

Teaspoon Gala Ponds Forge

Scunthorpe Anchor took a strong squad of thirty swimmers for an early start at Ponds Forge Sheffield's 24th Annual Teaspoon Gala.

With each swimmer completing an average of four individual swims and for the first time relay squads were entered.

Birthday Boy 10 year old Joshua Jones was swimming for the first time at Ponds Forge and started the days events with 50 mtr backstroke and recording a good time for this event also in the same event was Alex Zimmerman and Kieran Skinner. This was a good start for Anchor with Pb's all around.

The 10-year-old girls also reflected the boys performance in the same event with both Devon Hill and Alicia Snow taking good Pb times. This was the pattern of the swims for the morning session the junior swimmers showing the way with Pbs for almost every swimmer a total of 26 throughout the morning. With 54 races throughout the morning the swimmers did well to remain focused and achieve nine finalists Alicia Snow in the 10year girls backstroke putting in a fantastic swim to finish in first place quite comfortably to the delight of everyone. Grace Conlon and Lauren York reached the finals in the girls 11 years breaststroke with only a second between first and third place respectively. Grace also took 4th place in the 11years girls backstroke 12 events later.

Thomas Spencer swam in the boys final of the 12years fly and swam within his entered time and a respectable 6th place and Rebecca Moore mirrored the same in the girls 12years fly. It was one of the senior swimmers Aisley Leeman who gave one of the most exciting finals of the morning in the Boys 15 years and over 50m Backstroke, with all the swimmers being equally matched and literally seconds between first place and tenth place, and it was left to the electronic timing to sort them all into positions, Aisley came 8th overall book took his second Pb of the morning.

The last two finalists for Anchor in the morning was Rhiannon Haber in the 12 year Girls 50m Freestyle coming in 9th and just outside her entered time. Kyle Leeman finished strongly in the Boys 14years backstroke.

The relays also proved successful for the anchor squad with new combinations of teams in all age groups and great swims by all squads, the Boys squad achieving third place.

The afternoon became more of a success with 12 swimmers reaching finals and massive Pbs achieved by many of the swimmers, Paul Georgiou took an impressive five seconds off his backstroke time and eight seconds from his breaststroke time in the boys 50m event. Other swimmers in the afternoon to Pb were Emma Sanderson, Sam Green with a 10 second reduction in his 50m fly, John Bell took 5 seconds off his entered time for 50m breaststroke and Alicia Snow 9 seconds in the girls10 years fly.

The first final of the afternoon was a double for Scunthorpe Anchor with Alicia Snow and Devon Hill in the girls 10 years freestyle, another good swim by both girls and a top three pace for Alicia and a second Pb in the event for Devon. Alicia also took second place in the exciting 10-year fly final.

Another double for anchor two events later in the girls 11 years fly final with Grace Conlon and Emma Wilkinson with a good swim from both swimmers to just miss out on the top three spots and Grace also a finalist in the 11years freestyle. Rebecca Moore and Jasmin Kirk also made the finales in the 12 years breaststroke with Jasmin Kirk only returning from a holiday the day before showed no sign of jet lag with a good performance to finish in fourth and Rebecca finishing in seventh with only a second separating the two impressive swimmers. Other finalists on the day were Kieran Skinner, Aisley and Kyle Leeman and Allan Snowden in the 15 years and over fly, two seconds separated the swimmers from first place to tenth with Allan coming in at sixth place.

A Successful day for the Anchor squad with at least seven swimmers Aisley Leeman, Paul Georgiou, Emma Sanderson, Devon Hill, Rebecca Moore, and Alex Zimmerman Pb in all of their entered events.

But the day overall went to Alicia Snow who Pb'd all her events in backcrawl, breaststroke, fly and freestyle. Finalist in the Fly, Freestyle and backstroke taking two-second places and a well deserved first place.

Club coach Dave Leeman was very pleased with all the squad members and was impressed with the commitment and effort given by all of the swimmers. A good build up for the season ahead and exciting times for Anchor as a whole.