



English Schools' National Finals

Media release for Southampton Diving Academy

Members of Southampton Diving Academy occupied 7 of the 8 places in the Division 12 team at the English Schools' Swimming Association Inter-Divisional Diving Championships held at Leeds International Pool on Saturday 15th November. In addition two Southampton divers, who actually live in Kent, held places on the Division 11 team.

The championships are restricted to the springboards, with competitors having the opportunity of using both 1m and 3m boards.

Overall the Division 12 team took 5th place and the Division 11 team 3rd place, after a closely fought contest for positions 2 to 6 in the rankings. Only 7 points separated 2nd and 6th places.

Robert Appleby (17), diving for Division 11, did particularly well to take the silver medal in the senior boys' championship. Ciaran O'Reilly (14) and Emily Alderman (11) also put in good performances to take bronze medals in the intermediate boys' and junior girls' championships respectively.

Other divers who stood out on the day included Nick Farrow (10), diving for the first time in a major national competition and Melissa Harley (15), diving in a field that included international divers and the national champion. Melissa put in a set of very good dives, leaving her only 10 points off a medal position.

Senior coach at the event, Mark Alderman, was very pleased with the outcome. "They all dived well and were excellent ambassadors for their regions," he said. "I was proud to be their coach."

Full results:

Nick Farrow, 9th;
Emily Alderman, bronze;
Ciaran O'Reilly, bronze;
Stephen Appleby, 5th;
Melissa Harley, 4th;
Kate Hicks, 5th;
Adam Purkis, 5th;
Patrick O'Reilly, 5th;
Robert Appleby, silver

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For further details call the Director of Coaching, Lindsey Fraser: 023 8072 0922.

Please note photo opportunities can be arranged.