

Strong start for Street at Somerset Counties 2018



Street & District swimmers got off to a strong start at this years ASA Somerset County Championships. The first weekend is always dedicated to the iron men and women who take on the long distance events, and this years programme featured 800m for boys and 1500m for girls for the first time.

In the Boys 1500m, Charlie Cook picked up the clubs first medal of this years' championships, swimming to an excellent bronze. Bobby Clark battled to a 7th place finish in the open age group. In the 800m, Ruby Varney took a big PB and came a creditable 5th, whilst in the next age group up her big sister Erica led the way in 6th, just ahead of clubmates Jess Edwards (7th) and Jess Hudson (9th). Joanna Black swam a fine new PB and also took 5th spot, with Imogen Rogers 9th in the same age group. Fin Hunter-Clarke then swam to a superb silver in the boys event.

Day two saw the competition open up to the more usual range of events. 200m freestyle saw PBs from Tegan Lawton, Eve Chagger-Goode, Ruby, Erica, Yasmin Mahey and Joanna. There were strong swims from Lucy Williams, Kaylee Nisbett, Chloe Bott, Kayla Pike, Jess Edwards, Jess Hudson, Georgia Hill, Sophie Chillingworth and Imogen.

In the 100m backstroke, Fin winning a brilliant gold, and finalist Harvey Pike just missing out on a medal (4th). Will Bale, Ethan Difford, Toby Webster, Jake Fouracres (PB), Albert Tidball-Zapp, Alex Rendall, Sam Bonds (PB), Sean Robinson all impressed.

The girls then took on the 100m butterfly Ruby made the final and won a fine silver medal and this was a feat matched by club captain Kayleigh Parker, who also picked up silver in the Senior (overall) standings. Tegan finished in the top 10, whilst Cora Lamham and Georgia also swam well in this tough sprint event.



Harvey swam a great 50 breaststroke in the final, winning a silver. Matthew Chillingworth and Xander Hallett got PBs, with Fin (6th) making the final and Ethan (4th and PB) and Charlie Hill (6th) also made their age group final. Jake Fouracres, Fabian Edgar, Will Carr, Rob Hall, Alfie Hawkins just missing out on a PB.

Day 3, and the 200m breaststroke proved a strong event for the boys, Harvey Pike won a gold, with Fin bagging bronze and there were PBs and final spots for Xander, Charlie H., Toby and Will. A large group of girls took on the 200m backstroke event, and leading the way was Ruby who claimed a fine PB and fifth place in the final. There were also strong swims from Sophie, Tegan, Lois, Kaylee, Kayla, Jess H, Xia, Erica, Imogen and Joanna.

In the 100m freestyle, Harvey bagged a second gold, with Fin also making the final. There were PBs for Fabian, Toby and Albert, and good efforts from Will B., Ethan, Jake, Charlie C., Will C., Rob H., Sam, Rob W., Bobby and Sean.

Ruby took a superb bronze in the gruelling 400m freestyle, with Erica so close in 4th, consoled by a PB. Tegan also bagged a PB, and made the final of the 50m backstroke. There were fine efforts from Jess E., Jess H., and Annabel.

The freestyle relays had a feeling of de ja vu as the U12 boys (Will, Harvey, Fin and Xander) got silver and bronze went to the U14s (Toby, Fabian, Jake and Ethan) – repeating their feats of 24 hours previously. The U12 girls (Isabel, Tegan, Lois and Eve) came 5th, and the U14s (Amy, Kayla, Cora and Ruby), battled to 9th place.

A club spokesperson said, “After a difficult Autumn, with disrupted training, the swimmers have really produced some outstanding efforts, not just the medallists but the PBs and also the relay teams doing so well so far across a range of strokes and distances. Bring on the next two weekends and more of the same would be fantastic.”

Photos: U12 and U14 relays, and Captain Kayleigh.