloading an entry form and details. Contact information for Vicki is provided: 01948 710390 or 07808 687357 vickigym@hotmail.co.uk. The event is on June 14th and 15th 2014 at Fenton Manor Stoke-on-Trent. A note says '(Limited space so please book early to avoid disappointment!)'.

If you would like to enter there is an application form on the website under the competitions tab. www.bsga.org /Competitions

Music download for national finals

Following the successful pilot last year, all

schools gaining a place in Floor and Vault or Acrobatics finals will be required to email their competitors music in attached files to the new music controller.

sueh54@me.com This approach will speed up the event and avoid problems often experienced using discs. You will still be required to bring discs for back-up purposes.



Milano School U 16 Mixed Team Champions
Chalfont Community College

Trampoline National Finals

This is the next national final in the BSGA calendar. The event is being held at **Gateshead Leisure Centre** in the North region on **Saturday 22nd March**. Our thanks and appreciation to **Emma Horsham** for her willingness to take on the organisation of this very busy day of 'bouncing'.

Leading up to the final there has already been a series of regional events followed by three zonal finals, one each to cover the North, South and Central regions including Wales and Northern Ireland. This is a measure of the numbers involved and consequently the standards spectators can expect to see in Gateshead. We acknowledge the help received from all regions and from **Chris Edwards, Karen Gent and Sam James** for running the zonal events.

✦ Disability opportunities

Progress with introducing a disability section into our competitions is slow. Is there anyone out there with specialist interest and knowledge that can help with this?

✦ BSGA AGM Important date change

BSGA AGM

IN AN ATTEMPT TO ATTRACT MORE PEOPLE WE ARE HOLDING THE BSGA AGM ON THE SATURDAY EVENING OF THE WEEK-END OF THE ACRO TUMBLING AND FLOOR AND VAULT (SCHOOL GYM) FINALS IN STOKE. IT WILL BE HELD AT FENTON MANOR GREEN ROOM IMMEDIATELY AFTER THE PRESENTATION ON SATURDAY

✦ Diary Dates

22 March BSGA
Trampoline National
Final Gateshead Leisure
Centre



10 May BSGA **Rhythmic** National Final
Windsor High School Halesowen

10 May BSGA **AGM** Stoke-on-Trent

10 MAY BSGA **Acro Tumbling and Floor
and Vault** National Final Fenton Manor

11 MAY BSGA **Acro Tumbling and Floor
and Vault** National Final Fenton Manor



Milano School U 11 Mixed Team Champions
Hornsby House

14 JUNE **GymFest** Fenton Manor Day 1

15 JUNE **GymFest** Fenton Manor Day 2

Trampoline Competition Review Meeting

A meeting has been planned for all trampoline representatives on the week-end of 10th-11th May at the Gala in Coventry. Unfortunately we are unable to avoid the clash of dates with the BSGA AGM.



Milano School U 11 Boys Team Champions
Chalfont St Peter

✦ BSGA T Shirts.

The ever popular T Shirts are now back in stock in all child and adult sizes. Give me a call if you would like to place an order.



Alternatively they can be purchased from the BSGA shop at any of the main national competitions during the year. Child £6.50 Adult £7.50 plus postage and packing.

✦ England Schools Gymnastics



BSGA supports the re-establishment of the English Schools Association. ESGA became inactive and has remained dormant since the introduction of BSGA in 1982). The recently formed English Gymnastics Board is keen to work with schools and

has included a schools representative on the board. I would like to hear from any teacher who shares my passion for the sport and who would be interested in joining a steering committee. I would envisage the group meeting just three times during the school year. (Once in each term), - Please contact: ihowardtodd@yahoo.com Thanks to **Becky Hoult, Michelle Hadley, Cairine Cranfield Thompson, Carole Foote and Ruth Chapman** for the interest already shown



✦ Please give us your feedback

BSGA needs to hear your suggestions on how we might improve our national events and our communication. Please email us with your thoughts and contributions for the summer edition of the newsletter.

Log onto our website for regular updates and all results www.bsga.org

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