

## THE BDWSA-a short history

The first gathering of disabled water skiers was organised by the late David Nations at Ruislip Lido Water ski club on 1st July 1978. Soon after, Tony Edge founded the British Disabled Water Ski Association. In 1981 Ready Mix Concrete allowed the B.D.W.S.A. to use this water and we named it Heron Lake because of our logo featuring a heron standing on one leg and designed by our late founder. Since then there has been constant development from caravans, containers and old portable buildings to our present purpose built buildings.

Originally the lake was dug out as a gravel pit but when the M25 was built clay for the motorway banks was taken from the pit with the result that the lake is now about 80 feet deep in most parts. The water keeping its level seeps through the surrounding gravel banks and is particularly clean. Heron Lake was sold to the North Surrey Water Company in 1995 and is now an emergency reservoir. Because of the charitable work we do for people with disabilities we are allowed to use it rent free.

In 1994 the vision of an accommodation block to make conditions easier for those who camped and to make access to the club easier for a larger number of people was first mooted. Months of negotiations, planning and tendering lead to the contract being awarded in early 1997. Members were consulted throughout to make the building as user friendly as possible without being too institutional. We hope we have succeeded! The building was opened in June 1997.

Today the club provides facilities to help those with a wide range of physical problems commencing with learning to water ski to training world class athletes. Your membership will help to fund these activities.



**BRITISH DISABLED  
WATER SKI  
ASSOCIATION**

**LEARNING TO SKI  
AT  
HERON LAKE**



**The National Centre  
British Disabled Water Ski Association  
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# WELCOME

Welcome to Heron Lake and learning to ski!

You are either booked in to or are attending one of our beginners days. You will be assessed by one of our instructors and we hope you will progress and return. Without joining you may attend two beginners days, after which we expect you to join our association. Once a member, you may ski much more frequently just about any Saturday or Sunday all year round plus lots of evenings during the summer.

It would be helpful to get this leaflet filled in so when you return you can progress faster! Your instructor will help you to fill it in, please bring it next time.

## Membership

Unlike most local clubs whose membership costs several hundreds of pounds a year, membership of the BDWSA is very cheap and includes affiliated membership of British Water Ski which brings the added benefits of insurance and support for our sport. We urge you to get a membership form from the clubhouse and join as soon as possible.

Your name

Problems we should be aware of.

Water confidence

Happy in deep water / fits / spasms / unable to turn over etc.

Notes after first day Please give enough details so that next instructor can progress.

i.e. Ski used, settings speed etc.

Instructor(s)

Notes after second day Please give enough details so that next instructor can progress.

i.e. Ski used, settings speed etc.

Instructor(s)

Notes after third day Please give enough details so that next instructor can progress.

i.e. Ski used, settings speed etc.

Instructor(s)