

ISLE OF MAN SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

PRESS RELEASE



Sports Aid recipients, Laura Kinley and Charlotte Atkinson were on sparkling form at the recent Robin Hood long course meet at Sheffield, with five Manx Record breaking swims and thirteen medals between them.

Fifteen year old Laura retained her titles from last year, with Golds in all three breaststroke events, setting Manx Senior and junior records in all three with times of 34.13 for the 50m, one min 13.99 for the 100m and two min 43.86 for the 200m. She also took Bronze medals in the 50m and 100m freestyle in times of 28.40 and one min 01.42 respectively, and finished fourth and sixth in the 200m individual medley and 50m backstroke.

Charlotte took five Golds out of the ten events she contested in the fourteen years old section. Her sprint wins, the 50m butterfly in 30.32 and the 50m backstroke in 32.79 set new Manx Junior Records, with the former also setting a new Senior mark. Her other wins came in the 100m and 200m backstroke, in one min 08.03 and two min 27.45, and the 200m individual medley in two min 26.71. A silver medal came her way in the 400m freestyle, in a time of four min 34.17, and bronzes for the 50m freestyle with 28.40, and the 100m butterfly with one min 07.76. She only finished outside the medals in two events, the 100m and 200m freestyle, in which she came fourth.

Twelve year old Ben Kebbell also came home with eight medals, winning Golds in the 50m and 100m backstroke in 34.47 and one min 13.68, and the 200m breaststroke in two min 54.67. He took Silvers in the shorter breaststrokes with 37.78 for the 50m and one min 22.77 for the 100m. He completed his haul with three bronzes for the 200m backstroke in two min 40.16, the 100m freestyle in one min 06.53 and the 400m freestyle in four min 59.12.

Ciara Cassidy won a complete set of medals in the eleven years age group, with Gold for the 50m butterfly in 32.93, Silver for the 50m freestyle in 32.00 and a bronze for the 100m butterfly in one min 14.32.

James Hansford, fourteen, also won three medals, all in backstroke events. His time of 32.34 gave him Silver in the 50m, which he matched with one min 07.69 over 100m. He took Bronze in the 200m in two min 23.23. Also in the fourteen years age group Steph Brew took double Silver in breaststroke events, with 36.03 for the 50m and one min 20.77 for the 100m.

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The remaining two medals for local swimmers also came in breaststroke with fourteen year old Guy Davies taking Silver over 200m in two min 47.17, and thirteen year old Sarah Wignall Bronze over 50m in 38.82.

In addition twelve year old Darwen swimmer, Niamh Robinson, competing under the Isle of Man banner, won Gold in the 200m breaststroke with two min 58.83, and bronzes in 50m backstroke and 100m breaststroke with times of 36.39 and one min 24.85.

Competing in her first event off island, and her first in a 50m pool, ten year old Maisie Short just missed out on the medals with a fourth place in the 50m breaststroke. She also finished fifth and sixth over 400m and 200m freestyle, and seventh in both the 50m and 100m freestyle.

Also representing the Isle of Man, but out of the medals were Allana Kelly, who finished fourth and fifth in the fifteen years 50m backstroke and butterfly, Mark Copparelli, Josh Corteen, Conall Jaques, Ben Donaldson, Amy Kinley, Sammy Titterton and Kirsten Vickery.

The meet saw well over three hundred swimmers competing, coming from as far afield as Scotland and Cornwall, and National Coach Sacha Djerfi is rightly proud of the Manx team, who finished fifth out of over fifty teams.

The local league season starts this Saturday at the NSC at 5.55pm.