



camden
swiss cottage
swimming

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2017

Camden swimmers finish 4th in Arena Junior Inter-League Grand Final

On Sunday 26th November, for the first time in the club's history, our youngest swimmers (aged 9 to 12 years of age) travelled to Corby East Midlands International Pool for the Grand Final of the Arena Junior Inter-League.

Says Michelle McCarthy, Lead Development Coach: "We set off at 9.00am on with great anticipation of the day's events. The atmosphere at the pool was loud and noisy with teams and spectators cheering wildly. After a group photo, each team paraded around accompanied by much support from proud family and friends.



"When the racing started, the team pulled together to show fantastic team spirit. Our swimmers stepped up to the importance of the occasion – 200 clubs participated and we made the top 8 - with pride and ease."

Outstanding first place finishes were achieved by Nicholas Finch in the 11 years old 50m fly, clocking an impressive 32.90 and Leo He in the 12 years old event, touching victorious in 31.10. Nicholas, who also finished 2nd in the 50m backstroke in 35.20, went on to win the award for the Best 11 year old Boy Swimmer and received his prize from a special guest on the day - none other than Olympic Gold medalist and World Champion, Adam Peaty.



Our Arena Junior Inter-League Grand Final team, with Adam Peaty (above) and (below) with team captains Ines Guimond-Beetham and Leo He.



Second places were gained by Lucas Bohm (10) and 12 year old Ella McEver in the 50m breaststroke (40.60 and 36.46 respectively), and 10 year old Ava Lambropoulos in the 50m freestyle (32.26). Vital third place finishes were achieved by Ryan Van Dyke (9), Brandon Biss (12), Leo He (12) and Oliver Wright (12). Six relay quartets also gained valuable third place points.

The final result saw a strong City of Leeds team eventually take the win with 322 points, followed by City of Guildford, Stockport Metro and then Camden Swiss Cottage, who amassed 211 points.

The whole team had their photograph taken with Adam Peaty and he presented our Team Captains Ines Guimond-Beetham and Leo He with a trophy and medals. Adam also signed a limited number of photographs, so names were drawn out of the hat to decide the lucky recipients.

Says Nicholas Finch: "Going to the Grand Final was fantastic let alone coming 4th. I felt, as a team we did spectacularly because we had never been to the final before. Marching out into the colourfully dressed-up and loud crowd was fun and exciting. The day was even more special having Adam Peaty there. Being awarded the best 11 year old swimmer was a surprise and getting the award from Adam Peaty was just incredible. I am so proud to be part of CSCSC."

Adds Michelle: "The whole coaching team could not be happier. It was a fantastic day and our swimmers swam out of their skins to give such a highly polished performance. To come and finish fourth out of 200 teams is a huge achievement and a great indicator of the young talent we have at Camden Swiss Cottage. A big thank you also goes to our supporters, officials and helpers. Without them we wouldn't be able to compete and they helped to create an amazing atmosphere and team spirit."



Our Arena Junior Inter-League Grand Final team outside the Corby International Pool, and below, Nicholas Finch receives his award for Best 11 year old Boy.



A swimmer's eye view from Sian Tilbury

On a cold, crisp Sunday morning, an eager group of young Camden swimmers gathered at Swiss Cottage at 8:15am. Excitement was in the air: Kylie was wide awake and ready to go; excited parents were thrilled at the prospect of spending their Sunday in Corby; and the swimmers were swaddled in layers of sports kit, as the temperature had dropped to 5 degrees.

The racing started in the coach with sharp elbows flying as we were all determined and focused on securing the back row seats. Half way through the journey Kylie approached with a large cardboard box. "Yes!" we all thought, "team hoodies or maybe some specialised swimming hats!" Alas no....we had been too hopeful....it was full of blue Santa hats!

After a long two hour coach journey we arrived in Corby for the Grand Final. The final is a one-off and an extremely noisy event with the teams and supporters dressing up and getting into the spirit of this prestigious competitive occasion.

Camden were pitted against the best clubs in the country including City of Guildford and City of Leeds. After battling it out against all the other clubs, Camden finished an unexpected fourth after coming into the competition seeded 7th, missing out on 3rd place to Stockport Metro

Well done to all swimmers who took part and contributed to us qualifying for the first time ever. The Grand Final was an exciting event with lots of fast racing and fun, and it was great to see everyone supporting each other and working together as a team. Parents and supporters, thank you for all your effort in being there for us, which was really appreciated. You looked great in your outfits and the noise you generated supporting us helped us do our best.

A special thank you to Kylie and all the coaches, to Scott - who took time out of his accountancy studies - and to the team managers. The swimmers should be very proud of all their efforts and expectations are high for the County Championships.

LEAH CLINCHES GOLD AT SWIM ENGLAND NATIONALS

Last year's summer season culminated with the British Summer Championships followed by the Swim England National Summer Meet at Pond's Forge.

Qualifiers for the British Championships were Lauren Brantley, Ally Larson, Alex Borisov, Amir Castronovo, Benji Moore, Jackson Olin and Bryce Puszet.

Our National Summer Meet qualifiers were Lauren Brantley, Charlotte Hyde, Lyelle Kahaner, Ally Larson, Julia Murphy, Leah O'Connell, Alex Borisov, Amir Castronovo, Charlie Fraser-Allen, Benji Moore and Jackson Olin. In addition, Brandon Biss, Gabriele Giovannoni and Charlie Fraser-Allen qualified for the Open Water event.

