

NEWSLETTER

FEBRUARY 2019



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MEMBER OF THE MONTH

CHRIS TAYLOR

Last month, one of the most iconic and experienced members of the men’s first team announced that he had played his last game for Bristol in National League.

After 8 seasons as a key member of the team he will now focus on his family and professional career. Having represented Wales in 3 commonwealth games, Chris has been at the pinicle of British waterpolo for many years. He was instrumental in the success of 2011 and 2013, where Bristol won British Champs and even entered the European stage.

Feared for his counter-attacks and goal-scoring ability (specially his famous back-hands) he even became the top goalscorer in Div. 1 during the 2011 season with 62 goals.

How and why did you start playing waterpolo?

I started playing at age 11 because my dad played.

Do you remember your first international game?

First senior international game was against Portugal, age 20. I was on the post and a rebound landed in front of me on the man up. I just pushed it across the line. The celebration however was epic!

How about your first game for Bristol?

My first game for Bristol was in Manchester in 2011.

What did you feel when you won British champs?

Winning British champs is the best feeling ever. I remember Carl was in France skiing and Charlie Hinder and I phoned him on loud speaker and sang ‘we are the champions’ by queen all the way through to him then hung up!

What is your best memory/anecdote playing waterpolo?

Scoring a dozen goals in the 2014 commonwealths, winning British champs, playing in the Europeans against players like Gabor Kiss, Hosnyanszky and Georgescu. And any time I score a backhand.

And your worst one?

Slipping 3 discs in my neck playing against invicta in 2015.

Whats the key to getting so many counter attacks going?

1. Swim every day.
2. Cut up the defender when you start off.
3. I have always found a vertical defender and a grabable elbow very useful, lol.
4. Train your legs hard to be able to jump and steel.
5. Don't stop keep going till you get to the goal.

What is you advice for any young players reading this?

Swim every day out side of waterpolo practice. I wish I'd done more when I was younger and had the time.

We'll still see you around playing for Newport, right?

Will be playing for Newport but will always be a friend to the club.

From the club we want to thank him for his amazing contribution and wish him the best in the future. You will always remain a member of the City of Bristol water polo family!

NEWSFLASH

With two games left in the National League season, the men have secured **Div. 2 water polo next season**, and will now fight for the title against Watford in a game that could be an abslute thriller.

The ladies also had a productive National League weekend where they **remain in contention for promotion** to the top division.

NAGs got under way and our U17 **achieved access to the Cup Qualification round** later this month in Northampton.

LADIES



STILL IN CONTENTION FOR PROMOTION

After a hard first weekend, our ladies were determined to stay in the fight for top division next year.

Playing the struggling Mid Sussex Marlins first, the girls faced a really tense first half, ahead by only one goal after several lead changes. After swapping sides, Bristol scored twice more unansweared and started to pull away. They kept going in control of the score line and ended wining 15-11.

The second game, against Tydesley, started in a very similar fashion, several lead changes and a 5-4 score line at half time. This time Bristol were on the back foot, but they stayed in it. With under 2 minutes to go, the equaliser came, and Bristol managed to secure a point to remain in the mathematical hunt for promotion. With just two games left they are two points behind Leeds, team they will face next.



MEN



DIV. 2 GUARANTEED, EYE ON THE TITLE

Worthing beat Watford before Bristol played, opening the chance to secure Div. 2 next year and even win the title.

First off, they faced Penguin. After a somewhat slow start they got going and led by one goal at the half, 5-4. The lead would only get bigger after one of the Penguin playerss got done for a brutality. With the game under control, the teams traded goals for the final quarter. In the end, another win to become the only unbeaten side in the league.

On Sunday, the top 3 spot had to be secured against Croydon. Nothing was left to chance and with a 7-1 score line in the first quarter the game was already in the bag. Only slowing down their push in the third quarter, the game ended with a solid 19-7 win and the acomplishment of the goal for the second phase. Now, the sight is on the title.

JUNIORS



THROUGH TO THE CUP QUALIFICATION IN NAGS

The competition started off with a commanding win against Cwm Draig. Next our boys struggled to get going against Nova Centurion, side that would eventually win the group. The team bounced back, to get a hard fought win over Caledonia. This would prove crucial to get them qualified, as Sheffield edged over the team coached by Jack Tod in the final game.

All in all, a great effort from the Bristol U17's to see them through to the Cup Qualification round, comfortably avoiding being dropped into the Plate Competition.

RESULTS

MEN

BWPL CHAMP 2

16th

Bristol

17

12

Penguin

17th

Bristol

19

7

Croydon

P

W

D

L

GD

Pts

1

Bristol

5

5

0

0

38

10

2

Worthing

5

4

0

1

12

8

3

Watford

5

4

0

1

18

8

B&W BRISTOL

Premier Division

P

W

D

L

GD

Pts

1

Bristol

0

0

0

0

0

0

2

Newport

0

0

0

0

0

0

3

Chelten

0

0

0

0

0

0

B&W BARBARIANS

Division 1

P

W

D

L

GD

Pts

1

Barbarians

0

0

0

0

0

0

2

C. Draig

0

0

0

0

0

0

3

Swindon

0

0

0

0

0

0

B&W HARLEQUINS

Division 2

P

W

D

L

GD

Pts

1

Harlequins

0

0

0

0

0

0

2

Bradford

0

0

0

0

0

0

3

Bath Uni

0

0

0

0

0

0

LADIES

JUNIORS

NAGs U17						B&W BRISTOL Junior Division 1						B&W BRISTOL II Junior Division 2					
23rd	Bristol	16	2	C.Draig													
23rd	Nova C.	6	1	Bristol													
23rd	Bristol	9	5	Caledonia													
23rd	Bristol	5	7	Sheffield													
		P	W	D	L	GD	Pts				P	W	D	L	GD	Pts	
2	Sheffield	4	3	0	1	10	6		1	Bristol	0	0	0	0	0	0	
3	Bristol	4	2	0	2	11	4		2	Devonport	0	0	0	0	0	0	
4	Caledonia	4	1	0	3	-6	2		3	W. Wand	0	0	0	0	0	0	

MARCH 2019

MON

TUE














WED

THU

FRI

SAT

SUN

				 Harlequins @ Bath Uni		
25	26	27	28	1	2	3
					 Otter @ Grantham	 Watford @ Grantham
4	5	6	7	8	9  Leeds @ Liv'pool	10  Liv'pool @ Liv'pool
			 Barbarians vs C.Draig		 NAGs U17 @ Northampton	 NAGs U17 @ Northampton
11	12	13	14  Harlequins vs Newport	15	16	17  Juniors II vs C.Draig
	 Ladies @ Welsh W.		 Barbarians vs Swindon			 Barbarians @ Weston
18	19	20	21  Harlequins vs Bath Uni	22	23	24
			 Barbarians vs Devonport			
25	26	27	28	29	30	31