

SPORT ROUND-UP

Stars of the pool get Boldmere off to a flying start in junior league meet

Swimming

BOLDMERE Swimming Club's A team got off to a cracking start in the opening gala of the Nuneaton District Division One Junior League in Halesowen.

They triumphed with 252 points, 20 points ahead of City of Coventry with 232 followed by Halesowen with 206, Chase, Kingsbury Aquarius A and Northgate.

They gained an impressive 44 top-three finishes out of the 51 events with 18 wins earning the maximum six league points on the night.

For the 9-yr-olds, Oliver Carless won the one-length backstroke and was second in the freestyle. Luke Butcher was second in the breaststroke.

Girls' gala star Erin Davies won the breaststroke in a club record time of 30.40secs and also triumphed in the freestyle. Irisha Powell was third in the butterfly.

In the 10-yr section, Abbey Turnbull came third with a club record time of 49.43secs in the two-length freestyle and



Stars of the Gala' with medals sponsored by Appella Fitness - Ben Smith, Charlotte Fellows, Max Southgate, Indu Appanna, Erin Davies and Solomon Allen.
Picture: Steve Harlow

second in the breaststroke.

Boys' gala star Ben Smith stormed to gold in both the freestyle and backstroke while Acer Woolley won the butterfly and Jamie Dark came second in the breaststroke.

For the 11-yrs, Harriet Gordon grabbed first place in a fingertip finish with a club record of 54.06secs in the two-length backstroke.

Lily Wood came second in the breaststroke and freestyle, both in club record times, while Alexander Bartley finished third in the butterfly.

Ben Smith swam up for the 11-yr boys in the backstroke with an impressive second place, while Toby Chiles finished second in the breaststroke.

In the 12-yrs, Megan Holder won the backstroke with a club record of 46.84secs and also triumphed in the freestyle. Hannah Turnbull and Aristeia Knight finished second in the butterfly and breaststroke respectively.

Leighton Palmer-Whyte was second place in the breaststroke in a club record of

54.74secs, Roan Griffin took second place in the butterfly and third in the backstroke while Taleb Givans came third in the freestyle.

Of the 19 relays, Boldmere claimed 18 top-three positions with special mention going to the 12-yr girls' relay team who took first place in both their medley and freestyle relays.

In Division Two, the B team claimed 37 personal bests in their gala at Leamington Spa, with Sol Langston shining by claiming 50m backstroke gold and 25m silver.

Beatrice Adams finished third in the 11-yr girls' 50m backstroke, as did Katherina Hall in the 12-yr and Cameron Billingsley in the 12-yr boys' 50m breaststroke.

Stars of the gala Max Southgate and Charlotte Fellows also recorded personal bests in both their individual events as well as making solid contributions to team relays where a further 47 personal bests were achieved.

The 11-yr girls' team of Beatrice Adams, Maddie Shay, Rebecca Ilott and Eva Lockley finished a respectable third in

both the freestyle and medley events.

Over in Tamworth, the C team started their 2013 Division Three campaign with 37 personal bests, four wins and five second places to finish in a creditable fourth place.

Boys' gala star Solomon Allen was third in the boys' 9-yr breaststroke, while girls' gala star Indu Appanna won the 12-yr girls' 50m freestyle and came second in the backstroke. Lana Ryan came second in the 10-yr breaststroke.

The 11-yr girls' team of Natasha Yardley, Stephanie Deathridge, Francesca Goode and Alexandra Andrews convincingly won the medley relay and took silver in the freestyle.

Alexandra Andrews was second in the 11-yr 50m backstroke while Francesca Goode knocked three seconds off her personal best with a 40.30secs swim to win the 50m butterfly.

The girls' 12-yr medley relay team of Appanna, Stephanie Deathridge, Ellie Radford and Natasha Hodson took silver.

Hurdler Hayes gets Sutton off to flyer

Athletics

ROYAL Sutton Coldfield Athletics Club made a terrific start to the new Youth Development League season with a fifth-placed finish at a very windy Banbury.

Ruth Hayes clinched an impressive victory in the under-20 400m hurdles, in her first outing for the club, while Elmena Saunders also claimed gold in the under-17 800m.

Charlotte Newman followed this by storming to victory in the under-17 300m and, not long afterwards, Gabby Kinney did the same in the 400m.

Seraina Ummel crossed the line first in the under-20 3,000m and 800m, a great result on her RSCAC debut. Molly Rees continued the winning streak in the under-17 1,500m.