A number of the swimmers posted personal best times and many qualified through to the finals, which was a really positive way to finish the season. The best was saved until last however, when Leah O'Connell (pictured right) clinched a gold medal in the Women's 50m Butterfly multi-classification event.



Leah O'Connell with her National Summer Meet gold medal

Masters' Corner

Our Masters have had a busy – and successful - Autumn schedule. Five Camden Swiss Cottage Masters braved the Serpentine lake in Hyde Park for a chilly annual Swim Serpentine event. In the 2 mile event, Chris Hopton won his age group, as well as being the 3rd fastest man overall. Helen Cumber came 6th and Barbara Faissola finished 32nd in their respective age categories. In the 1 mile distance, Hilary Johnson came 2nd, Elizabeth Knowles came 5th and Sara Magrath came 7th in their respective age group categories, with Sara finishing as the 10th fastest woman.

Indoors, in one of the first events of the season, the Barnet Sprint meet, Martin Woodhams won gold in the 100m breaststroke and bronze in 50m breaststroke with Chris Hopton having further success with a silver in the 100m freestyle and a bronze in the 100m IM. Martin also swam well in the 50m free and 100m free events coming 5th and 4th respectively. Meanwhile, racing in the South East Regional Meet in Guildford, Zorika Adams took silver in the 200m backstroke.

At the Swim England Masters National Championships in Sheffield, held between 27th-29th October, a group of Camden swimmers embarked on three days of great racing. Congratulations to Zorika Adams, Elena de la Camara, J Centella Rodriguez, Chris Hopton, Sara Magrath and Helen Cumber. A special mention goes to Chris Hopton who continued his strong season with a bronze in the 400m freestyle.

Finally, further afield Helen Cumber also recently took part in the 2nd World Police Games, held in Abu Dhabi on 3-10 November. Helen swam an excellent race to pick up a bronze in the 50m backstroke with a life-time PB of 33.81 and a silver in the 4x50m freestyle relay.

Don't forget, if you have any questions, queries or issues of any sort, please feel free to contact either of the Masters' Reps, Fiona Kinsella or Zorika Adams at any time.



Chris Hopton with his gold medal at Swim Serpentine



Maria Lombardo, Barbara Faissola and Sara Magrath

Adam Taylor announced as our new Head Coach

We are delighted that Adam Taylor will be joining us as our new Head Coach on 4th December. Some of you will have had the chance to meet him when he visited Swiss Cottage, but all of you will see him over the next few weeks as we arrange meetings for every squad.

Adam began his coaching career at Newcastle Swimming Club in 2009 before joining City of Birmingham Swimming Club as Head National Age Group Coach. Between 2010-2016 he produced national champions who went on to qualify for international teams including the Energy Standard Cup Team and the European Youth Olympic Team, where his swimmer achieved a silver medal. He also coached Samuel Osbourne to an English Junior Record in the 400m freestyle.

In 2016 Adam was a Coach on the British Swimming National Junior Camp and a year later he was appointed as a Coach on the England Team for the Marseille Golden Tour meet. He has been selected as a member of the coaching staff for the England Talent Programme every year since 2011 and is also part of a mentoring programme for coaches.

We are excited to have Adam join us. He will build on the great work already put in place by Matt and our existing coaching team, and we know you will all make Adam very welcome.

We would also like to thank Gerry for all his extra work as our interim Head Coach, and also thank all the coaching team for covering the additional sessions needed before Adam joins us. Thanks too to Sandy and Tom for keeping the show on the road!

Club Gains Silver Achievement Award from

We are delighted to announce that the club has been awarded the Silver Achievement Award from the Jack Petchey Foundation.

This means that we will be able to nominate a number of Achievement Award winners throughout the year. They will each receive the award, along with £250 to be spent on something of their choice for the benefit of the club.

Sir Jack Petchey CBE founded the Jack Petchey Foundation in 1999 to recognise the positive contributions young people make to society and assist them in achieving their potential.

Our first two Achievement Award winners for September to November will be announced shortly. In the meantime we would like to say a very big thank you to committee member Helen Cumber, who alongside Laurence Markantonis and Sandy Clayton, worked hard to secure the Silver Achievement Award for our benefit.

Arena League Final Round & Winter Champs coming soon!

Congratulations to Lauren Brantley, Ally Larson, Anna Podurgiel and Jackson Olin, our Swim England National Winter Champs qualifiers, who will be travelling up to Pond's Forge in Sheffield just before Christmas to compete at the highest national level.

Before then, our swimmers will race in the final round of the London Division of the Arena League in Luton. We currently stand in 3rd place behind Hatfield and teamipswich. Good luck everyone!

UPCOMING FIXTURES



Arena League Final Round

9th December 2017
Luton Sports Village

National Winter Championships

13th December – 17th December 2017, Level 1
Pond's Forge, Sheffield

Hillingdon Winter Short Course

16th-17th December, Level 3
Hillingdon Sports and Leisure Centre

Barnet Winter Invitational

7th January 2018, Level 4
Barnet Copthall Sports Centre

Middlesex Age Group Championships

20th -21st January 2018 and 3rd-4th February 2018, Level 2
Southbury Road, Enfield

South East Masters Long Course

20th-21st January 2018
Crawley K2