

## **Barnsley Minor League Open 6/11/04**

Scunthorpe Anchor only took ten swimmers to the Barnsley Open meet at Normanton at the beginning of November.

Five swimmers in the morning events and five in the afternoon. An early start to get race cards post in time. Warm up started at 9am and the first swimmers set off at a good pace. The five swimmers in the morning session swam a total of 17 races between them with no fewer than 10 PBs achieved. Joshua Barker was the only boy to swim in the morning and obtained 3 Pbs in 50mt Back crawl -2.00secs off, Breast stroke -1.48 secs off and Front crawl 0.10 and set himself a new time for the 25mt butterfly of 22.70. Joshua didn't show any nerves and took it all in his stride. Emma Wilkinson & Rhiannon Haber were yet again seeded in the same races of 50mt Breast stroke, Back crawl & Frontcrawl also the 25mt Butterfly. The 50mt back crawl saw both of the girls in the final with a fingers touch between them of 0.13 seconds and the same in the 50mt front crawl of 0.01 with both girls and into the final with both girls obtaining yet another Pb. Emma & Rhiannon achieved Pbs in the 25mt butterfly with Emma taking an impressive 4.20 seconds off her previous time. Both girls had an excellent open with Pbs and medals each.

Laura Vickers swam in two races 50mt front crawl and Back crawl against hard competition, achieving times within her Pb.

Laura Fletcher was the oldest of the swimmers in the morning session and she had a brilliant day with some impressive times and obtained two Pbs out of the three races she swam. Laura took a massive 8.55 seconds off her 50mtr breast stroke the wrong time had been posted on her card and Laura was seeded against some of the best swimmers in the open. Laura showed only a slight amount of nerves but gave it her best and the 8.55 second improvement in her time was her reward. Laura also took 2.35 seconds off her 50mtr backcrawl. .

The afternoon followed in the same vein and seemed to be a little more organised

Five swimmers again with fifteen races in total and another eight Pbs.

Emma Sanderson was the youngest of the afternoon swimmers and achieved a new time in the 50mtr breast stroke and close to her Pb in the 50mtr front crawl with tight races in each. Jasimin Kirk entered three races and swam an excellent 50mtr breast stroke Jasmins preferred stroke and improved her time

by 0.86 seconds. 50mtr Butterfly was not her strongest stroke but she still swam an impressive race with a good time.

Thomas Spencer was the only boy to swim in the afternoon sessions with strong races in each of his strokes. His 50mtr Backcrawl saw Thomas into the final where he achieved a Pb and a medal. Thomas also achieved Pbs in both 50mtr breast stroke and butterfly the opposition being good competition for Thomas and just missing out on a place in the 50mtr butterfly. But a good day for Thomas all round. Louisa Smith had missed quite a chunk of the training session due to health problems but that didn't show when she took 1.02 seconds off her 50mtr back stroke and only just missing a place in the final 50mtr breast stroke and swimming to her time for 50mtr front crawl. Louisa had a good day in all with everyone cheering her on to keep her spirits up. Louisa certainly gave a gutsy performance in each of her races.

Megan Haber also had a good day with two Pbs in three of her races. Megan had missed the last open at Grimsby Santa Marina due to illness but certainly redeemed herself at Normanton. She took a mighty 11.07 seconds off her 50mtr back crawl and a 9.15 seconds off her breast stroke, a great improvement in her times.

All the swimmers and supporters had had a good day with each of the swimmers showing improvement in their times and techniques.

Steve Dale the team coach had praised the efforts of all the swimmers who had taken part and this boosted their confidence and effort. It seemed the anchor swimmer could do no wrong.

This was their reward for all the hard work and training put in by both the swimmers and the coaching staff.