

# Midland A.S.A. Youth Champs 2013



Eleven Boldmere swimmers qualified for this year's British Gas Midland Youth Championships which moved away from Coventry for the first to Corby's East Midlands International Pool. Competing in forty events they reached 16 finals between them winning 4 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze medals.

Overall performer of the weekend was 16 year old Luke Davies without a shadow of doubt as he topped the podium to be crowned 15/16 age group Midland Champion in all three Breaststroke distances.

To achieve such a feat, which requires a change in stroke rate for each event is a massive achievement. The last time this was achieved at this championships in the same age group was back in 1996 by Adam Whitehead who went on to become Commonwealth and European Champion as well as a Sydney 2000 Olympian.

He qualified as the fastest qualifier for each event final with the first title win in the 50m sprint coming on the Saturday evening in a time of 31.96 seconds.

An hour later he stepped on to the blocks in the 200m Breaststroke final



where, after setting a PB of 2.28.84 in the heat, he touched first by a second in a time of 2.28.88 – consistent swimming!

His hatrick came on the Sunday evening with another PB time of 1.08.69 in the 100m event which followed a superb 400IM heat where, competing in this event for the first time long course, he achieved a National qualifying time. In the final later on he missed out on a medal in 4th spot. Luke claimed his fourth medal of the champs in the 200IM taking the bronze.

Also crowned as 15/16 Midland Champion was Steve Wilson who, after qualifying second fastest for the 200m Freestyle final led from start to finish in the final – improving his PB set in the heat by another 0.8 seconds in a time of 2.00.47, just eight one hundredths ahead of second place in a nail biting finish!. In the 100m Freestyle the day before Steve took the bronze in a time of 55.56. He also made the final of the 50m Freestyle where he placed 5th.

The final two medals came from Joey Stanger who, in the 200 & 400m Freestyle claimed two silver medals in the 19+ age group setting PB's in both with a 1.57.01 in the final and a 4.11.13 respectively in the heat.

Breastroker Emily Gordon made all three finals of the 50, 100 and 200m events placing 4th, 7th and 6th respectively. Meanwhile Alex Dolan and Morgan Harlow, in their first Youth championships, also made the final of their 15/16 200m Breaststroke and 200m Butterfly events. Both also set long course PB's in the 200IM and 100m Fly respectively.

The final finalist was Josh Halsey in the 15/16 50m Fly where he placed 7th setting his second sprint PB of the day with a 28.12 seconds. In the three other events Josh competed in he set two further PB's in the 100m Freestyle and 100m Fly while eighteen year old Phil Hewitt set a new age group Club record with his 50m Fly swim in the heats stopping the clock at 27.21.

Competing in three events Gina Lockett sliced one and a half seconds off her 200IM time while also competing in the championships were Charlotte Smith in the 200m Backstroke and Katie Richardson in the 400m Freestyle.