

Midland A.S.A. Youth Champs 2011

Five swimmers from Boldmere Swimming Club travelled to Coventry's Long Course Pool last weekend to compete in the Midland ASA Youth Championships. Emily Gordon, Phil Hewitt, Joey Stanger, Adam Kelly and Chris Littler represented Boldmere in 14 events and reached an impressive nine finals.

Qualifying for three finals in his four events, Phil Hewitt had a glorious weekend – swimming a Personal Best and Club Record time to take the Junior (15/16Yrs) 50m Butterfly sprint title, He followed this up by qualifying for the 100 Fly as 8th fastest in the heats. As the slowest qualifier he was allocated an unfavourable outside lane - but in the final he surprised the field and secured his 2nd Butterfly title – taking the Gold by the narrowest of margins – just 0.01 seconds. In the 50m Freestyle Final only 0.37 separated the top three with Phil finishing third to add a Bronze to his collection.

Joey Stanger maintained a high level of consistency – qualifying for three of the Freestyle Senior (17Yrs+) finals, where he finished just outside the medals - placing 4th in the 100m & 200m events and 6th in the 50m sprint.

Adam Kelly made the final of both Senior 50m Backstroke & Fly finishing 8th in both while Emily Gordon made an impressive debut at the regional Youth Championships, securing 6th place in the 50m Breaststroke Final.

There was further Boldmere SC presence and success at the Championships with Emma

Smith, Jenny Powell, Kristie Hackett, Givenchy Sneekes, Katie Richardson, Bradley Lynch and Josh Winnicott swimming in City of Birmingham colours, and Alice Dearing those of Royal Wolverhampton School.

Fifteen year old 'Iron Man' Bradley Lynch won the 1500m Freestyle event with ease to take Gold and the Junior Midland title with an 8-second margin, in addition to qualifying for the 100m, 200m and 400m Freestyle finals – finishing 5th, 4th and 6th respectively.

Emma Smith reached four Junior (14/15Yrs) finals and had big success in her favoured stroke (Backstroke) in which she won Silvers in both 100 and 200m events, while finishing third in the 50m sprint. In the 200m IM she managed a 5th placing.

Josh Winnicott also reached four Junior Finals - producing his best finish in the gruelling 400IM where he picked up the Silver medal in a Club Record time which qualified him for entry to the National Youth Championships. He set further PB's and CR's in the 200m IM and 200m Breaststroke where he finished 7th and 8th respectively.

Alice Dearing sliced over 2.5 seconds off her 200m Fly PB in the final to touch 3rd and take the Bronze, while Jenny Fowler was unlucky twice to miss out on the medals with 4th place finishes in both 200m and 400m IM finals and Kristie Hackett battled to a 6th place finish in the 400m Freestyle final.

