

Herts ASA Disability Development Day

The 2nd Herts ASA Disability Development Day, part of the Herts Coach Education Week held at the Herts Sports Village in Hatfield, took place on Saturday 18th February.



Herts ASA Disability Development Day 18/02/2012

Thirty-two teachers and coaches attended the day where Michelle Weltman, lead coach for the London Disability Swim Squad, tutored the 'Integrating Disabled swimmers into a mainstream coaching environment' and Jane Wilson tutored the workshop 'Working with children with educational difficulties'. Michele then led the practical session in the evening.



Dervis Konuralp motivational talk

In between the workshops and the practical session Dervis Konuralp, paralympian bronze medallist came along and talked to the swimmers, parents, teachers and coaches about his experiences and achievements. Dervis has represented Great Britain at four Paralympic Games, three World Championships and four European Championships. Dervis, who has so far won 35 International medals including 14 gold, is visually impaired, swimming in the S13 classification, for visual impaired athletes, where he is also a record holder.

Dervis also took part in the pool session showing his swimming skills and then helped with the coaching. The poolside session offered an opportunity for the qualified teachers and coaches to further develop their teaching and coaching skills with the disabled athletes.



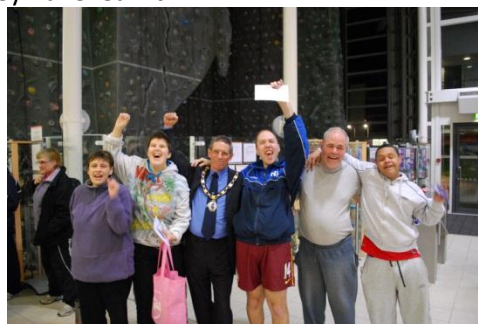
Dervis Konuralp, Grace Harvey

At the close of the day the twenty-five swimmers who took part in the practical skills session were all presented with a certificate, swimming hat and pen by Charles Dainton, Herts ASA President.



Chris Williamson and Charles Dainton, Herts ASA President

Carl Cooper, Playground to Podium officer said "The day was a great success, it not only gives those swimmers who have a disability whether physical, sensory or learning, the opportunity to take part and have a clearer idea of the pathway's available to them to take part in swimming, it also offers teachers and coaches the opportunity to increase their knowledge and then put into practice what they have learnt."



Sharon Mann, Tara Phillips, Charles Dainton, James Green, Jeff Saggs, Joel Weeks