

A.S.A. Central Zonal Champs – Corby 29th & 30th Jan 2011

At the inaugural ASA Central Zone Zonal Competition nine Boldmere swimmers, together with their eight clubmates who train with City of Birmingham and Royal Wolverhampton School, competed in this new event for clubs in the East and West Midlands and East Region - which stretches across to Norwich and down to Hertfordshire - at the new Corby International 50m Pool.

With illness forcing him to pull out of the 100m Fly on the Saturday Phil Hewitt was in better shape on the Sunday for the 16/u age group 50m Freestyle sprint in which he qualified 5th fastest for the eight man final - where he then set a club age group record to take third and the bronze medal. Training partner Joey Stanger set a 3 second pb and new club record in the 17/over age group 200m Freestyle to make the final, finishing in 7th place.

In the 17/over 100m Backstroke event Adam Kelly sliced 2 seconds off his pb time to qualify sixth fastest for the final which he unfortunately had to withdraw from. Emily Gordon also reached the final of the 14/u 100m Breaststroke where she set a pb but finished just outside the medals in fourth spot. In the longer 200m event she lowered her long course pb by 3.5 seconds while Gina Luckett also set a best time in her 100m Breaststroke. Thirteen year old Charlotte Smith improved her 100m Backstroke time as did twelve year old Morgan Harlow in the 200m Fly both in the 14/u age group category.

Competing in the colours of City of Birmingham fourteen year old Emma Smith had a fantastic weekend by winning five medals in the 14/u age group. She won 2 Golds in the 400m Individual Medley and 200m Backstroke, both in National Qualifying times – the latter just missing the British Championship qualifying time by just 0.08

seconds. A further 2 Silvers were won in the 100m Backstroke and 200m Freestyle with bronze in the shorter 100m Freestyle.

Meanwhile another fourteen year old Bradley Lynch not only won himself a silver medal in the 16/u 1500m Freestyle but his 6 second pb time of 16.33.02 also broke the longest standing Junior or Senior Warwickshire record which had stood since 1988! In breaking the Record he also qualified for the British Championships being held in March. He also reached both 200 and 400m Freestyle finals where he finished 5th in both.

Givenchy Sneakes was another medal winner in the 14/u 100m Breaststroke where she won bronze and lowered her best time to 1.17.87 to set a new CR which was 0.07 short of a NQT. She also reached three further finals in the 200m Breaststroke as well as both 200 and 400IM events.

Thirteen year old Penny Whittingham reached the final of all three of her 14/u events on the Sunday where set National and British Champs qualifying times in each – winning two silvers in the 200m Fly and 400m Freestyle and an 8th spot in the 200m Backstroke. Her training partner Alice Dearing, at Royal Wolverhampton School club, set new pb's in both 14/u 400 & 800m Freestyle events where she finished 5th and 4th respectively.

Also setting personal best times over the weekend were Katie Richardson in the 400IM and Josh Winnicott in 200m Breaststroke. Although no pb's this time a mention must go to Kristie Hackett and 11 year old Eden Harlow for meeting the qualifying times for this high standard event.

