

SCARBOROUGH SWIMMING CLUB RAISES THE STANDARD AT ANNUAL A/B GALA

On the weekend of 14th/15th/16th June Scarborough Swimming Club hosted their annual A/B Gala which is the town's premier meet at Scarborough indoor pool. The meet was the only Level 3 Gala in the region, and this year was attended by a record number of clubs. Swimmers and supporters travelled from as far afield as Newcastle in the north, to St Neots in the south. With a list of over 2000 entries, this was set to be a staggering weekend of competitive swimming.

The first session commenced on Friday evening with the distance events of 200m and 400m freestyle for boys and girls aged 10 and over. Scarborough Swimming Club was heavily represented in all events with some excellent performances - Finnian Hutchinson, Edward Hopper, Nathan Munday, Adam Dawson, Dak Cappleman, Alex Lynn, Chris Cook and Sam Broadley all took medals in the 200m freestyle. Not to be outdone, Matilda Tomlinson, Sophie Boddy, Phoebe Dawson, Emily Harrison, Ceri Boddy, Lizzie Swift, Emma Clapton, Eleanor Woodroffe, Emily Corcoran and Rebecca Cox all swam superbly to bring home medals for the club. In the 400m freestyle boys event Joe Kelly, Nathan Munday and Chris Cook all took gold medal position, with Sophie Boddy, Amy Corcoran, Lizzie Swift and Jace Cappleman following for the girls. Personal best times were also achieved by Elliot Hutchinson, Charlie Hopper, Zac Doubtfire, Emily McDiarmid, Ellie-Mae Gavin, Dannii-Bex Doubtfire, Briony Hart, Molly Swales, Emma Keith, Imogen Kinrade and Sarah Roberts. This laid foundation for the weekend sprint and 100m events.

Saturday was an early start for the swimmers, with registration opening at 7:45am for the very popular 200 individual medley for boys and girls. This year, the event has attracted a record number of entries, so the organisers were forced to create a separate session to accommodate demand. This proved to be a successful decision for the swimmers, as better preparation for the event could be applied. With the temperature at poolside and on the balcony rising sharply, the swimmers needed to be completely focused for their race. In the 200m IM event the fastest six competitors from the A and B sections battled for cash prizes in a knockout event called SKINS later in the day, so a lot to swim for! Also, this event traditionally produces the most personal best times of the gala.

The balcony was full and the atmosphere electric as competitors lined up to race. Scarborough swimmers were out in abundance to try their best and record fast times for future competition. Medals from the boys included Nathan Munday, Dak Cappleman, Chris Cook and Luke Kelly. Speeding tickets were awarded to Adam Dawson and Alex Lynn. Girls medallists were Sophie Boddy, Amy Corcoran, Briony Hart, Eleanor Woodroffe, Emma Clapton, Jace Cappleman and Sarah Roberts, with a speeding ticket awarded to Phoebe Dawson. Speeding tickets are awarded to swimmers who surpass the entry time and therefore need to move up to a higher level. This is classed as an achievement and not a penalty. Some great times were recorded and most Scarborough swimmers recorded new personal best times.

Following a short break the warm-up for session 3 was underway. Many more competitors arrived and so did their supporters. The balcony was at capacity as parents were eager to witness the swimmers race each other. Many friendships and rivalries are rekindled at this level of competition, bringing the best from swimmers (all in the spirit of a great weekend of competitive swimming.)

Before the start of the session, announced onto poolside, along with club President Sam Greetham, were our guests of honour for the weekend the Mayor and Mayoress of Scarborough, Councillor Andrew Backhouse, and his wife Sue. Scarborough Swimming Club would like to thank them for taking time from their busy schedule to support our event and wish them well in their civic year.

The boys 100m backstroke event saw Alex Lynn (13) take gold with a time of 1:08:39, which was a great start to the day. Zac Doubtfire (14) took bronze, and Sam Broadley the silver, in the 15yrs and over category.

Girls 13yrs and over 100m breaststroke saw Hope Chamberlain take a gold medal in a time of 1:33:58. Sarah Roberts gained a silver medal, and Emma Clapton a speeding ticket.

The boys 50m butterfly for 9-12 yrs produced best times for Ben Chamberlain, Adam Keith, Ed and Charlie Hopper. Event 206 was the girls 9-12 yrs 50m freestyle. This was a strongly contested event and always produces future stars for every club. Representing Scarborough were nine swimmers in various age groups. Medallists were Amy Corcoran (bronze), Briony Hart (gold) and speeding tickets awarded to Megan Couch (40:42) and Emily Harrison with a time of 28:89 seconds. Best times were recorded by Matilda Tomlinson, Holly Millard, Emily McDiarmid, Phoebe Dawson, Ellie-Mae Gavin and Ceri Boddy.

