

How the “Flypast” was won.

A break down on why it went so well for some teams and not so well for others.

It's May Day and four days since many current, and ex CHE swimmers, graced the Leamington pool to participate in what is being considered the greatest moment in CHE's distinguished history – so far.

From Jo's great idea the event progressed from a reunion of swimmers demonstrating that they can still remember how to swim butterfly (yet some bodies had trouble following the brain's orders!), to what ended up as a fiercely competitive relay race. Smiles, followed by aching limbs, were rewarded with refreshing beverages in the bar where many dived into the well-known swimmers ritual of figuring out what went wrong, when they had been assured that all the teams were equal. On this day we didn't have a certain person with us who could have told us in a blink of an eye who did what and where to improve, so here is an attempt to present the data so you can make your own mind up.

First and foremost Mrs. Relay had done a brilliant job in selecting the teams based on our swimmers 'ability to predict' their swim time for the 50m. In fact the time lapse between the 1st placed team and 6th was 13½secs, (less than a length), an incredible calculation when each team had 11 or 12 swimmers. But for some it wasn't quiet close enough!!!

Let's look at some interesting facts arising from the race...

Of 68 swimmers 35 were female with an average age of 34½, whilst the men's average age was 39½, one full masters category older!!!

Our two eldest swimmers were close to the top end of the 70-74 age group, you know who you are (Jenny and Keith), and we always want to know who our fastest swimmers are and that would be Georgina and Andrew Weedall.

But we can also determine who our most accurate (honest) swimmers are in terms of their ability to predict their personal time;-

Anne Bourne, who swam 0.12secs slower than her entry time, and Mat Silverton who swam 0.04secs slower than his, were the best in class. Well done guys. (If only we had all been so precise!)

But when you take a closer look at the performance of these 68 supreme athletes other remarkable feats come to the surface;-

Our average time for the two lengths dash was 35.25secs. That would qualify you for Men's 50m butterfly 40-44 category at the 2013 European Masters Championships.

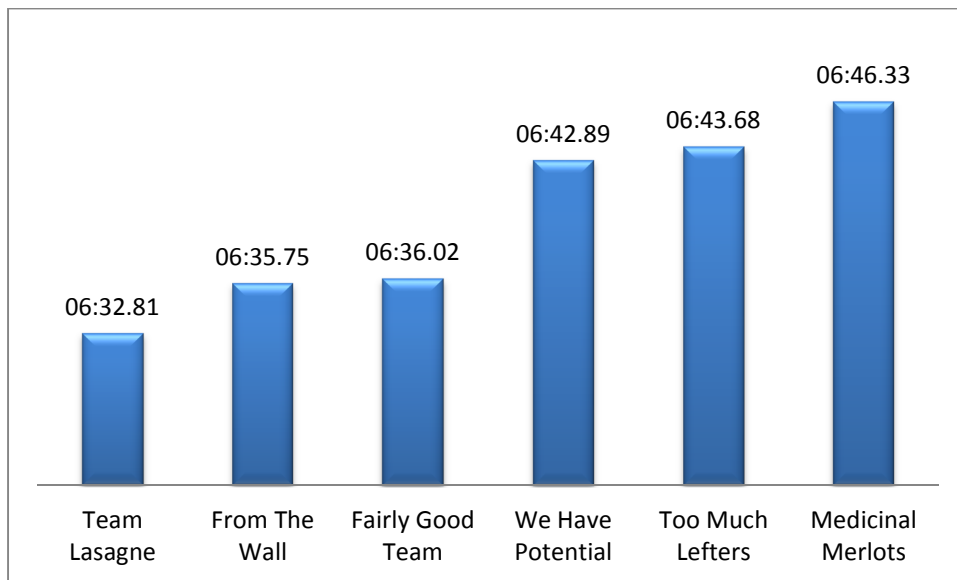
The total average speed was 1.4 metres per second, or in old money 3.14 mph.

That's all well and good but I can hear the “Medicinal Merlots” asking;-

“so why didn't we win?”

