

Scunthorpe Anchor travelled to Yarborough Leisure Centre for the second round of the Lincs League held on Saturday 12th May. Other clubs competing were Cleethorpes and District (CADS), CLP A, CLP B, Deepings and Grantham. To enable us to make the final we knew we had to beat Deepings and come third overall on the night.

Aisley Leeman once again proved he was the fastest swimmer in the county by comfortably winning the open 100 free. Becky Moore still only 13 swam the women's open free and made an impressive 3 second pb and another District time for her. The younger members of the club had two brilliant relays with Brandon Hunt, George Stokes, Joe Sturman and Sven Schygiol improving their previous relay time by over 7 seconds, and the girls Ellie Pacey, Hannah Mayell, Lauren Callaghan and Caitlin Bower having a strong race against CADS to earn a good second place and 5 points.

Ryan Holmes, Paul Georgiou, Tom Spencer and Daniel Strong improved their last medley relay time by 5 seconds.

The next first place came from the 14/u girls quartet of Alicia Snow, Jasmine Kirk, Becky Moore and Emma Sanderson in their medley relay.

Several individuals followed with Kieron Skinner and Alicia Snow both making second places on their 50 back, Alicia another pb. Paul Edwards and Jasmine Kirk both swam the open 100 breaststroke, Jasmine achieving a pb. Brandon and Ellie had good swims in the 50 fly,. Jasmine earned the next 6 points for us with a first in the 14/u free, quickly repeated by Lauren York in the 12/u 50 breaststroke holding on to first place with a hard challenge from the CADS girl.

The next race was the open boys free relay. First off the blocks was Andy Collins who made a great start, this lead was increased by Gareth Bowden, Paul Edwards and finally Aisley Leeman, with Anchor having an impressive win. The girls open relay followed with a impressive swim from Emma Sanderson, Lauren York, Claire Snowden and Devon Hill, made all the more courageous as Devon and Lauren are only 11 and 12.

Next came the 10 yr medley relays with both teams earning a respectable 4th and 3rd place. The 10yr boys knocked a huge 10 seconds off their time from the previous gala and the girls 4 seconds. Ryan Holmes improved his time on the 14/u 100 backstroke, and Alicia Snow still only 11 stood in at the last minute to swim a good time in the same event for the girls. Both the boys and girls 12/u free relays improved their times on the previous gala and took two 3rd places. Aiden Fijalkowski reduced his time to 34 seconds for his 50 free, managing it twice during the gala.

The boys open 100 fly proved an exciting event and the effort from Andy Collins certainly didn't justify the results for Anchor. Andy led for over 90m with a huge lead but just couldn't hold it for the last 10 metres and finished in 4th place with a margin of a second separating all the top 4 swimmers. He finished in a fantastic time of 1.05.85 secs – Andy has only just returned to Anchor and getting back into a training routine . 13 year old Becky Moore swam the open girls fly and challenged the open girls for a great 2nd place. Her time of 1.14.12 was another pb for her which she mirrored in the 14/u event 12 events later, winning that event.

George Stokes and Caitlin Bower took 3rd and 2nd places in their freestyle events. Paul Georgiou and Jasmine Kirk both improved their times from the previous gala, Jasmine taking 2nd place. More 2nd's followed from Kieran, Alicia and Caitlin in their respective events, and an exciting race from the open boys medley relay.

The final relays of the evening saw Anchor take 3rd and 4th places. Coach Dave Leeman hoped the team had done enough to beat Deepings and also take 3rd place.

He needn't have worried as final results were.

CADS – 246

CLP A- 217

Scunthorpe Anchor – 176

Grantham- 148

Deepings- 127

CLP B – 75

This was the result Anchor needed and places us in the final to be held at Lincoln on 30th June.

Overall the team improved times on 37 out of 48 events since the first round and had 6 first and 10 second places.

Our next major competition sees Cleethorpes and District and Scunthorpe Anchor swimming clubs team up together as the newly formed CASA (Cleethorpes and Scunthorpe Aquatics) for the second round of the Lincs Junior League at Grimsby. Currently CASA 'A' lead the league table with the 'B' team 6th out of 12 competing teams. Both teams are together in the next round. Overall winners of the league go on to represent Lincolnshire in the Northern Junior Speedo League Final.

If you are currently a competitive swimmer and would like to become part of the ongoing success of Scunthorpe Anchor and Cleethorpes and Scunthorpe Aquatics, call Dave on 07866 976335 or e-mail him on scunnyanchor-coach@yahoo.co.uk