Boys 13yrs and over 50m breaststroke gave Alex Lynn gold in a time of 37:61 seconds, Chris Cook a bronze and Rory Hobkinson recording a great personal best time in his debut at this meet.

Next event, girls 13yrs and over 50m backstroke, saw a gold medal for Eleanor Woodroffe in a time of 34:44. It also included personal best times for Emily Corcoran and Emma Keith and a speeding ticket awarded to Lizzie Swift, in a time of 33:46.

Boys 10-12 100m freestyle produced some great battles, with medals going to Finnian Hutchinson (silver), Dak Cappleman (silver), Charlie Hopper (gold 1:19:79) and Nathan Munday (gold 1:10:56). Speeding tickets were awarded to Elliot Hutchinson (1:16:84) and Adam Dawson (1:13:34). Best times were recorded by Ed Hopper and Luke Oldfield.

The 10-12 yrs 100m butterfly event saw Scarborough's girls take control with medals for Sophie Boddy (silver), Amy Corcoran (gold 1:20:99) and speeding tickets for Emily Harrison (1:15:76) and Phoebe Dawson (1:28:52). A great finish to the morning session and for the host club who certainly set the standard for more action after the break.

Session 4 soon got underway with the 13yrs and over 100m butterfly. Alex Lynn 1:08:04 and Tom Heaton 1:02:89 both took the gold medal positions in their age groups. Zac Doubtfire got a silver medal, with his best time in this event.

The 13yrs and over girls 100m freestyle event is always one of the most popular in the gala. With 13 heats, and plenty of support from the balcony, Scarborough swimmers did not disappoint. Gold medals went to Lizzie Swift (1:04:64), Emma Clapton (1:04:97) and Jace Cappleman (1:02:26) in their respective age groups, with Caitlin MacCallaugh and Eleanor Woodroffe both taking bronze positions. Best times were achieved by Hope Chamberlain, Emma Keith, Emily Corcoran and Imogen Kinrade.

Boys 9-12 yrs 50m breaststroke produced a gold medal for George Brown (9) in his first gala, in a time of 51:56, with Nathan Munday also taking first place in 44:26. Joining them in gold medal position was Ben Chamberlain in a time of 54:47. Speeding tickets were achieved by Ed Hopper (52:15) and Rory Hobkinson (52:28). Personal best times by Adam Keith and Charlie Hopper were also recorded.

In the girls 9-12 yrs 50m backstroke, a gold medal went Shanice Dobson (45:00). Silver medals went to Dannii-Bex Doubtfire and Amy Corcoran, with a bronze medal going to Phoebe Dawson. Speeding tickets were awarded to Emily Harrison (33:90) and Briony Hart (42:56) in their age groups. Matilda Tomlinson, Holly Millard, Emily McDiarmid, Ellie-Mae Gavin and Molly Swales all achieved best times.

Next the boys 50m 13yrs and over 50m freestyle, sometimes known as the 'splash 'n' dash'. This is a very fast event - blink and you miss it! This event produced gold for Alex Lynn (28:37) and Tom Heaton (25:71) with a bronze medal for Luke Kelly. A speeding ticket went to Rory Hobkinson in his age group (33:78) and a best time to Sam Broadley. Also in the 50m freestyle, making his premier appearance at the meet was Jacob Mensah. Jacob (19) competes as a multi-disability athlete, and recorded a 10 second personal best time of 55:61. He is now awaiting confirmation from the A.S.A. to see if he has qualified for his National Championships held later this year. Best times came from Zac Doubtfire and Chris Cook to round off a great event.

In the girls 13yrs and over 50m butterfly, Emily Corcoran gained a bronze medal and best times were achieved by Emma Keith, Caitlin MacCallaugh, Harriet Longley, Eleanor Woodroffe, Imogen Kinrade and Emma Clapton.

Event 257 was next, the boys 10-12 yrs 100m backstroke. With medals taken by Adam Dawson (gold 1:21:03), Nathan Munday (silver) and Dak Cappleman (bronze) all from the 11 yr age group, which shows great talent coming through in this event from the younger section of the club. Speeding tickets were awarded to both Finnian (1:37:36) and Elliot Hutchinson (1:27:72). A personal best was achieved by Charlie Hopper.