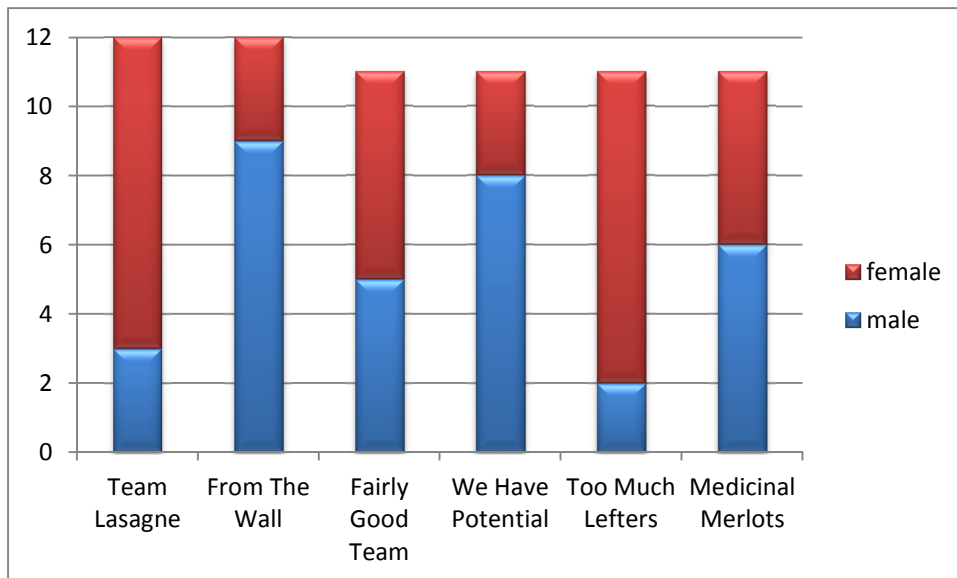
Read on and it may become clear....

Each team comprised of 11 swimmers with two exceptions; “Team Lasagne” and “From the Wall” had one extra swimmer resulting in two team members swimming 25m each with a “dive” take-over!!



Should they have started in the water???

“Men are stronger than women” – not true. See the team’s breakdown below, male vs. female.

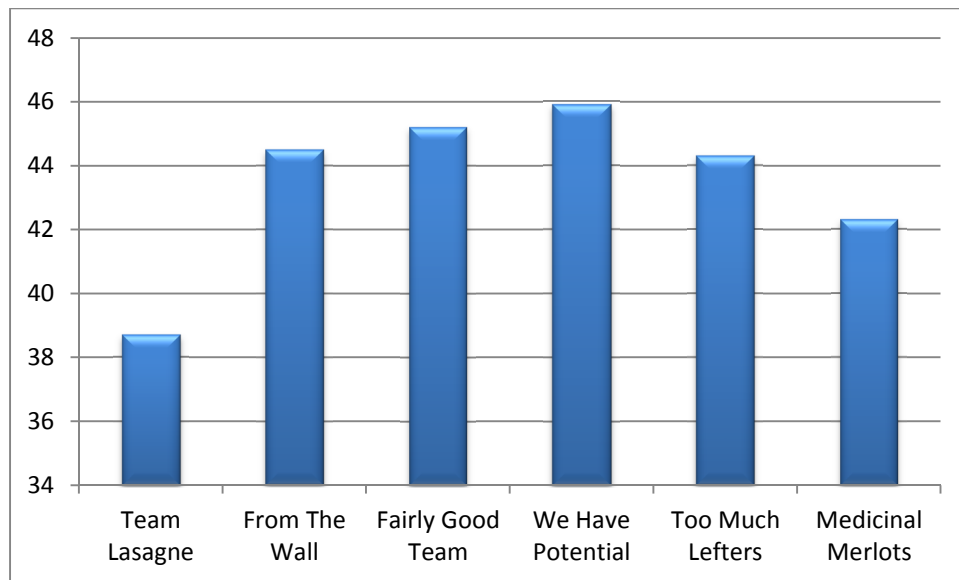


So how did Team Lasagne win?

Of the many Gerry quotes remembered, and repeated, my particular favourite was;-

“Where there’s youth there’s hope”

Here is the average age of each team...



I think I will leave it there, thank you and God bless you all...

Craig – “Team Lasagne” Captain for the day. CHE swimmer for life.