



2011 NATIONAL ARENA LEAGUE – ROUND 1 - Dover

The lighting in the pool may have been subdued but the Hythe Aqua swimmers shone brightly to achieve a very pleasing 3rd place in the first round at Dover. After event 10 Hythe were second but then maintained 3rd place throughout. Unfortunately too many 5th and 6th places prevented us challenging for 2nd place this time but in the 2nd round we are capable of it.

The 11yr age section was very strong with Hythe wins for Max Hulbert in the 50m Fly and Back, Saul Owen 50m Free and Breast , Girls Medley Relay(A Cuffley, B Adams, E Godfrey E Cloake) and the Boys Medley Relay(S Owen, L Archer, M Hulbert F Wood) This age group also gained valuable points for Hythe with 2nd's for Bryony Adams 50m Fly and Breast, Eliza Cloake 50m Free, Girls Free Relay(Cuffley, Cloake, Adams, Godfrey) and Boys Free Relay(Hulbert, Owen, Archer, Wood)

The 13/U section saw convincing wins for Grace Walker and Charles Watson in the 100m Free and Back and Girls Free Relay (E Burch, G Archer, G Walker V McDowell Austin) whilst Vanessa McDowell Austin smashed her PB to get 2nd in 100m Fly. Further points were gained with 3rd's in Boys Medley Relay (T Evans, T Fox, J Chislett, C Watson) and Girls Medley Relay (N Wyborn, G Archer, G Walker, V McDowell Austin)

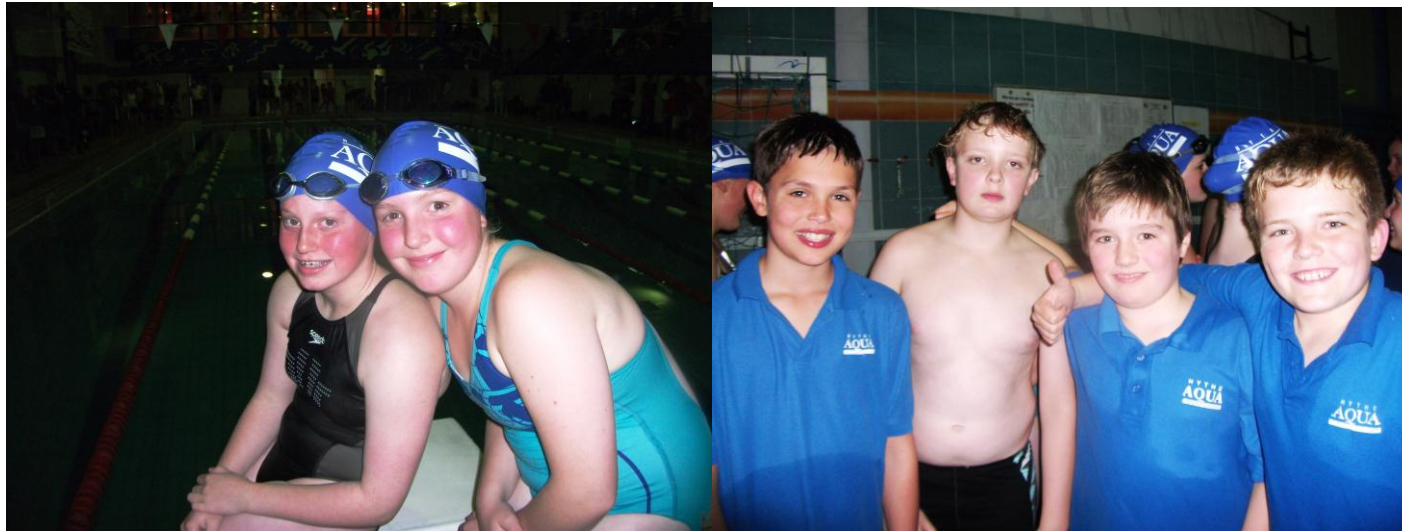
Hythe had to swim a lot of younger swimmers up into the 15/u age group as one crucial swimmer was out injured, so it was a tough for Hythe. However credit must go to Sam Hindess, 4th 100m Breast and Isabel Adams 5th 100m Breast

The Open Boys produced some good results with Josh Hill 2nd in 100m IM and 100m Breast in a S.E. Region Qualifying Time, Ben Walker 2nd 100m Back whilst the final event 6 x 50m Freestyle squadron had all the parents and coaches screaming as they gained 2nd place after leading at times (J Hill, D Burch, S Farrow, B Webborn, C Watson, B Walker). The Open Boys Medley were 3rd (B Walker, J Hill, D Burch, S Farrow). The Open Girls were all swimming up age groups, so it was always going to be hard so full credit to Vanessa McDowell Austin for her third place and excellent PB in the 100m freestyle and 4th in 100m IM, Grace for 4th in the 100m Back and Natalie for her PB in the 100M Breast. Also the girls Open Squadron came a creditable 4th (J. Saunders, F Coughlan, E Burch, L Nash, V McDowell, G Walker) considering not one of them was over 15.

Overall it was a pleasing night and some good performances. Special mention must go to Charles Watson who despite feeling sick and having a headache carried on swimming to a high level and hope Tommy is feeling better after as he had to go home ill half way through the gala. Thank you to all the swimmers who swam up age groups and to Eddie, Pete, Jim Christine and Debbie for helping poolside and officiating.

***Next Arena gala: 12th November – Trinity School (Croydon) 6.00pm warm
up***

Keep Training Hard



Pictured: Some of the Hythe Team and successful Relay Teams

