

Four Seasons on 29 March 2014 at Monmouth

Cinderford hosted the 4 Seasons gala at Monmouth Sports Centre on Saturday. Whilst Tewkesbury took an early lead and sprinted away to win with 145 points, the other 3 teams of Gloucester, Hereford and Cinderford shared in the points and vied for second position with the final scores being Gloucester 119, Hereford 107 and Cinderford 104 points.

Competing in their first competition for Cinderford and showing no nerves were 10 year old Maya Powell, 9 year old Izzy Whittington and 8 year olds: Katie Bullock, Erlina Ainsworth, Christopher Hadfield, Morgan Havard and Sam Rawlings. Maya set a new time in her 50m breaststroke and took an excellent 9 sec off her 50m butterfly time, Izzy improved her 25m freestyle and backstroke times, Katie took 3 sec off her 25m breaststroke time and Erlina set new times in the 25m breaststroke and backstroke, Morgan took an incredible 12 sec off his 25m breaststroke time, Chris swam for the first time in the 25m butterfly and improved his 25m freestyle and backstroke times and Sam improved his freestyle by 3 sec.

Other 9 year olds swimming were Lily Brice who set a new time in her 25m freestyle and achieved a PB in her 25m butterfly and Zea Levy impressively winning at 25m in all 4 strokes.

Elin Havard, the only 11 year old girl swimming for Cinderford, improved her 50m freestyle by 4 sec and also her times in the 50m backstroke and breaststroke. Her sister Alys achieved a PB in her 50m breaststroke. 10 year old Tamzin Latham had a commanding lead throughout to win her 50m breaststroke with a new PB and improved her 50m butterfly by 6 sec, Becca Kennedy sprinted to win her 50m backstroke with a new PB and Hannah Kibble improved her 50m time to win the butterfly race. The 10 year old boys' races saw Finlay Stuart-Gunter take a wonderful 9 and 5 sec off his 50m freestyle and backstroke times and Sam Billingham take a great 6 sec off his 50m freestyle time.

The 12 year old swimmers becoming more experienced at competition, saw Gabby Stephens win both the 50m butterfly convincingly with a 3 sec PB and the 50m backstroke, sprinter Evan Jones win the 50m backstroke race with an improved time and set a new PB in his 50m freestyle, Roderick Ho take an terrific 7 sec off his 50m backstroke, Alex Cleal improve his 50m butterfly by a splendid 5 sec and Emma Clarke improve both her 50m butterfly and 25m freestyle times.

Others whose contribution on the night was also important were Sam Bennett, Danny Jones, Jade Cleal, Ben Clarke, Marcus Hopkins, Lauren Garner and Lauren Kennedy. Feedback from other Clubs includes: "Thanks for a well organised and fun evening" (from Tewkesbury Club) and "We had a great time last night" (from Hereford Club).