

SWIMMING: Sutton based clubs are making waves across the region and Observer Sport brings it all to you

Boldmere Orcas continue to shine with junior meet

Boldmere Swimming Club were building on their growing reputation last weekend as they staged their 2009 Junior Invitational meet at Stetchford Cascades.

Local club Fox Hollies along with Kingsbury Aquarius, Blythe Barracudas (from Solihull), Camp Hill Edwardians, Corby, Leamington Spa and Stourbridge made the journey to take part in the meet for eight-12 year olds.

Masterminded by Boldmere's

events management duo of Phil Littler and Neil Holmes and made possible by an army of 54 helpers and volunteers (mainly parents) the meet, larger than last year, once again ran like clockwork.

With the first race starting at 1pm and the last finishing at 7.30 pm there were some 200 plus swimmers, 73 from Boldmere, swimming in 18 events comprising of 193 races.

The meet is seen as a great opportunity for eight-year-olds

who are too young to compete in league galas get a first time taster of what's to come and there were many debut swims from all the clubs.

In preparation for the first of three rounds of the Nuneaton and District Diddy League which starts on April 26, the day was a great opportunity for Boldmere coaches on the day Ashley Cox, Jayne Luckett Geoff Fowler and Malcolm Black to see in action all eligible Orcas swimmers available for selection for

the 'A', 'B' and 'C' team.

With every swimmer eager to impress, Boldmere won 26 of the 48 age category races.

In the eight-year-old boys, Mitchel Oakley had an impressive debut by winning all four individual events in the 25m freestyle, backstroke, breaststroke and fly.

Nine-year-old Matthew Price took first spot in the 100m individual medley, 25m back and shared top spot in the 25m freestyle with Joel Cunningham, both stopping the clock in 17.59secs.

Jake Dixon continued his great start to the year by winning all four 50m events in the 11-year-olds plus the 100m individual medley in a new club record time.

For the girls nine-year-old Kate Davies won the 25m fly and ten-year-old Bethany Grant impressed with a clean sweep hitting the timing pads first in all five events.

In the next age category Alex Dolan won the 100m individual medley, Caitlin Meade the 50m breaststroke and Margaret Gately took first place in both 50m fly and freestyle.

Finally, 12-year-old county swimmer Alice Dearing notched up four wins in the 100m individual medley, 50m free, back and fly.



Kate Davies was an event winner for Boldmere.

Despite the success on the day of Boldmere it was Stourbridge SC who went home with the biggest smile by winning the 'Top Visiting Club' Trophy.

Anyone wishing to get a fla-

vour of the days action should visit the clubs website on www.boldmereswimmingclub.co.uk where there is sequence of photos under Boldmere JIM.



The individual medley was the first event of the meet and got the day off to a great start. Pictures by Steve Harlow.



Camilla Chatfield was in outstanding form for Boldmere.

Perry Beeches and Sutton swim stars in fine form

It was another night of fun and achievement for the swimmers of Perry Beeches and Sutton Swim Squad at the two Worcester league galas last weekend.

In the tricky 33 metre pool at Halesowen, against quality opposition, there was a great debut from Sarena Gaddu and solid top three places for Abigail Duce (twice), Kavita Gaddu, Grant Gardner, Katie Gulliver, Dominic Cotter, Daniel Badger and Steven Scarrot.

On an individual basis, there were excellent personal bests from Daniel Badger (100m butterfly), two for Joshrun Mann (freestyle and backstroke), while Gemma Cooney (breaststroke) and Rachael Lickorish (backstroke) each weighed in with personal bests.

Meanwhile, at

Droitwich, there were no less than 16 personal bests and 13 top three finishes, with podium finishes from Dan Smith, Ben Gambles, Luke Kearney, Ashleigh Stackhouse, George Minchin, Katie Haywood, Beth Haywood, Tully Kearney, Emily Minchin and Maddy Cooper.

It was also pleasing to see progress from the relay teams, with the mixed teams winning two races.

The Beeches coaches were delighted with the number of personal bests, from all of the age groups as the squad continues its improvement.

Particularly happy with the nights efforts were Ryan Padbury, Denis Sokolov, Jessica Moss, Abbey Harper, Tom Minchin, Sam Crawford and Tom Stafford, all who improved their best ever times.

Four Oaks Tennis Club host successful show

Perfect, mild, dry half-term weather enabled the Four Oaks Tennis Club's LTA Junior Open to be completed on schedule last weekend.

In the under-ten girls' singles Four Oaks Tennis Club's juniors triumphed.

Seven-year-old Russian Sofiya Khalyaeva won all her matches while eight-year-old Jasmine Skipp finished runner-up ahead of third placed Romanian Iona Enache.

All three are coached by Four Oak's team of head coach Arnie Benidor and assistant coach Richard Bryce.

In the under-ten boys' singles Jamie Crothers from Streetly Tennis Club finished winner ahead of Nathan Cooper from Tipton Indoor Tennis Centre.

Jamie's elder brother Thomas won the under-14 boys' singles and both are coached by Steve Shea from Streetly Tennis Club.

Four Oaks Tennis Club's Jack Franks, who lost only one of his seven matches, finished runner-up.

In the under-18 boys' singles Calum Smith from Atherstone Tennis Club, coached by James Ashbridge, finished as winner ahead of Michael Moseley from Solihull Tennis Club.

Tournament referee Vic Brown and head coach Arnie Benidor are

well pleased with the success of the Four Oaks Junior Open now in its second year and which is certainly set to continue.

New members of all ages and ability are welcome to join what is one of the most picturesque tennis

clubs in the Midlands with its 11 courts set in the leafy surrounds of the Four Oaks Estate.

Head coach Arnie Benidor is about to expand his coaching team and prospective members are welcome to visit the club at the junc-

tion of Hartopp Road and Luttrell Road.

Alternatively call 0121 308 0672 or visit the website <http://www.fotc.co.uk>. For coaching information phone Arnie Benidor on 07799 656 364.