The final event before the COWEN Senior SKINS was the girls 10-12yrs 100m breaststroke. Gold was taken by Emily Harrison in 1:36:46, silver for Amy Corcoran, and best times for Sophie Boddy, Emily McDiarmid, Phoebe Dawson, Ceri Boddy, Dannii-Bex Doubtfire, Molly Swales and Briony Hart.

The COWEN Senior SKINS completed the session. This is an event that takes the fastest six swimmers from the A Grade and B Grade Individual Medley (boys and girls) in a swim to win situation. The swimmers compete against each other, with one elimination after every race. All strokes are used and the last swimmer in the event is the winner. This is always very exciting as the tension mounts after every round. With supporting parents getting involved the atmosphere is electric. Representing Scarborough this year were Alex Lynn, Chris Cook, Luke Kelly, Jace Cappleman and Sarah Roberts - who all collected their prizes after some fantastic swims. The eventual winner for the boys was William Murden from Newcastle, and the winner for the girls was Scarborough swimmer Jace Cappleman, who produced excellent swims to take the first prize purse. It was a day to remember for all involved.

Session 5 commenced with the 100m Individual Medley event for the 9-12 yrs (boys and girls). This is the event which produces the finalists for the HOPPER Junior SKINS later in the day. This is the busiest event of the meet, with 209 entries from 22 clubs. Scarborough swimmers involved in the boys event were Jacob Mensah, Alex Swales, Adam Keith, Ben Chamberlain, Charlie Hopper, Ed Hopper, Luke Oldfield, Adam Dawson, Finnian Hutchinson, Elliot Hutchinson, Nathan Munday and Chris Cook. The Scarborough girls competing were Holly Millard, Ellie-Mae Gavin, Megan Couch, Briony Hart, Emily McDiarmid, Matilda Tomlinson, Shanice Dobson, Molly Swales, Phoebe Dawson, Emma Keith, Amy Corcoran, Harriet Longley, Hope Chamberlain, Ceri Boddy, Dannii-Bex Doubtfire and Emily Harrison. After some great battles, with many best times achieved, the fastest six from each category were rewarded with their place in the SKINS at the end of the day. Jacob Mensah was rewarded with a gold medal in this event, and has hopefully gained his National qualifying time.

The boys 10-12 yrs 100m butterfly saw medals for Nathan Munday (gold 1:18:92), and silver medals for both Dak Cappleman and Elliot Hutchinson.

Girls 10-12 100m freestyle produced some excellent swims from the junior competitors, with medals and best times galore for the Scarborough swimmers. Ellie-May Gavin (1:31:57), Briony Hart (1:21:19), Emily McDiarmid (1:29:11), Sophie Boddy (1:20:54), Phoebe Dawson (1:13:84), Molly Swales (1:17:47), Amy Corcoran (1:13:00), Ceri Boddy (1:10:10), Dannii-Bex Doubtfire (1:12:05) and Emily Harrison, in a superb time of 1:02:93, completed a brilliant set of results for the club in this event.

The next event was the boys 13 yrs and over 50m backstroke. Alex Lynn won gold in a time of 32:06, Sam Broadley a silver in his category and Luke Kelly a bronze. Zac Doubtfire also raced home in a time of 32:95 to qualify for his first Junior North East Championships held in December.

The girls 13 yrs and over 50m breaststroke event was next, with club representation from Harriet Longley, Hope Chamberlain and Eleanor Woodroffe. They all achieved personal best times. Emma Clapton was awarded a speeding ticket for her time of 41:43.

Back came the boys in the 9-12 yrs 50m freestyle. Gold medals were awarded to Ben Chamberlain (42:03), Nathan Munday (32:59), Luke Oldfield (41:86) and Sam Clapton also (41:86). Adam Dawson took a bronze medal, and a speeding ticket was presented to Joe Kelly for his time of 35:87 seconds. Personal best times were recorded for Alex Swales, Finnian Hutchinson, Ed Hopper, Adam Keith, Owen Hobkinson, Elliot Hutchinson and Charlie Hopper.

The following event, the 9-12 yrs girls 50m butterfly, saw speeding tickets awarded to Amy Corcoran (36:86) and Emily Harrison (33:13). Briony Hart made gold, with her time of 42:10, Matilda Tomlinson gained a silver medal and Shanice Dobson won a bronze medal. Holly Millard, Emily McDiarmid, Phoebe Dawson and Dannii-Bex Doubtfire all made personal best times.

Boys 13 yrs and over 100m breaststroke gave Alex Lynn another speeding ticket, with a time of 1:19:30. Chris Cook, along with Rory Hobkinson, both achieved silver medal performances.