For the boys, Shaun Evans and Alfie McBrien were both second in the under-17 800m and 1,500m respectively, while Theo Larcombe finished fifth in a hotly contested under-20 800m.

On the field, Maddy Stearn clinched the win in a tightly contested under-20 javelin. Will Bonner won the under-17 men's shot, shortly after a third place finish in the 400m.

Michael Iwanowicz was second in the under-17 long jump. Kane Howitt was third in the under-20 long jump, while Harry Chandler was second in the B event.

Rachel Brown and Natassja Longstaff gained valuable points in the under-17 long and triple jump, as did an injured Nicolas Mbeve and Amy Bonner in the under-20 throwing events.

Ostergaard bags late score as the super Spartans win dramatic finale

Rugby Union

OLD COVENTRIANS 29 SPARTANS 36

Warwickshire Shield Final

SPARTANS topped off an encouraging season by being crowned Shield champions.

It was Coventry who made the early running, with a very strong set of forwards feeding a lively set of backs.

Consistent pressure and good movement resulted in a converted try.

Tom Hardy landed a penalty in reply but Old Coventrians struck again for a second converted try.

Spartans were struggling to make any headway against their committed opponents.

However, the Men in Black eventually created a chance for Mike Foulds to score.

Hardy added the extras to get them back into the game.

However, from the kick off, Spartans conceded a converted try again to find themselves 11 points behind for the second time in half an hour.

Finally Spartans got into the game and the rescue act began when captain Mike Bennett powered over the line.

Minutes later some quick ball and slick hands saw vice captain Mike Blair repeat the feat to give Spartans an unlikely 22-21 half time lead.

The topsy-turvy spectacle continued to engage the large crowd as Old Coventrians snatched an early second half try for 26-22.

Spartans grasped the lead when Alex Ostergaard crossed in the corner.

The conversion from Hardy then saw the lead change hands again.

Once more Old Coventrians came back and a penalty in front of the posts was grate-



fully accepted to make it 29-29 with ten minutes to go.

Spartans were forced to dig even deeper and, with good field position, a sniff of a score quickly turned to panic as

their rivals hacked downfield.

However, scrambled defence resulted in a line-out in the Spartans' 22.

Old Coventrians tried to

move the ball ambitiously but the last pass fell short, and the ever alert Ostergaard took his chance to race home from 55m and Hardy banged over the conversion.

INSHORT

BOWLS: Erdington Court Bowls Club commenced its outdoor season with its President's Day recently.

This year's President, Geoff Bryant, welcomed all the members and arranged a 'Round Robin' tournament during the afternoon.

Prizes were given to the winning rink of Ken Bournes, Margaret Laskey and Tim Hartland.

The club is hoping to build on a fine season last time out.

Highlights included nonagenarian Keith Robinson achieving 100 consecutive appearances for Warwickshire County Bowls Association.

The club's Birmingham Bowling Association A team won the league title in 2011 and 2012 and members were successful in most of the 2012 BBA finals held at Tamworth.

Work on the outdoor green is close to completion and an official opening day is to be held on May 25 when members will be competing for sponsored prizes.

Anyone interested in joining the club can contact the Membership Secretary David Mitchell on 0121 308 2508

TENNIS: Little Aston Tennis Club stars have had a busy start to the season.

The men's first team lost 4-0 at Marston Green but the seconds were 4-0 winners over both Digby and Bournville.

The men's third team beat Sutton Coldfield 4-0 and the ladies first team beat Four Oaks 3-1.



Boldmere Tennis Club launched its season of summer tournaments for members with the Ogley Cup mixed doubles competition recently. After an afternoon of exhilarating and enjoyable tennis the winners this year were Anwen Jones and Chris Wegrzynowski, the second successive year that the latter has triumphed. The attached photograph shows the players with Jones, who was also the tournament organiser, front centre and Wegrzynowski third from the left on the back row. Anyone interested in joining the Jockey Road club can call 0121 603 7930 or 308 3150 for more details.



TENNIS: Streetly Tennis Club hosted the Schools Challenge Trophy last weekend. Boys and girls from Four Oaks and St Anne's primary schools contested the trophy, with Four Oaks emerging as winners. The picture shows the boys and girls from Four Oaks and St Anne's primary schools, with staff, together with club coaches Kate Fourcade, Max Brazier, and Steve Shea. For further information about playing tennis at Streetly, contact Neil Goldsby on 07974 672699.