



# Winter Masters

## Media release for Southampton Diving Academy

Southampton Diving Academy's Masters Squad demonstrated their increasing impact on the national scene when they competed at the Great Britain Diving Federation (GBDF) Winter Masters Championships in Manchester on 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> November.

Coming back with 2 gold, 3 silver and 3 bronze medals between them, the team gave a good account of themselves in a competition that had attracted a wide field.

The most successful members of the team were Tony Hunter and Taz Hollingum, who both came away with gold in their age groups. In addition Taz picked up the silver medal in the men's "hat" competition (where dives are selected for the competitor to perform).

Tony took his gold over 32 points ahead of the silver position, clearly showing his dominance in his age group on the national scene.

Taz dived well to secure his medals, particularly considering his recent lack of training due to a back injury.

Ian Hammond surprised the team with a more than usually outstanding performance especially in the "hat" competition, taking a bronze medal in his individual event, 12<sup>th</sup> in synchro with team mate Terry Boyce and 8<sup>th</sup> in the "hat" competition.

Terry, competing in his first Winter Masters, missed out on a medal in his individual event, finishing 4<sup>th</sup>. Unfortunately he had the same dive selected twice in the "hat" competition, which he had never attempted before! Refusing to be daunted he nonetheless performed the move, gaining him 16<sup>th</sup> place in a field of 22.

Sarah Bayless also competed an untrained dive in her individual event and scored well. Her scores are rising steadily due to hard work and determination. She was somewhat hampered during the event by the loss of a contact lens but didn't allow this to prevent her competing.

Ben Toner has put in some excellent groundwork to consolidate and improve on his diving in general. As a result he came away with a silver medal, which was well deserved.

Coach, Chris Jenkins, was delighted with the results. "The whole team is performing really well," she said. "They are looking forward to an excellent season next year and we are now planning to work towards the Europeans in the summer."

### Full results:

#### Individual 1m springboard

Sam Youles, silver;  
Tony Hunter, gold;  
Ian Hammond, bronze;  
Terry Boyce, 4<sup>th</sup>;  
Sarah Bayless, 9<sup>th</sup>;  
Taz Hollingum, gold;  
Ben Toner, silver;  
Daniel Rechert, bronze



### **Synchro**

Taz Hollingum & Ben Toner, 7<sup>th</sup>;  
Sarah Bayless & Sam Youles, 10<sup>th</sup>;  
Terry Boyce & Ian Hammond, 12<sup>th</sup>

### **Hat competition**

Sam Youles, 4<sup>th</sup>;  
Sarah Bayless, 11<sup>th</sup>;  
Taz Hollingum, silver;  
Ben Toner, bronze;  
Daniel Rechert, 7<sup>th</sup>;  
Ian Hammond, 8<sup>th</sup>;  
Terry Boyce, 16<sup>th</sup>

**ENDS**

**For further details call the Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser: 023 8072 0922.**

**Please note photo opportunities can be arranged.**