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CLISSOLD SUCCESS

Borough swimming club make big strides and earn accreditation

IT HAS been a hugely successful year for Clissold Swimming club, who, have earned the Swim 21 Accreditation, won the national Arena Gala for Hackney and doubled their membership in 2009.

The seven-to-17-year-old swimmers have achieved success, finishing fifth in the North London Graded League and third in the East London Mini League. The masters swimmers have also done well, representing the club in Galas with an 'Open' section.

The highlight of the year was to swim in the Arena League, a national competitive swim league. Best of all, they won the final gala in the Arena series, at home, at Clissold Leisure Centre on Saturday, December, 12.

As the intermediate scores were announced, no more than five points separated the top three clubs, in a nail-biting final.

In the end, all of the swimmers, both age group and masters, swam out of their skins to finish 20 points clear of Clissold's nearest rival, with many of them achieving personal bests along the way.

This year also saw the club achieve Swim 21 status, representing formal ASA swimming club accreditation.

The next 12 months promises to be another exciting year as more of the younger swimmers come to an age where they too can begin to compete, and there are some really talented youngsters coming through.



Smile please: Isabella Rose (left), Lucy Shaw (middle) and Rachel Zerdin (right)

Rob Kinch, chair of Clissold Swimming Club was delighted with what the club have achieved this year.

"Clissold Swimming Club is managed by volunteers, we use five pools and run swimming, diving, water polo and masters swimming programmes. This last year has seen an amazing upturn in the club's activities and positions earned in galas," he said, before turning his eye to the Games which

take place in London in 2012.

"The future for our swimmers leading up to the Olympics looks good."

Clissold Swimming Club is still looking for new members in both age group and masters sections. If you're interested in getting involved in swimming, diving or water polo give the club call on 07891 880781 or check out the website at www.clissoldswimmingclub.org