

ESSA Schools Water Polo Report

ESSA WATER POLO TOUR 2022 – BOYS REPORT

EVENT: ESSA SUMMER TOUR SZENTES, HUNGARY

DATES: 25-30th October 2022

NAME: Colin Walsh

STAFF:

Team Manager: Terri Halstead

Head Coach: Tim Dunsbee

Assistant Coach: Sarah Dunsbee

PLAYERS:

1. Felix Monaghan
2. Tom Davis
3. Harry Leeke
4. Fintan Lynch
5. Harrison Walsh
6. Henry Broadhurst
7. Sam Leveridge
8. Louie McKie
9. Rob Bentham
10. Indy Nash
11. Sam Fitzsimons
12. Matt Williams
13. Leo Hewitt
14. Kian Kniveton
15. Christian Pauling



Coaches Information

Preparation: via the Swim England National squad. 2 x 1-day camps helped between selection and travelling out. The 2006 boys go to the European Qualifiers in March and this training camp was an excellent opportunity provided by ESSA to play good quality international opposition.

Game Results

Match 1 – ESSA 15–9 BVSC

Match 2 - ESSA 6-24 Szentes – 2004 age group Locatelli Club

Match 3 - ESSA 12-11 Szentes – 2006, same age group

Match 4 – ESSA Szentes – Mixed age group – conditional matches

Coach's comments:

The Trip was a great success for the boys' team and provided the players with valuable match experience for their future programme with our partners at England Water Polo. The environment was perfect for what we wanted. We had 5 training sessions and 4 matches. The initial games were tough and a steep learning curve. However, the boys quickly bonded and took on board the tactics and skills coached in the early morning sessions, which culminated in the players beating the Szentes players of the same age. Conditional games were played on the fourth day which demonstrated all of the skills learned over the course of the camp. All games were challenging and thus provided valuable experience to the players. Great improvements were made throughout the week.

All the boys were very well behaved and were a real credit to ESSA. The boys were incredibly respectful to our hosts, the facilities, officials, team management and the other teams.

Terri Halstead Team Manager

Tim Dunsbee Lead Coach

Sarah Dunsbee Assistant Coach

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ESSA WATER POLO TOUR 2022- GIRLS REPORT

EVENT: ESSA TOUR SZENTES, HUNGARY

DATES: 24th-30th October 2022

NAME: Siobhan Barnes - TM

STAFF:

Team Manager: Siobhan Barnes

Head Coach: Matt Wright

Assistant Coach: Izzy Howe

PLAYERS:

1. Emily Mason
2. Isabella Balzarreti
3. Charlotte Pritchard
4. Anna Kilb
5. Becky Smith
6. Eve Barnes
7. Lilly Pryce
8. Lillie-Rose Standen
9. Laura Skelton
10. Amelia Brooksbank
11. Charlotte Turpin
12. Hannah Pyper
13. Flick Hughes
14. Isobel Baker
15. Nicole Kelly



Coaches Information

Preparation: via the Swim England National Academy camps. Two camps help between selection and travelling out. Many of the girls are in the final 12 months of a 3-year programme. This was an excellent opportunity provided by ESSA to play good quality international opposition.

Game Results

Match 1 - ESSA 8-18 Szentes

Match 2 - ESSA 10-17 Szentes

Match 3 - ESSA 12-8 Szentes

Coach's comments:

From a coach's perspective, we thought the camp was a big success, it allowed us to see the players in a different environment against experienced opposition who play at a faster pace and are more physical than we are used to in the UK. However, as the camp progressed, we adapted well, learning and growing as individuals and as a team, and by the end of the camp our performances matched the opposition. A particular highlight for the girls was we worked on implementing a driving game as we had no recognised centre forward, which we anticipated winning lots of major fouls and player up situations, and the conversation rate increased from match to match. Both sets of players and staff came away from the camp with a sense of achievement and we know the areas we need to work on going forward.

Captains Comments: Lilly Pryce – Captain, Eve Barnes – Vice-Captain

'Being in Hungary was a great experience to be in a different country as a team representing English Schools.'

'It gave us a good insight to how they play and allowed us to adapt our play in order to breakdown their systems.'

'It was a great opportunity to work together in and out of the pool and we have all grown a lot closer as a squad since being away together.'

'On behalf of the girls we would like to say thank you to everyone who organised and supported the trip and so allowed us to have this amazing opportunity!'

Matt Wright Head Coach

Izzy Howe Assistant Coach

Siobhan Barnes Team Manager