The last event of the session was the girls 13 yrs and over 100m backstroke. Lizzie Swift and Jace Cappleman both gained gold, with respective times of 1:10:47 and 1:09:74. Eleanor Woodroffe won bronze, and Emma Keith, Emma Clapton and Emily Corcoran all achieved personal best times.

Session seven, the final session of the weekend, started with the boys 10-12 yrs 100m breaststroke. Scarborough swimmers included Owen Hobkinson, Ed Hopper, Tom MacDonald, Dak Cappleman, Sam Clapton, Nathan Munday and Adam Dawson. Personal best times were coming in thick and fast, along with more medals for the club. They are all stars of the future.

In the girls 10-12 yrs 100m backstroke event, Molly Swales took a gold medal, in a time of 1:28:71. A silver medal was awarded to Briony Hart, and bronze medals going to Phoebe Dawson and Dannii-Bex Doubtfire. Personal best times were achieved by Sophie Boddy, Emily McDiarmid, Amy Corcoran and Ellie-Mae Gavin.

The next event was the boys 13 yrs and over 50m butterfly. A gold medal was won by Tom Heaton, in a time of 27:68, and Alex Lynn was awarded a speeding ticket for his time of 30:47. Zac Doubtfire, Chris Cook and Luke Kelly achieved their best times. Jacob Mensah once again produced a fantastic swim, in a time of 56:78. This smashed his personal best time, and won a silver medal in his age group. This was Jacob's final event of the weekend and, due to his hard work, he hit all his target times.

Event 354 was the girls 13 yrs and over 50m freestyle. Eleanor Woodroffe claimed a silver medal, and Emma Clapton a bronze. Best times went to Hope Chamberlain and Emily Corcoran. A speeding ticket was awarded to Emma Keith for her time of 34:77.

The boys 9-12 50m backstroke saw Alex Swales swim a 59:25 to take gold medal position. This was along with Adam Dawson (39:24) and Thomas MacDonald (47:04). Silver medals were awarded to Adam Keith and Nathan Munday, and a bronze medal was won by Ben Chamberlain. A speeding ticket was awarded to Charlie Hopper for his time of 41:40. Best times were achieved by Ed Hopper and Luke Oldfield.

The next event, the girls 9-12 yrs 50m breaststroke, saw strong representation from the club. Achieving some great personal best times, and medal winning performances, were Megan Couch, Ellie-Mae Gavin, Briony Hart, Emily McDiarmid, Shanice Dobson, Matilda Tomlinson, Phoebe Dawson, Sophie Boddy, Molly Swales, Dannii-Bex Doubtfire, Amy Corcoran and Ceri Boddy. All swimmers gave fantastic performances and are the future stars of the club.

Another highlight of the gala was the boys 13 yrs and over 100m freestyle event. Alex Lynn won gold, in a time of 1:00:70. Tom Heaton struck gold in his age group, with a time of 56:45, and Sam Broadley claimed the silver medal position. Zac Doubtfire, Chris Cook and Luke Kelly all achieved best times.

The penultimate event was the girls 13 yrs and over 100m butterfly. Eleanor Woodroffe won gold in a time of 1:19:98 in her age group, and Jace Cappleman also achieved a gold in a time of 1:11:16. Emma Keith won a bronze medal and Emily Corcoran achieved a best time.

The final event of the weekend was the HOPPER Junior SKINS. The finalists were swimmers who qualified from the earlier 100m Individual Medley. Representing Scarborough Swimming Club were Nathan Munday, Charlie Hopper, Ed Hopper, Ben Chamberlain, Briony Hart, Molly Swales, Amy Corcoran, Phoebe Dawson and Emily Harrison. After some brilliant swims by all involved, the girls event was won by Megan Jones of South Hunsley, and the boys event was a brother vs brother final between Charlie and Ed Hopper. The atmosphere was electric, with both boys focused on the job in

hand. Great swims from both boys followed, with elder brother Charlie just edging the win. After the race, the brothers smiled at each other and shook hands - a fitting end to a great weekend of swimming.

Scarborough Swimming Club would like to thank: all the participating clubs who attended their annual A/B Gala; the swimmers for providing the highest standard of competition possible; the organisers and committee members for their relentless work in bringing the gala together; coaches, team managers, officials and timekeepers for their commitment; caterers and fundraisers for the endless work; and all gala volunteers who gave their time to make the weekend run smoothly. A final thank you goes to the supporters on the balcony, who helped create an unrivalled atmosphere and make the Scarborough A/B Gala 2013 a success.

Scarborough Swimming Club