

Super Scott is number one in the north east



MAKING A SPLASH: Scunthorpe Anchor swimmer Scott Zimmerman won the 50m butterfly in the Yorkshire County Sprint Championships at Sheffield's Ponds Forge Leisure Centre. **PICTURE:** Paul Torrie

NORTH Lincs has got another swimming county champion.

Ten-year-old Scott Zimmerman is the 50-metre butterfly Yorkshire champion and number one in the north-east region.

It is a big achievement for the Burton Primary School student, who has been swimming competitively for just two years, although his parents introduced him to the pool at just a few months old.

And considering it was also Scott's first swim in an Olympic sized 50m pool, it came as even more of a surprise to his father Trevor.

"It was quite a bit of a surprise," he beamed.

"I was hoping he would get to the final but to be the fastest in the last heat to qualify for the final, let alone win it, was a great surprise.

"He has swam in lots of galas

by David Freezer

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for Scunthorpe Anchor but not very many Open events when you are swimming for yourself.

"It was certainly the biggest event Scott has swam in and he didn't realise he had won at first!

"It wasn't until he came over to me on poolside he realised so he was really pleased.

"We didn't know he had done so well in the ranking either until we had a look on the internet and with Yorkshire being such a big county, that was even more pleasing.

"There is no higher he can go at his age group now because he has to wait until next year when there are things like district and national events.

"I used to swim competitively when I was younger and I finished second for the county, so he has beat me there!"

In the heats at the Yorkshire County Sprint Championships, held at Ponds Forge in Sheffield, Scott swam 41.53 seconds to qualify as the fastest swimmer for the final.

Slow off the block, he had a good dive to start the final and a fast first 25 metres put him ahead at the halfway point.

He then held off his competitors with a strong finish to win the race and become Yorkshire champion.

Scott's time in the final was 39.61 seconds, a time which put him top of the north-east region and seventh in the British rankings.

He trains up to seven times a week, with rugby, football and judo other sports that Scott takes part in.

His coach at Scunthorpe Anchor, Lynne Leeman, was pleased with how Scott had done at Ponds Forge.

"He's doing really well. He's quite small for his age, but he is

a good kid who trains hard," Leeman enthused.

"We didn't expect him to win at the County Championships at all because Yorkshire is such a big area and some places have got really big swimming squads.

"We are quite a small club so we weren't expecting Scott to do so well, let alone knock a good two seconds off his personal best.

"He is a really good sprinter and as he is getting older, we will want him to do more long distances.

"The next couple of years we just need him to continue training hard and hopefully he will become part of CASA (Cleethorpes and Scunthorpe Aquatics) when he's a little bit older.

"Hopefully he can also take part in some more county championships, maybe set a few district times and a medal at the counties would be great."

MARTIAL ARTS



GREAT START: Owen Brumpton won silver in his first competition.

Silver success for Judo Kwai

TWO Gooch Judo Kwai 2000 fighters have picked up medals at the North of England Junior Open Championships.

Eight-year-olds Owen Brumpton and Benjamin Cantrill both battled their way to silver medals at the competition, staged in Bradford.

For Brumpton, the honour was especially sweet as the contest was his first competition and he weighed in three kilograms under the U/25kg bracket.

And Cantrill's silver medal, in the U/38kg weight, was equally 'well-earned', according to coach Tina Parker.

"As in previous competitions, Ben is becoming more and more experienced, showing excellent techniques and throwing with a variety of big throws," she said.

"This is excellent for a young boy.

"With all the new rules and regulations, the British Judo Association are making it extremely difficult for players to get on and compete without being told they aren't allowed to do certain things."



SILVER LINING: Ben Cantrill (front) pictured with fellow Gooch fighter Jonny Foster.

ATHLETICS

Duo are waiting on county call

TWO Scunthorpe and District AC athletes are waiting to find out whether they will get the chance to represent Lincolnshire this summer.

The wait comes after Alice Kay and Kieran Burr travelled to take part in the Lincolnshire Championships, accompanied by coach Eric Frost.

Kay finished third in the inter-girls heptathlon, missing out on the runners-up spot by just a single point after the day's final event, the 800m.

Earlier she had dominated the 200m, winning by nearly a second and 60 points, and also put her speed to good use in the hurdles and long jump.

It was actually the throwing events that prevented her from finishing higher.

However, it was still a fine performance which she should be able to build on during the season.

Burr, the other Scunthorpe entrant, took part in the inter-boys octathlon.

He has been proving himself this season in his specialist event, the javelin, but a string of strong performances in all events suggests he should expand his repertoire.

They will hope their efforts have been enough to earn selection for a regional event.



OCTATHLETE: Kieran Burr.