

ENNERDALE OPEN MEET HULL

Scunthorpe Anchor Squad had an early start to the Ennerdale Open meet in Hull at End of April for the warm up at 8.00. With six sessions over the next two days and some of their swimmers entering as many events possible it was going to be a demanding weekend ahead. Also some of this squad were swimming in the evening of the Saturday at Grimsby in the Barnsley open meet. It was also the last open meet for some of the squad to obtain district times for June 2006 at Ponds Forge.

Of 15 swimmers and 78 races in total the anchor swimmers put in a brilliant performance with many of the squad being finalist and reserve finalists. The Pb rate was phenomenal with a 50% improvement on times overall. But it was David Ridgley who stole the show over the weekend. David had been having a lean spell for quite some time but that all disappeared over the course of the weekend. With the two 400mtr front crawl and Individual Medley swam on the Friday and a Pb of -0.32 & -15.22 respectively David started as he meant to continue. His first race for the Saturday saw David seeded in heat 1 in the 200m f/c with no other serious competition to pull him on David was swimming against the clock, but managed to pull another 1.57 pb, it was in the 100 fly that David put up a great race with the Kingston upon Hull swimmer to be neck and neck at the 75 mtr mark and he just went for it with a strong finish and a -7.31 pb just missing the final as first reserve. The Pbs just kept coming with seven other swims yet to come David made sure his form continued to improve with each race being a Pb between -0.55 - 15.11 seconds. His 100mtr open breast stroke that saw him swim a great race, where he paced himself well, being equal at each turn but it was in the last 25 mtrs that David pulled strongly to finish with a good position and in 13th place overall but even better was the 15.11 second pb. I was finding it difficult to actually write about David as he kept bring home Pb after Pb, this being a reflection of the time and effort David put into his training. Sunday continued in the same vain with an exciting race in the open 200mtr open butterfly with David leading at the first 50mtr holding on to the lead but with 50mtrs David saw the finish in sight and gave every last bit to finish strong and another massive Pb. With eleven races and eleven Pb David must have surely set a club record to achieve this. Other swimmers from Anchor who achieved good results on the Day were Oliver Conlon who took five Pbs from six races with three being 10 seconds or more, brothers Keiran and Rhyss Skinner who each Pb'd on every race and gained new times in the 200 mtr I/M. Laura Fletcher was the only swimmer to walk away with prize money in the girls 14 years 100 mtr fly and a -7.19 pb too.

District times were also reached for Scott Strong and Rhiannon Haber.

Overall the weekend was a great result for all the swimmers and the club as a whole. Coach Dave Leeman was very pleased with all the swimmers and the efforts they had put in and the Pbs they had gained.