



Southern Counties

Media release for Southampton Diving Academy

Divers from Southampton Diving Academy once again demonstrated their strength on the competitive scene when their team of just seven divers took nineteen medals between them at the Southern Counties Amateur Swimming Association Junior and Senior Springboard and Highboard Diving Championships held at the Quays on Saturday 12th July.

Ten of the twelve gold medals on offer were taken by the Academy, with additional five silver and four bronze medals.

Gary Hunt (19) took gold in all of his three senior events, diving consistently well throughout the day to achieve an outstanding result.

Natalie Hill (15), returning to competition after a 3 month break due to a wrist injury, dived well to take gold on the 1m board in both the junior and senior events. Her injury continues to prevent her from competing on 3m or highboard.

In the same age group Anna Bennett-Britton (14) took gold in both the junior and senior highboard events with a polished performance and consistently high quality dives.

Concentrating on the springboard events, Robert Appleby (17) took both gold's in the junior events and was only beaten by team mate Gary Hunt in the senior events, pushing him into silver medal positions.

Ciaran O'Reilly also showed good form, taking two silvers and a gold in the junior events and a silver medal in the senior highboard event.

Senior coach, Mark Alderman, was delighted with the outcome of the day. "I was very impressed with how they all dived," he said. "Particularly with the event coming so close after the Age Group Nationals, which is the biggest event in the national calendar for most of them. I'm delighted to say that they showed no signs of tiredness affecting their performances."

Full results were as follows:

Junior events

Anna Bennett-Britton, 1m 4th, 3m bronze, platform gold
Natalie Hill, 1m gold;
Dayne Mulford, 1m 4th, 3m bronze
Pat O'Reilly, 1m bronze;
Ciaran O'Reilly, 1m silver, 3m silver, platform gold
Robert Appleby, 1m gold, 3m gold

Senior events

Anna Bennett-Britton, 1m bronze, platform gold
Natalie Hill, platform gold; Pat O'Reilly, 1m 5th
Ciaran O'Reilly, 1m 4th, 3m 4th, platform silver
Gary Hunt, 1m gold, 3m gold, platform gold
Robert Appleby, 1m silver, 3m silver

ENDS

For further details call the Publicity Officer, Anne Clewlow on 023 8022 1707.

Please note photo opportunities can be arranged.