



# Memo

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## Annual report Tumbling Gymnastics – 2009/2010

Craig Lowther – National Coach 9<sup>th</sup> September 2010

In tumbling this year we have had considerable success on the International front.

In the World Championships in St Petersburg Russia both Men's and Woman's Team qualified for the finals, as well as individual finals. On this Occasion we were unlucky not to come away with Medals since we were 4<sup>th</sup> in the finals for both Teams events and Individual.

In the Age Group week that followed the Seniors World Championships of the 3 disciplines Trampoline DMT Tumbling was the most Successful in the Age Group Competition we finaled in 7 out of the 8 age Groups;

11-12 Boys 1 finalists 7<sup>th</sup> Overall

11-12 Boys 2 Finalist World Age Group Champion and 4<sup>th</sup>

13-14 Boys 2 Finalist Silver Medal and a 4<sup>th</sup>

13-14 Girls 2 finalists 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>

15-16 Girls 1 finalist joint 3<sup>rd</sup> in score 4<sup>th</sup> on count back

17 + Boys 1 finalist 4<sup>th</sup> Overall

17 + Girls 2 Finalist 1 World Age Group Champion and 4<sup>th</sup> Overall

In this World Age Group Championships Great Britain kept its tradition by winning a World Title we have now won titles at the following events;

2001, 2003, 2005 Eindhoven [NED], 2007 Quebec [CAN], 2009 St Petersburg [RUS].

The British Tournament was straight after the Worlds and Age Group championships and gave a great opportunity for clubs and tumblers to have a chance of winning medals at this competition due to the fact that they were no performers from the Worlds and Age Group championships. It had the desired affect with a multitude of clubs gaining medals.

In April the European Championships took place in Varna, [BUL]. Due to the volcanic disruption and the flight restrictions, a land journey of 57 hour was made.



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Preparation was good, as well as training camp in Wakefield. GBR had a very young Junior Girls Team, the youngest in the competition, and without exception the target was to make a final in the Team and Individuals, and to push for a medal. The girls were fantastic and stepped up their game to qualify in 2<sup>nd</sup> as a team with two in the finals.

In the Finals the girls were in a determined mood and had a terrific performance in the Team final to take the European Junior Title. GBR have held this title now since 2004, [2006, 2008, and 2010].

In the Individual section two girls were outstanding; Luice Colbeck age 13, took the European Silver Medal and performed the hardest skill in the Junior ranks, Full in Full out and given her age has two more Championships that she is eligible for, which bodes well for GBR.

The Junior Boys Team was very strong, assembled from four clubs. The boys were fantastic in the preliminaries qualifying in 2<sup>nd</sup> as a team with two in the finals. In the Team final it was a straight fight between GBR and RUS with Russia taking the title by 0.1 of a mark in front of GBR who took Silver, our highest finish for Junior Boys team.

In the Individual Shaun Gregory and Jordan Lucas were fantastic. Shaun took the European title with the hardest Junior Run of the competition; Round-off whip full full tucked 3 whips flick triple tuck. Jordan was unlucky to miss out on the medal in the 4<sup>th</sup> place.

In the Senior Woman's team event all the girls were from Wakefield Gym Club. Again it was a straight fight between RUS and GBR. The girls put a great fight to take the Team Silver Medal and with in the finals finishing 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> respectively in the finals.

The difference between taking gold now is that the GBR girls are at university and holding down several part time jobs as well as training, so taking this into account the results achieved by GBR are that much more impressive.

This year we had the British Championships in July with the Trampoline and DMT. It was a first experience and good preparation for the Tumblers. Preceding the British Championships there were two qualifications competitions, at Andover and Wakefield where gymnasts had to attain set scores to qualify and automatic qualification from the Worlds or European gymnasts. The gymnasts looked at their best within a big arena and there were some great results from this.

By comparison to TRA and DMT, Tumbling had a qualification system that gave only elite performances at the British Championships.



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As a format there were some teething problems between the disciplines on the organisation and logistics which will need to be addressed for next year.

This year tumbling have not attended any of the World Cup series based on cost. If funding can be centrally found to support the coaches to attend, it may be possible for the gymnasts to self fund to attend these invaluable competitions pre World Championships, Birmingham November 2011.

With the cost of the National Squads we have reverted back to southern and northern squads and we are holding them at venues that are a] suitable and b] do not have a venue hire.

The NDP's were a resounding success and had a record entry across the board. The Tumble League competitions are also growing year on year.

Looking forward we have the last trial for the World Championships and World Age Group at Wakefield on 2<sup>nd</sup> October.

World and Age Groups in France in November.

I have worked with many gymnasts this year from the following clubs.

Andover, Basingstoke, Derby City, Deerness Valley, Deeside, Pinewood, Portsmouth, Richmond Southampton, Wakefield, Warrington and the Wirral at squads and / or club visits.

Coach Education: We have undertaken courses and had some practical session. Initially this is being rolled out on a small scale first.

Judging:

Once again internationally our judges have excelled and are a credit to the Country and a valuable part of the team.

The loss of Matei to retirement was of great personnel sadness to me, however I am looking forward to the new challenge ahead and excited at the prospect of teaming up with Steve and Martin.

Many Thanks goes to my Committee and the help from Judy and Sandra over the years.