



### **Head Coach Report Medway 1 Gala 18.2.17**

So here we are again at the Medway ASA 2017 series of galas held at Medway Pk Gillingham. Beachfield fielded a large contingent of swimmers first up was the women's open 200 individual medley with 3 Beachfield girls all swimming in the same heat ,Polly Thomas ,taking 4 seconds off her pb Tierney Sharp and Elle Nikhwai shaving 1 and a half seconds off her personal best competing for Beachfield for the first time. We then had Rachel Gearing and Lois Duchesne slightly off their PBs , but good swims. In the girls 12 yrs 100 fly Kirstie Foster produced a personal best as well as did Holly Richards with a 6 second one. Then Beachfield had Frasier Beckham William Fitzpatrick, Freddie Dolman and Ben Fox all going for fast times in the boys 12 yrs fly all knocking off a large chunk off their personal bests. William reached the final and picked up a silver medal. Daisy Richards and Kara Mitchell were competing for the first time in the 10 yrs 50 Backstroke, joining them were Madison Moor, taking a 4 second pb. Faith Harris, replicating Madison with a 4 second pb and Jess Hummel who swam well but was a little off her (unlicensed) pb. The 10 yrs boys 50 Backstroke, and competing for the first time at Medways were Charlie Farr and Samuel Gosset, who both swam well and earned PBs. Daisy and Kara reached the finals and placed second and sixth respectively - well done girls, with Faith Harris just missing out in 7<sup>th</sup>.

Event 13 we saw the girls 100 Individual medley and Leonie having to pull out due to a very painful back, the 3 remaining Beachfield girls hit some really fast personal bests Grace Dolman just missing out on the final in 7<sup>th</sup> place. Beth Farr and Amelia Hopper both with 13 second pb completed the trio! Sam Dickinson and Luke Gearing had a great race with Sam just pipping Luke on the touch in the boys 100 individual medley, both boys making the final in second and third places respectively, In the final the places were reversed but both boys going faster in the final getting a silver and a bronze for the club.

Kaelia Boosey, Lilly Rose Burke and Erika Hopper were representing the club in the girls 11yrs 100 breaststroke all swimming well with more personal bests added to the now growing personal best haul. Beachfield had Jack Burke and Alfie Page in the boys 11 yrs 100 Breaststroke. Both boys getting pbs and Alfie making the final in 6<sup>th</sup> place where he also finished in the final.

In the girls 14 yrs 100 free Elle Nikhwai stole a 2 second pb and Lois Duchesne also picked up a pb. Lois made the final and finished in 4<sup>th</sup> place Elle just missed the final in 7<sup>th</sup> place

Brandon Harris took two seconds off his 100 free pb in the 14 yrs age group making the final in top spot in a time of 1:00.61. Unfortunately, officials in the final were unable to distinguish a fast start from a false start and disqualified Brandon in the final despite photographic evidence to the contrary showing Brandon's feet still in contact with the block after the start.

The last event was the girls -15 yrs 100 breaststroke and Tilda Durrant, who swam an excellent technical race to take off 2 and a half seconds off her pb only to be disqualified for a questionable decision with an illegal kick of which I could make head nor tail of. A pity as her time would have easily qualified her for the final. Genny Hunter took 4 seconds off her 100 breaststroke PB, well done Genny!

Pete Withey