

BIRMINGHAM MASTERS SWIMMING CLUB

Newsletter September 2007

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ASA MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007

A circular has gone to all club members (by email) asking for details of availability for relays at the ASA Masters Championships. The relays are on Saturday and Sunday 27 and 28 October. Please make sure you respond by letting Keith know your arrangements for that weekend. If you are able to attend only one or two sessions that is just the information he wants.

EUROPEAN MASTERS CHAMPIONSHIPS 2007

Results obtained by Birmingham Masters who attended the European Masters Championships in Kranj, Slovenia were very creditable. We were very well accommodated in a four-star hotel at reasonable rates thanks to Allison Stoney's wonderful efforts, in with the European swimming establishment, so we must have been royally treated. The list of performances below does not always reflect the worth of a swim, as conditions for warming up and racing fast were not always there. Warming up was a lottery in a crowded 25-metre course across an indoor 50, and apart from day 1 the weather was pretty chancy and on one day thunderstorms caused the cessation of the meet and its subsequent transfer to the indoor pool, much to the chagrin of the synchronised swimmers already there.

Judy Wilson swam to her now expected triple in the butterfly events, though she was below par in the freestyles. John Davis medalled in four out of five events, which given the stresses of the event was a great achievement. Pride of place for achievement and surprise is Val Morris's third place in the ladies 65-69 5km lake swim – yes, 5km. Well done Val. Also well done to Hayley for her third place in the 50 free after some months of back trouble. We can as usual claim a little of the credit for our visitor Jane Leighton's win in the 200 breast. Full BM results are shown below: 'no time' is given where the swimmer failed to achieve the qualifying time:

Hayley Bettinson	40-44		200 IM		11th
50 free	28.85	3rd	Open Water	1-41-55.73	3rd
100 free	1-06.15	7th			
50 breast	39.44	6th	Allison Soney	45-49	
50 fly	31.30	6th	50 breast	49.13	38th
50 back	36.00	7th	100 breast	1-51.20	37th
			200 IM		33rd
Pauline Brand	70-74		Judy Wilson	60-64	
100 breast	no time		50 free	33.57	3rd
200 breast	no time		100 free	1-16.95	3rd
50 back	1-13.25	15th	50 fly	35.39	1st
100 back	no time		100 fly	1-23.12	1st
			200 fly	3-29.83	1st
Jane Leighton	25-29				
400 free	4-58.15	3rd			
800 free	10-09.86	4th			
200 breast	2-49.57	1st	John Davis	80-84	
Open Water	1-09-03.44	4th	100 breast	2-15.35	5th
			200 breast	4-49.37	3rd
Val Morris	65-69		100 back	1-56.39	2nd
200 free	4-10.50		200 back	4-10.78	2nd
400 free	8-14.27	11th	200 IM	5-03.90	2nd
50 fly	no time				

Keith Ingram	65-69		Andy Wilson	60-64	
100 breast	1.32.57	11th	100 free	1-10.69	15th
200 fly	3-43.30	6th	200 free	2-35.80	9th
200 IM	3-12.88	6th	400 free	5-37.32	7th
			800 free	11-25.75	5th
David Roberts	25-29		200 IM	3-06.08	10th
50 free	25.15	4th	Open Water	1-18-48.26	9th
100 free	54.78	4th			
100 fly	1-01.83	9th	Relays: Keith, Frank and Andy swam in a men's		
200 IM	2-19.61	7th	4 x 50 that placed 10th, and Judy. Keith and		
			Andy teamed up with Ruth Lowe of Burntwood		
Frank Stoney	55.59		to form a Heart of England quartet that placed		
50 breast	38.58	14th	3rd in both freestyle and medley 240-279 relay		
100 breast	1-30.74	18th	events.		
200 IM	3-23.35	19th			

Barnet Masters Sprint Meet

Our thanks to Keith for this report on the Barnet Masters Sprint Meet

The club turnout for this meet totalled six and quite apart from achieving good personal swims we had the fortune to witness a 22.22 second World Record by Mark Foster at the front end of a mixed freestyle relay. The final tally for the small band of 6 swimmers was 11 gold, 4 silver and 4 bronze medals made up as follows.

This was a first masters meet for Fred Rennie who secured 1st place in the four events entered.. 100 I.M. (1:18.79), 100 freestyle (1:08.96), 50 backstroke (37.44) and 50 freestyle (31.35). I am sure that these times will be driven down next time out. Leighton Cardwell was also making his debut and took 2nd in the 100 I.M. (1:06.90) and 3rd in the 50 freestyle (26.72)

Steven Langford was the busiest swimmer winning at 50 backstroke (33.88), 100 backstroke (1:15.24) and 50 butterfly (30.87). A 3rd place at 50 freestyle (28.05), 4th at 100 freestyle (1:04.40) and 5th at 100 I.M. (1:13.43) completed a solid sequence of swims all of which were close to times entered and represent a good foundation to move forward to the Nationals in Sheffield.

Jim Hunt did personal best times for 100 fly (3rd in 1:31.75) and 100 breaststroke (5th in 1:36.75) despite goggle trouble in the latter event. A 5th place in a first ever 100 freestyle in a creditable 1:18.47 completed the programme for Jim.

Keith Ingram departed from his usual programme in order to move up the standings in the new decathlon event. The 50 backstroke was a means to score a 10th event and this was won in 38.35. Useful points for this competition came from 50 freestyle 1st (31.39), 50 breaststroke 1st (39.44) and 50 butterfly 3rd (35.72). A 100 freestyle in 1:10.35 for 2nd place rounded off a long day.

Last and oldest but by no means least, was John Tennant taking the opportunity to get in some competitive practice. He started off with a modest 50 freestyle for 2nd place in 31.43 and followed up with another 2nd place in the 50 butterfly in a very respectable (33.56) losing out to an excellent (32.90) by our Spanish friend Joaquin Canales de Mendoza. A solid 1:09.61 took 1st place in the 100 freestyle giving him a 2 to 1 victory over Keith in our head to heads.

WATER QUALITY ISSUES

Many of us, and not just those in the water, will be only too well aware of the problems we have had with the quality of water at KES in recent months. Although the problem seems to be of long-standing, and although everyone seems to have their own solution to the problem, we can assure all members that the school has been taking the issue seriously and it seems now to have been resolved. Occasional variations in water quality are only to be expected, but we do not expect to encounter the chronic problems of this summer again.