



Deaflympics Tokyo 2025



DeaflympicsGB

25th Summer Deaflympics 15th November 2025 to 26th November 2025

Coach Report-

GBDSC were proud to send 14 club members to the 25th Summer Deaflympics taking place in Tokyo, Japan in November. This was not an ordinary Deaflympics, but was a special centenary Deaflympics, as it was celebrating the fact that Deaflympics have been around now for over 100 years! We had a team of 5 men and 6 women swimmers along with 2 coaches and a team manager.

The women's team consisted of Charlotte Gower, Ellie Graham, Nicola Hutchison, Lucy Jordan-Caws, Mia Wiseman and Katy Wun.

The men's team consisted of Nathan Carrington, Thomas Harvey, Henry Hughes, Martynas Kazakevicius and Nathan Young.

The Coaching staff were Martin Lee and Gina Dickson.

The Team Manager was Pauline Jordan-Caws.

9 swimmers out of the 11 were competing in their first ever Deaf International event.

We arrived in Tokyo on the 16th November which mean we could not attend the Opening Ceremony which would have been nice to have participated in to complete the Deaflympic experience. This was a long flight at 13.5 hours long and then followed by registration and multiple hearing tests before we were able to go to the hotel. We did not do training on the day of arrival to allow swimmers to settle at the hotel and gain entry to their rooms and relax.

The next 3 days we travelled to the pool via bus. Originally we were to find our own transport but luckily the bus transport hub for the games fortunately was just 6 minutes walk from the hotel and it was not too long a journey to the pool (15 minutes). This allowed us to train and get used to the pool, starting system and facilities. The swimmers were asked to bring taper sessions from their home coaches as they were all tapering for different events and different distances. The training sessions went well and the 15 minutes of dive starts allowed swimmers to acquaint themselves with the starting process which consisted of different colours from normal.

The competition started on the 20th November with heats in the morning and finals in the evening excepts for the Distance events where the finals were the following evening and the 50m and 100m Freestyle where there were semi finals and finals.

The first day of swimming resulted in:

Charlotte Gower – 200m Individual Medley – Gold

Katy Wun – 200m Individual Medley - 5th

Lucy Jordan-Caws – 100m Butterfly - 8th

Katy Wun – 400m Frontcrawl – Bronze

4x100m Frontcrawl Relay Men - 7th

4x100m Frontcrawl Relay Women - 6th

The second Day of swimming resulted in:

Nicola Hutchison – 50m Breaststroke - 5th

The third day of swimming resulted in:

Charlotte Gower – 100m Frontcrawl – Silver

Nicola Hutchison – 100m Breaststroke - 7th

Charlotte Gower – 50m Backcrawl – Silver

Katy Wun – 1500m Frontcrawl – Gold

4x100m Mixed Medley Relay - 6th

The Fourth Day of swimming resulted in:

Lucy Jordan-Caws – 200m Butterfly - 7th

Katy Wun – 400m Individual Medley – Bronze

The Fifth Day of swimming resulted in:

Charlotte Gower - 50m Frontcrawl - 8th

Charlotte Gower – 100m Backcrawl – Gold

Nicola Hutchison – 50m Butterfly - 7th

Katy Wun – 800m Frontcrawl – Gold

4x100m Mixed Frontcrawl Relay - 7th

The Sixth Day of swimming resulted in:

Charlotte Gower – 200m Frontcrawl – Bronze

Katy Wun – 200m Frontcrawl - 7th

Charlotte Gower – 200m Backcrawl – Gold

Katy Wun – 200m Backcrawl - 7th

4x100m Women Medley Relay – Silver

4x100m Men Medley Relay - 8th

At the end of the Games this gave us a medal tally of 5 Golds, 3 Silvers and 3 Bronze Medals.

Most importantly is that almost every swimmer did PB's during this event, even some doing a PB in the Heats in the morning and another PB in the evening. We had 35 Individual Personal bests. 11 of these Personal Bests were new British records. We also broke 3 British Relay records too.

Below is a chart showing the British Records broken in Tokyo.

<u>Swimmer</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>
Charlotte Gower	200m Individual Medley	20/11/25	02:21.95
Katy Wun	1500m Frontcrawl	22/11/25	17:36.35
Nicola Hutchison	50m Breaststroke	21/11/25	33.41
Nicola Hutchison	100m Breaststroke	22/11/25	01:16.96
Charlotte Gower	50m Backcrawl	22/11/25	30.04
Katy Wun	800m Frontcrawl	24/11/25	09:13.75
Charlotte Gower	100m Backcrawl	24/11/25	01:04.19
Nathan Young	100m Butterfly	24/11/25	59.17
Nicola Hutchison	50m Butterfly	24/11/25	29.42
Charlotte Gower	200m Frontcrawl	25/11/25	02:05.10
Charlotte Gower	200m Backcrawl	25/11/25	02:17.72
<u>Women</u>	4x100m Frontcrawl Relay	20/11/25	04:15.10
Mia Wiseman			
Ellie Graham			
Katy Wun			
Charlotte Gower			
<u>Mixed</u>	4x100m Medley Relay	22/11/25	04:19.06
Charlotte Gower			
Nathan Carrington			
Nathan Young			
Katy Wun			

Women

4x100m Medley Relay

25/11/25

04:33.12

Charlotte Gower

Nicola Hutchison

Lucy Jordan-Caws

Katy Wun

So in summary the swimming team came back with 11 out of the total of 12 won by Deaflympics GB. With 35 PB's, 11 British individual Records and 3 British relay records I would consider this as a successful competition!

For the swimmers who were there for the first time I am confident that they will have had a great learning experience. They will have learned what needs to be done to achieve success. There was rules which they will now know for next time with regards to call rooms, carrying of ID passes, wearing of hearing appliances at this level of competition, even drug testing,... which can be daunting for some! These are things everyone will need to go through at some point, but understanding that this is normal, will help them handle these situations. I know the swimmers have made new friendships with swimmers from all over the world and this is something I remember saying previously will stay with them for life. Even swapping badges, hats and t-shirts became something that everyone took part in and enjoyed.

I know that the women did very well overall but so did the men. Although they did not come back with medals, they did all do very well! There is a higher number of Male swimmer entries than Female swimmer entries in the games resulting in more heats and tough times to beat. The standard of the swimming has improved over the last few years and this can be seen by the number of new World records being set at this games. 14 new swimming world records were set by swimmers and that is not taking into account the World Records set in the heats, and broken again in the following heats, and again in the finals!

It has been officially announced that Athens will be the host of the next Deaflympics in about 3.5 years time. Hopefully the young swimmers now have a fire in them to keep training hard for the next Deaflympics and also the younger club members feel motivated by the success of the Team from the Tokyo games and want to be a part of this journey too.

I would like to thank Pauline and Gina for their help at the games and for Dave who has been pivotal in helping secure funding via the Di Walker Foundation and also in securing the Speedo sponsorship while working closely with swim England. Thanks you to all the sponsors who helped our swimmers raise the money and JCB who provided the facilities for the kit weekend at their fabulous JCB Golf and Country Club. We would not have done this without you!

All that is left for me to say is that I am proud of all the team and how they swam. You all earned the honour of being classed as a Deaflympian and should all be proud of yourselves.

Regards,

Martin Lee

GB Deaf Swimming Head Coach

