

Evesham Swimming Club success at first weekend of the Counties

Evesham are celebrating following a successful first weekend at the County Championships. 11 swimmers attended over the weekend and there were many exciting races resulting in big improvements in times and a haul of medals (2 Gold, 4 Silver and 3 bronze), as well as 5 swimmers achieving Midland District times. This could prove expensive for Evesham's Headcoach, Jill Biddle, who has promised a special treat for all swimmers achieving district times at the Counties. An unprecedented number of swimmers reached finals races this weekend (Charlie Waites, Harry Bamforth, Yasmin Boff, Chloe Golding, Chloe Mabbett, Cara Lee & Caitlin Donnahey), a fantastic achievement for all of them.

Harry Bamforth (10) gave some stunning performances this weekend particularly in backstroke events in which he gained 2 Gold medals. His 100 Backstroke time of 1.22.43 gives him a current ranking of 9th in the UK. He gained Midland District times and Silver Medals for the 200m Freestyle in a time of 2.37.14 and the gruelling 400m Individual Medley (6.32.27 – a 10 second personal best time) where the swimmer has to swim 100m of each stroke. He also came 4th in the 100 Individual Medley achieving a 5 second PB.

Charlie Waites (11) achieved some fantastic Personal Best Times (PBs) in the 100IM where he came 4th in the final in a time of 1.23.37, the 200m Freestyle (2.36.41) with a 6 second PB and the 50 Backstroke in a time of 37.78 giving him 5th place in the final.

Laura Tolley(9) entered in the 200m Breaststroke. This was not only her first Counties but her first ever Open Meet. Amy Cooper (9) also had her first experience of the counties in the 100 IM and is looking forward to the next weekend where she has 2 more races.

Yasmin Boff(11) also gave amazing performances achieving a district time for 100m Backstroke in a time of 1.19.15. Her 50m Backstroke finals race kept Evesham supporters on the edge of their seats as she just missed out on a Gold Medal, gaining Silver in an incredible time of 35.10. She also competed in finals in the 100 Backstroke(5th) and 50m Butterfly in a time of 34.81(4th). She

took seconds off all her PBs, including a 3 second PB in the 200m Freestyle (2.35.33).

Alice Hall(12) made 7second improvements in her PBs for the 200m Breaststroke(3.12.06) giving her 6th place, and the 200m Freestyle (2.29.37) and a 4 second PB in the 100IM. Molly Hardwick also achieved PBs in the 50m Backstroke (36.11), 100m IM (1.24.04) and 100m Backstroke (1.19.76).

Cara Lee(14) made 4 finals over the weekend and gained a District time for her 50m Backstroke (32.85) and a Bronze Medal. Chloe Mabbett also qualified for finals and gained a district time on Sunday for 100m Backstroke in a time of 1.14.75 and a 5th place and a 4th placing for the 50m Backstroke. She also improved her 200m Freestyle time by 6 seconds(2.27.62). Caitlin Donnahey(17) entered the 100IM and 50m Butterfly and qualified for both finals, achieving a time of 1.15.07 in the 100IM and a Bronze Medal for her time of 32.43 in the 50m Butterfly.

Chloe Golding achieved a Silver Medal for her performance in the 50m Backstroke(34.12) and a Bronze Medal in the 100m Backstroke in a time of 1.13.73, giving her a District time. Chloe qualified for an amazing 5 finals over the weekend. She achieved a new PB in the 100m Butterfly of 1.17.24.

It is an outstanding achievement to qualify for the County Championships. Evesham Swimming Club are proud of all the swimmers that took part this weekend and are taking part in 2 weeks time. 13 swimmers are taking part this year giving an unprecedented number of swims at the Counties for the Club. Evesham have had a great start to the Championships and are looking forward to more great swims on the 26th & 27th March.

