

N&D Championships Weekend 2

The weekend started with the men's 200m backstroke, and what a way to start. Thomas McDermott, competing in the 10/11 year age group, swam a terrific race to win gold with a great PB. In the 12 year age group Toma Saha qualified for the final finishing 5th. In the 14 year age group Oliver Hall qualified for the final finishing 4th and in the 15 year age group Cade Darby won a bronze medal.

The second event of the morning was the women's 50m breaststroke and didn't all the girls do well. In the 10/11 year age group Violet Hearfield, Millie Bozbayir and Hannah Redshaw qualified for the final and what "a cracking final it was with Violet (with a club record) pipped for the gold by 0.15 seconds. Millie won bronze and Hannah finished 8th. In the 12 year age group Bethan Palfreeman finished 5th in the final and in the 13 year age group Rebecca Keetley swam a great final to claim the silver medal. In the 14 year age group final Sadie Dickinson was pipped for a bronze medal with Rachel Bradley finishing 6th and in the 15 year age group final Robyn Dickinson finished 7th. Well done girls.

The third event was a very competitive men's 100m freestyle event. In the 11 year age group Thomas and William Morris qualified for the final, with Lewis Horner just failing to qualify by 0.01 seconds. In the final, a great race ensued with Thomas just beaten by 0.11 seconds with William finishing 7th. In the 13 year age group final James Woods finished 9th.

The last event of the morning was the women's 400m freestyle event and what a punishing event it is. In the 11 year age group Evie Dilley swam a well-judged race to claim the lead approaching the final 50m and sustain her finish to the line to win gold. A superb performance. In the 12 year age group Louise-Emma Williams finished 11th. In the 13 years section Rebecca K was 6th and Ellie Baister 8th and in the 14 years section Rachel Bradley was 7th, Danielle Horner 10th and Rachel Maguire 15th. Olivia McAvoy was 5th in the 16 year and over age group. All the performances were a credit to the girls with some great times.

The morning had produced some immense performances to win 2 gold, 3 silver and 2 bronze medals.

The afternoon got off to a great start with Thomas, having a prolific championship, winning the gold in the men's 200IM and William finishing 5th. In the 13 year age group James Woods qualified for the final finishing 6th and in the 15 year age group Cade finished 6th in the final.

The second event of the afternoon was the women's 100m butterfly. Millie and Pearl Lightwood qualified for the 11 years final and what a terrific final it was with Millie just beaten for the gold medal by 0.12 seconds with a new club record and yet another Aimee Willmott record broken. Pearl finished 7th. In the 14 year old age group Mollie Dorsi qualified for the final finishing 10th and in the 16 years and over final Georgia Stockdale was 6th.

The penultimate event of the day was the men's 50m butterfly. In the 11 year age group William qualified for the final where he finished 5th and James finished 10th in the 13 years old final. In the 14 year age group final Oliver Hall swam a superb PB to claim the silver medal and in the 16 years and over final Daniel Andrews claimed the bronze medal. Great racing.

The final event of the day was the punishing women's 200m breaststroke event. This is particularly punishing since many will have been at the venue since 7am and there can be nothing more tiring than waiting around to compete, I know as a spectator.

In the 11 year age group Millie and Violet again fought out a desperate finish with Millie prevailing by 0.38 seconds to win gold, Hannah finished 5th, Marissa Grieves 7th and Pearl 9th. Great swimming girls!!

In the 13 year age group Rebecca K won bronze, just pipped for the silver and in the 14 years age group Sadie Dickinson finished 5th in the final and Robyn 4th in the 15 year old final.

Overall, not a bad day, 4 gold medals, 6 silver and 4 bronze medals.

The final day of the Championships started with the women's 200m backstroke and what a first race. In the 11 years age group Evie fought out a desperate finish to win gold by 0.02 seconds, Mille finished 3rd. In the 13 year age group Ellie Baister qualified for the final finishing 4th and in the 14 year age group Danielle Horner, Rachel Bradley and Rachel Maguire qualified for the final finishing 6th, 8th and 9th respectively. Well done girls!!

The second event of the morning was the men's 50m breaststroke. In the 11 year age group Thomas and William qualified for the final with Thomas just getting pipped for the gold. In the 16 years and over George Crawford qualified for the final finishing 6th.

The third event of the morning was a very competitive women's 100m freestyle. In the 11 year age group (28 swimmers) our girls did well with Evie, Pearl and Violet qualifying for the final and Hannah just missed out. In the final Evie won gold and Pearl the bronze with Violet finishing 7th. Great racing!! In the 13 year age group Emma Bell qualified for the final finishing 8th. In the 14 and 15 year old finals Rachel B and Robyn finished 7th and 10th respectively.

The final event of the morning was the men's 400m freestyle and what an arduous and extremely competitive event it was. In the 11 year old age group Thomas, going for yet another gold medal, did not let his support down by winning the gold. William swam a great race to win the bronze medal and Lewis Horner swam a very creditable race to finish 10th. Well done young men.

In the 12 year age group Toma swam well to finish 10th. In one of the races of the morning, and remembering that the swimmers are competing over 8 lengths of the baths, for three swimmers to be separated by 0.32 seconds was amazing. Unfortunately for James Woods he just missed out on a podium finish as did Oliver Hall in the 14 year old age group. Next time!! In the 15 year old age group Cade finished 7th and Joseph Micklewright 21st. In the 16 and over age group Adam Williams finished 13th.

A good morning, 3 golds and 3 bronze medals.

The final afternoon and a lot of tired swimmers.

For the girls it was the 200IM. In the 11 year age group Millie swam a good race to win silver with Evie 5th, Pearl 6th, Violet 14th, Hannah 15th and Marissa 18th. In the 13 year age final Ellie B finished 5th and in the 14 year old final Danielle finished 8th. In the 16 and over final Rebekah Worthy finished 6th. After a gruelling 2 days well done girls.

Next it was the men's 100m butterfly and again the 11 year olds "did us proud" with Thomas, Isaac Buchan and William qualifying for the final. In the final Thomas chalked up yet another gold medal with William 6th and Isaac 8th which augurs well for next year as Isaac is only ten. In the 12 year olds final Toma finished 9th and in the 13 years final James finished 9th. In the 14 year olds final Oliver swam a splendid race to win bronze and in the 16 years and over final Daniel just missed out on the bronze. All great efforts.

The final event for the girls was the 50m butterfly. In the 11 year old age group Millie and Pearl qualified for the final where they finished 6th and 9th respectively.

The final event for the boys was the 200m breaststroke. In the 11 year old age group Thomas won his fifth gold medal of the weekend and overall his tenth of the Championships, a truly majestic performance from a great sportsman. Not many of the competitors clap their

opponents on the podium but I saw Thomas doing this – a credit to himself and Middlesbrough ASA. Lewis swam a good race to finish 9th. In the 15 year olds final Joseph finished 7th.

Overall, the medal count for the weekend was 9 gold, 7 silver and 8 bronze.

The overall Championship medal count was 20 gold, 15 silver and 20 bronze.

As mentioned last time, this is a meet for the best of the best in Northumberland and Durham and to qualify for the event is testament to your abilities. Therefore all Middlesbrough members who took part can be proud of their performances, learn from the experience and then COMEBACK STRONGER NEXT TIME.