

Press Release - Southampton Diving Academy - January 2011

Success for Southampton Divers in Southend

Southampton Diving Academy's Peter Waterfield beat Tom Daley (Plymouth) for the second successive year to retain the men's 10m platform title at the British National Cup in Southend. Waterfield, who teamed up with his 16-year-old rival to win the 10m synchro title on Saturday, trailed the world champion at the halfway stage. But the 2004 Olympic silver medallist from Southampton produced two superb final dives to win 494.25 to 472.35.

The Mens 10m synchro final also saw Southampton's Commonwealth champion Max Brick win a bronze medal with his new diving partner James Denny (Leeds). Max continued his medal haul by finishing in bronze position in the Mens 10m Individual event with a score of 399.80. Also representing Southampton in this event were Ryan Strudwick, Alastair Khakoo and Lewis Coleman-Smith who took the Junior 3rd, 4th and 5th places respectively showing they are definitely ones to look out for in the future.

The gold rush had started on the first day of the competition with Southampton's Chris Mears winning the 3m synchro title with his partner Nick Robinson-Baker (Sheffield), a partnership that has continued to improve since narrowly missing out on a bronze medal in the Commonwealth Games in Dehli. The pair dominated their final and looked in a strong position from their first dive. Also competing for the first time at Senior National level were Southampton Diving Academy's young pair Alastair Khakoo and Lewis Coleman-Smith who took the Junior 2nd place. Chris Mears then went on to compete in the Mens 3m finals, winning another medal, this time a bronze with a great score of 415.95. He then competed in the 1m finals this time taking the Junior 2nd place.

Southampton's women also showed that they can compete with the best with the young pairing of Georgie Wingrove (15) and Rosie Medlock (14) winning a bronze medal in the 3m synchro competition. Georgie also reached the Womens 3m Individual final, bettering her preliminary score by over 20 points to finish in Senior 6th position.

It was in the Women's 10m final where the Southampton women showed their strength in numbers with five of our divers coming in the top 6 of the Junior Competition. Lauren Grinstead was highest placed in this tough event in 2nd position, Rosie Medlock 3rd, Georgie Wingrove 4th, Sarah White 5th and Bethany Watts 6th.

With 13 divers in total having made it to the competition it shows the strength and depth of the divers at Southampton Diving Academy, all of whom train with Active Nation at The Quays in Southampton. With only 18 months to go to the 2012 Olympics, Southampton divers are well-positioned to stake a claim.

Note to Editors:

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