



ESSEX COUNTY AMATEUR SWIMMING ASSOCIATION **Affiliated to ASA East/ASA London Region**

Masters

ESSEX MASTERS 2010 **THE OFFICIAL REPORT**

Essex County Open Competition

It was another great day's competition at this year's Essex Masters County event held at Blackshots on May 8th. As Essex President this year, it was that little bit extra special as the records tumbled on a great day of speed swimming. The balcony at Blackshots was healthily active and another great atmosphere was evident as the 20 Essex County affiliated clubs and 10 non Essex clubs competed for titles. Results have now been posted to the ASA and the meet declared for British rankings.

Déjà-vu was evident this year. The Top Male/Female overall championship was as always well contested. In the women's section, current champion Alyson Fordham (Romford Town) retained her much coveted ladies title with 66 points, holding off a stern challenge from Colchester's Katie Higgon with 52 points. Third place went jointly to Lisa Martindale of Thurrock and Jacqui Pipe, Rochford, both amassing 40 points each. Camilla Allwood from the Clissold Swimming club in Hackney, East London was best placed guest swimmer (Non Essex). Camilla totaled 24 points. The Top 18/24 year woman was Charlotte Delicata from Thurrock who held off a determined challenge from her team mate Shannon Harrold and Nicola Farmer of Waltham Forest. Just one point separating all three women.

In the Men's events Thomas Enright from Romford Town SC retained his Top Overall male crown with 60 points. Peter Rae of Rochford was the second placed male athlete on 52 points ahead of Romford Town's Gary Wraight on 42 points. Top visiting male was Stuart McClellan of Sudbury with 35 points.

The 50m sprint Freestyle events for men and women are events I always look forward to and this year did not disappoint. In the past few years Essex have donated winner's trophies for the 18-24 age group. This year Former Waltham Forest man Dane McNight, now swimming for Romford Town won the Men's 18-24 years trophy in a time of 24.76 secs from Jonathon Sayer Bor. Southend (25.90). However Adrian Fenner (Waltham Forest), swimming in the 25/29 age group produced a stunning swim of 24.41 to take top honors in the event and a special mention to Martin Lane of Romford swimming in the 35/39 years age group who made the final heat a top class field to record a time of 25.62. All the Mens top six recorded a time of 26.66 or lower! In the women's event, the sprint queen came from Becontree. Debbie Grix the head coach of Becontree brought a Small band of athletes to the event this year and her starlet Kelly Hector won her trophy in a time of 30.56 from Suzannah Martin, Romford Town who was trying to retain her title won in this pool last year. Last year's speed queen, recorded a time of 31.15. A special mention must go to Kira Neal of Romford Town, who recorded the fastest woman's time of the day with a tremendous 29.58.

In the age group categories, congratulations go to the following winners Men's; (ESSEX ONLY) Janos Leigh, Romford, 75/79 age group. Stan Clarke Romford 70/74, John Limmer Romford, 65/69. Jeff Hillier Waltham Forest 60/64, Peter Rae Rochford 55/59, Tom Enright Romford 50/54, Martin Fenner Romford 45/49, David Griggs Romford, 40/44, Lee Peterson Braintree, 35/39, Gary Wraight, Romford 30/34, Adrian Fenner Waltham Forest, 25/29 and Jonathon Sayer, Bor. Southend 18/24.

The age group winners in the girl's categories. Our group winners are; (ESSEX ONLY) Joy Cochrane Romford 75/79, Valerie Standage, Colchester 65/69, Christine Wakeling, Colchester 60/64, Alyson Fordham, Romford 50/54, Jacqui Pipe Rochford, 45/49, Lisa Martindale, Thurrock 40/44, Maria Gibson, Runnymede 35/39, Cassie Drake, Romford 30/34, Katie Higgon, Colchester 25/29 and finally Charlotte Delicata, Thurrock 18/24.

32 Essex records were broken during the day, too numerous to mention. However, these can be found on the essexswimming.org website.

Top Club was once again Romford with a massive 653.5 points, with the overall points **not** including the X Age group. Romford headed Rochford in second place on 208 points with Thurrock third place on 147 points. Top visiting club were Clissold with 178 points.

Top men's club was Romford on 384.5 points, Rochford were second on 131 points and Bo Waltham Forest third on 94.5 points. Top visiting club was Clissold SC with 103 points.

In the Women's top team event, Romford were crowned champions with 269 points. Colchester was second on 118 points, with Thurrock SC third on 82 points. Clissold was top visiting female club amassing 75 points in total.

There were 30 teams and nearly 150 swimmers (130 individual) competing and the level of competition made for another pulsating days entertainment from all.

In the Relay events, 51 teams took part, producing marvelous team races on the day. Romford led the way with 13 success' Rochford 2. Colchester winning the remaining 2. Six county event best times were broken during the days relays events.

A special thank you must go to our visiting club swimmers who provided swims from 10 non Essex clubs. Many thanks to all our visitors and we hope you enjoyed the day. Also to our disabled athletes. In particular Kirsty Stewart from Bexhill swimming club. Kirsty has graced our championships for the past few years and has always brightened up our day with her smile and enthusiasm to swim and compete well. Your taking part always enhances our championships and we salute you all.

The County would like to thank Thurrock Swimming club for all their efforts over the weeks leading to the event and on the day, from the electronics and timing system people, to runners, medal table helpers and caterer. Kevin and Amanda Wood, Jan Mickley, Phil Nice, Alison Delicata, Alison Harrold, Chloe Wood, Evie Mickley and Hope Jones plus of course the missus for the grub! (Jeannette). I can't forget my old mate Yvonne from Waltham Forest who yet again helped on the day. Finally, I would of course also like to thank the Essex ASA committee members who helped on the day (Lyndsey Motin, Neil and Kay McGuire, Brian Kapp, Tom Baster and Norman Edgell) and its tirelessly committed officials and helpers for once again supporting the event and you to a super days swimming.

Best regards to all with thanks for all your continued support
Paul Hayes
Essex County ASA President.
Essex County ASA Masters Manager