



Beacon Swimming Club News - June 2011

Maritime Trophy Gala

On Saturday, 11th June, Beacon entered a team into the Sevenoaks Maritime Trophy Gala. There were four age groups, 9/u, 10/u, 11/u and 12/u. Beacon were racing against teams from Tandridge Aquarius, Tonbridge SC, Sevenoaks SC, Edenbridge Pirahnas and Chislehurst Millenium SC. Last year the trophy was won by Beacon and we were keen to retain it! Some swimmers had been there the previous year and remembered what a great gala it was. Beacon easily won the first 6 races and then 4 out of the next 6 races as well. It was all going very well! Everyone was swimming their absolute best and trying very hard. There was a fantastic mood around the pool and the viewing gallery was full, with many people standing all night to cheer their swimmers on. We won 20 out of the 49 races, with 11 second or third places. This was enough to **WIN!** As the results of first place were announced, the Beacon swimmers jumped in to celebrate! It was nice afterwards to see so many new families at McDonalds, celebrating their win!

*To swim or not to swim?
There is no question.*

Maritime Trophy Gala - Danni Taylor

A number of children from our pre-team squad swam in the Maritime Trophy Gala and it was their first gala! Well done to all of the new swimmers, they joined in so well and swam their absolute best. Danni Taylor, was one of the pre-team swimmers competing and she had a fantastic evening. Here is a little bit more about Danni... She has two older sisters who are in Beacon SC – Jazz and Gabby. When Fiona asked if she could swim in a gala for Beacon she shouted out ‘YES’ and could not wait for the day to come! She was a little nervous travelling to Sevenoaks, but when she arrived and saw her friends the nerves were forgotten. Her favourite stroke is breaststroke and she is very good at it, as she showed us all at the gala. Her favourite race of the night was the medley relay, swimming with her friends and they all swam their favourite strokes. Danni loved the relay races and swam the first leg of the mixed 8x25m Freestyle Squadron relay at the end of the evening, with Gemma, Annabel, Bethany, Henri, David, Max and Billy! Danni thought that the relays were very exciting. She was so excited about racing, having spent so much time in the viewing galleries watching her sisters swim – now it was her turn. She could not wait to get onto the block for her first race. Sometimes Abi had to remind her that she would have to wait a minute for her next race, as she wanted to be on the blocks ready to go again! Danni’s goal is to swim in a squadron relay with her sisters, representing 3 different age groups – she said that would be ‘cool!’

The ASA South East Region Championships

Over the weekends of the 18th/29th May and 11th/12th June, four of our swimmers, Jazzy Taylor, Charlotte Down, Daniel Brooks and Harrison Stevens, attended the 'Regionals', at the K2 in Crawley. The qualification times for these Championships are very hard to achieve, so to qualify is a real accomplishment. They were competing against some of the best swimmers from the whole of the South East. They all extremely well and received some really good results. Well done to the four of you.



Dates for your diary

September 17th The Ken Deeley Sprint Meet, Brighton
September 25th Development Chaser, Bognor Regis
October 16th Eastbourne County Qualifier Open Meet
November 19th/20th 'Not So Early Bird' Open Meet, Crawley
November 19th/20th The Bath Grand Prix Open Meet, Bath
November 27th Atlantis Christmas Cracker, Horsham

Quick Quiz – for the 7, 8 & 9 year olds

Which stroke is swum first in an Individual Medley?
The first three swimmers to give the correct answer to Jackie Collins will each receive a small prize! (Thank you Jackie for helping!)

Sussex County Development Squad

On June 1st, Charlotte Down and Gemma Collins spent the day at Christ's Hospital School, Horsham, attending the Sussex County Development Squad's training day. There are a few of these training days in the year, for the children who finish in the top 8 of the BAGCATS at the County Championships in February/March. They had a welcome meeting and were introduced to the Sussex County Coaches, who normally coach at Littlehampton, Horsham, Brighton and Crawley. Then it was into the pool for a fantastic training session. Each child was individually watched and guided by the coaches, with advice and praise given as the session progressed. They learned some new drills and had swum with children from all over the County, some of whom they normally race against at competitions. But the training day was about training together and improving, not competing. This was followed by lunch on the field when everyone could socialise with swimmers from the other clubs, some of whom they would only normally meet when queuing for a race at a gala! In the afternoon they had a land training session in the sports hall. At the end of the day the BAGCAT awards from the County Championships were given out. Both girls had a really good time and gained a lot from the sessions. They both thought it was a wonderful day, especially Gemma, as she is new to the Squad. At the end of the training Gemma said 'I already feel like a better swimmer'.

Vanessa Knight Memorial Open Meet

Last year Beacon won the 'Top Club' trophy at this gala and were really keen to keep it for another year! So, on Sunday 29th May, 23 swimmers travelled to Bognor Regis to compete against 15 other teams in this wonderful gala. In total they swam in 107 races, with a lot of children winning medals and bettering their PB's. At the end of the afternoon the scores were revealed. In 3rd place was Littlehampton SC with 208 points, in 2nd place was Atlantis SC with 234 points and in 1st place were.....**Beacon SC** with a massive **364** points. Well done to all of the swimmers!! Now put this date in your diary for next year – Sunday 3rd June 2012. See you there!!



THE FREEDOM RESCUERS LIFESAVING CLUB

The re-established lifesaving part of the club is now up and running under the guidance of Ben Stevens. Known as The Freedom Rescuers Lifesaving Club, there has already been a lot going on! The club took part in its first lifesaving competition on Sunday 22nd May at Ardingly, against other lifesaving clubs from across the County. The team did fantastically well and managed to win the first competition they have entered together. Sophie Eke, Jessica Goldsmith, Rachel Key, and Jamie Russell all did brilliantly! It was a close competition as they won by just one point. We must say well done to the lifesavers who should be feeling very proud of their achievements. Well done also to Maisie Jane Handley who took part in the age group below and achieved 2nd place with her team. Also, a huge thank you to Abi Key, the girls' senior captain, for helping to organise the teams with Ben and for cheering everyone on, as always!! Ben now says "let's get training for the next competition and watch this space!!"

I train because 0.1 of a second counts!

