

Scunthorpe Anchor took the long trek to Spalding for the next round in the Lincs Junior League with their youngest members of the Anchor Squad. Swimming against Louth B Team, Lincoln Vulcans, City of Lincoln Pentaqua, Trenton Dolphins & South Lincs. With no girls 9yrs relay teams points were forfeited in the first race, but not as many as in the first round at Yarborough when there was no 9yr relay teams for both girls & boys. The boys 9yrs relay had their first swim together as a team, Alex Zimmerman, Bradley York, Kieran Skinner & Declan Hunt and they really gave it 100% and swam a good strong race to come in a very respectable third, not bad considering it was Bradley & Declans first swim competitively for Anchor. It was a promising start with all the relay teams achieving good strong results for the next five relays with the girls 11/u 4x1 relay having an exceptional race, Megan Fletcher was also swimming in her first competitive race for Anchor and set the girls off to a good start with a good dive from the blocks and a sleek change over to Becci Moore, then Emma Wilkinson and to bringing up the final leg Rhiannon Haber, it seemed another great combination of talents as they came home to finish second only just beaten by Lincoln Vulcans.

Individual races were a mix of results with the Anchor swimmers being placed in the top three or four places. Pbs were set by no fewer than 18 of the swimmers in the individuals, an impressive -8.18 seconds for Jasmin Kirk in her 50mtr Fly as she swam a fantastic race, -13.08 for Kieran Skinner in the Boys 25mtr fly, and Shannon Johnson took 8.44 seconds off her 50mtr frontcrawl, this was also Shannon's first competitive swim for Anchor and although a little nervous at first she seem to shake off the nerves and enjoy the rest of the day and her next swim in the girls free relay.

It seemed to be a good day for all the first time swimmers and some of the youngest at Anchor, Jessica Martin & Declan Hunt both gained new times in the 9yr age group frontcrawl, with excellent swims from both swimmers. Lauren York continued to improve in the 50mtr breaststroke and reduced her time yet again going from strength to strength at each competition. Emma Wilkinson obtained an excellent 2nd placing in the girls 11yr/u 50mtr backcrawl against tough opposition & also gained a Pb. Daniel Strong swam in two individuals the 50mtr fly & 50mtr frontcrawl with impressive finishing each time to finish third & second respectively against very strong opposition. Scott Strong also swam two individuals in the 11/u 50mtr breaststroke & 50mtr frontcrawl with good finishes in both races. Rebecca Redmile took 1.5 seconds off her entered time for the 50mtr 12yrs/u frontcrawl with an excellent turn at the 25mtr mark to stay in touch with the opposition and finish in the top four. Jan van den-Berg Slowey continued with his excellent form in each of his individual races with a 4 second Pb in the 25mtr fly and a 0.65 second Pb in the 50mtr frontcrawl this being another swimmer who is going from strength to strength at each meeting and improving his times. Rhiannon Haber also had a good swim in the 50mtr frontcrawl to be leading at the 25mtr mark and unfortunately finishing by a whiskers touch second to the Lincoln Vulcans swimmer, but a satisfied swim all the same. Paul Georgiou voted most improved swimmer at the beginning of the year swam the individual 12/u 50mtr breaststroke and kept his calm by turning third at the 25 meter mark and had an excellent attacking finish.

It was then time to finish with the relays with no girls team for the 9 year olds the 9yr boys continued with an excellent swim as in the first race of the day with gutsy swim from all four boys, The 10yr girls Devon Hill, Shannon Johnson, Alicia Snow & Lauren York made sure that the boys didn't have it all their own way by putting in an equally amazing performance to finish in 3rd, the same as the boys. It was certainly a good day for the girls 11yr/u relay team with another second place and a brilliant swim by all the girls.

The points had been tallied and announced through the course of the afternoon and Lincoln Vulcans had led all afternoon but this didn't deter the Anchor Swimmers in any way if not it had made them even more determined to swim at 150%. The cannon was the last race of the afternoon and with the mix of junior squad members and the more experienced team members Anchor gave it their all with good change overs between the eight swimmers and strong attacking finishes Anchor came in third and finished fourth overall, with 140 points followed by Trenton Dolphins and Louth B.

It was then the long bus journey home and the customary stop for fish & chips on the way. What a civilised way to end a truly enjoyable day.