

Cardiff Bay 50m long course sprint meet 4th July 2015

A very early start for 35 swimmers and their supporters who travelled to Cardiff for the 50m long course sprint brought rich pickings both in fast times and medals. Most of our swimmers had never competed in a 50m pool before and with swimmers entered into the A or B galas according to their entry times for each individual event the competition got underway in earnest.

The first event of the day, the 50m breaststroke, saw medals in the A gala: Luke Mills and Josh Peck won their age groups; Zea Levy, Maddie Worgan and Bon Fox de Vere achieved silver and Charlee Humphries collected the bronze medal. Breaststroke medals in the B gala were: gold won by Alex Cleal, Cameron Day, Chris Hadfield, Sam Jenkins and Chloe Phillips, silver won by Carrie Nicholls and Ed Ray, bronze won by Sarah Boundy and Kim Smith and speeding tickets (for going faster than the qualifying time) were collected by Andrew Cole, Lauren Garner, Marcus Hopkins and Rebecca Kennedy.

With such a great start and over half of our swimmers having collected medals or certificates the second event of the day was eagerly awaited and did not disappoint. The 50m backstroke A gala again saw gold medals for Luke and Josh with Carrie joining them; silver went to Sam and bronze was won by Finlay Stuart-Gunter. The B gala saw Cameron again collect gold, Ed and Kim take silver and a plethora of speeding tickets for Ben Clarke, Thomas Cottrell, Katie Kennedy, Tamzin Latham, Lauren G, Alex and Bon.

The 50m butterfly was split either side of lunch but still the swimmers were on top form with A gala gold's for Luke, Josh and Gabby Stephens and speeding tickets this time went to Zea Levy and Hannah Kibble. The B gala gold's went to Erlina Ainsworth, Emma Clarke and Maddie Worgan, silver to Marcus and Ed, bronze to Ben Clarke and Kim, whilst Andrew and Bon picked up speeding tickets

By now the trips to the medal table for Cinderford swimmers were getting a regular occurrence and the 50m freestyle helped them along. In the A gala, Hannah and Gabby clinched gold, Luke silver and Zea and Maddie bronze. B gala results saw Chloe Howard, Chloe Phillips and Ed achieve gold, Thomas silver; Ben, Cameron and Katie K bronze and Marcus and Lauren G collect speeding tickets. The 50m kick races saw Sam win the gold medal in his age group, Kim win silver and Bon and Chloe P win a bronze.

The top 10 swimmers in each age group competed in the finals - the 200m IM. 22 of our swimmers earned this achievement with 20 taking part. Gabby won the 14 year age group; Maddie and Luke came 3rd in the 15 years and Hannah and Zea competed together in the 11 year age group with Hannah just winning in the final moments. Emily Danks took part in this her first competition representing Cinderford and showed no nerves in this 50m pool, Lauren G achieved the most speeding tickets for the biggest improvements and 9 year old Chris Hadfield competed in his first ever 200m IM an achievement in a long course pool at any age.

Cinderford hats seemed to dominate the finishes with the other clubs chasing to catch our swimmers. The Club was very proud of all the swimmers who coped well with the long course pool and the enthusiasm they showed in supporting their team mates in their races.