



Honorary Life Vice-President: John Tripp, Hart SC

John Tripp has been a 'Friend of Surrey' for many years. Although his "Home Affiliation" is via Hampshire ASA he has provided great service to Surrey, not just as an Official, but also for his regular attendance at our County Age Group Champs and his unwavering support of our trainee officials. He is always very happy to mentor, in particular, our Referee trainees and also provides opportunities for their final practical assessments. Without his support many of our Referees would not be at the level they are today.



John's biography shows that he has had contact with several of the old Southern Counties: born in Middlesex, spending his early years in Sunbury-on-Thames, learning to swim in, of all places, Staines, which but for a quirk of fate would be in Surrey for swimming purposes - but that is another story! His uncle swam for Kent, and he now lives in Hampshire.

Whilst not a strong swimmer himself, his three younger children all swam for Hart SC. One daughter also briefly swam for Guildford, which is how he came to the attention of the Surrey Officials' team. Like many Officials, one session spent in the gallery was one session too many. He happily became a timekeeper and, before he had time to think, was training as a Judge Level 1! He became a Referee in 2011 and has been an Officials trainer and Referee Course leader for Hampshire and South East Region.

John was pleased to be Chair of Hart SC and is now one of their Hon. Life Presidents. He was Hampshire County President during Covid, from 2019 to 2023 and South East Region President from 2022 to 2024. He is a member of Hampshire County Swimming Association Management Committee and advises on Risk Assessment and Health and Safety – he really is a Safety Officer!

John always enjoys officiating at meets, and in particular, mentoring trainees at any stage of their officiating career. He is a wise head and greatly respected by his peers. For his support to our County Officials and Competitions as a senior Official, John is a well-deserved nominee as an Honorary Life Vice-President.