



National Arena League, Round 2

12th November 2011

Edmonton Phoenix Swimmers travelled to Hatfield on Saturday, 12th November to take part in the much anticipated second round of the National Arena League. As expected in Division 1, the standard of teams encountered at the fixture was yet again extremely high, with many national swimmers part of the equation. The Round 2 draw saw Edmonton Phoenix compete against Bishop's Stortford, Camden, Ealing, GBM, Romford, Shiverers and Norwich.

Despite the more than tough competition, all our swimmers delivered performances to be proud of. Many PBs were swum and club records broken yet again. Our team managed to secure 9 third places, 5 second places and 3 wins.

Meghan Byrne stormed to victory in the Girls 11 and Under 50m Breaststroke in a record breaking time of 39.31, smashing her own club record for the event for both 10 and 11 year-olds. Later on in the programme, Meghan secured a further first place in the Girls 11 and Under 50m Freestyle event with a time of 30.29, beating the best of the opposition by well over one second.

Our third win of the night was the suspense-filled 13 and Under Girls Freestyle Relay, where our team consisting of Mia Hawkes, Jessie Montague, Amy Carson and Lena Soulas put in a very strong performance, just managing to beat the Ealing team by 6/100 of a second on the last leg in an incredible time of 1:55.98. Congratulations to Mia Hawkes who broke the 13 and Under club record for 50m Freestyle swimming the first leg of the relay in a time of 28.67.

Earlier in the programme, Mia had already shown an extraordinary performance in the Girls 13 and Under 100m Freestyle event, where she smashed her own club record in a time of 1:01.60, taking second place behind the Ealing swimmer.

Further second places were secured by Ryan McCarthy (15 and Under 100m Backstroke, 1:01.30, and 15 and Under 100 Freestyle, 0:56.30), David O'Toole (Men Open 100m Breaststroke, 1:08.76) and Toby Pasmore (15 and under 100m Breaststroke, 1:13.80).

Congratulations also to Harry Jenner, who swam his Men Open 100m Butterfly event in an awe-inspiring time of 57.82, beating his national qualifying time for the event and setting a new Open club record.

Special thanks go to swimmers Jen Budden and Emma Tunstall who have yet again shown 100% commitment to the club and their teammates by travelling back to London from their respective universities for the occasion.

The atmosphere in the gallery was electric throughout the evening; our swimmers were accompanied by a great team of supporters. Thank you to all who made it to Hatfield.

Thank you also to coaches Barry Thomas and Rob Howe, team managers Linda Newman and Karen Hawkes and our officials Vicki McCarthy and Anne Westcough.

Round 3 of the Arena League will be held on 10th December, at Southbury Leisure Centre. Supporters - please come along in large numbers and wear red!

GO PHOENIX!!!

Final points:

*Ealing 336, Camden 334, Norwich 262, Romford 241, **Edmonton Phoenix 228**, Shiverers 180, Bishop's Stortford 136 and Greenwich Borough Mariners 80.*

Our Team:

Sam Pereira, Ted Winfield, Lewis Hitchings, Callum Dodds, Meghan Byrne, Caitlin McCabe, Maya Kirlew, Anna Ryan, Tom Newman, Jack Ryan, Ross McCarthy, Josh Kirlew, Ben Howe, Mia Hawkes, Amy Carson, Lena Soulas, Jessie Montague, Charlotte Newman, Fiona Westcough, Jade Mehmet Ali, Sara Khadraoui, Hannah Thomas, Ryan McCarthy, Toby Pasmore, Elliott Bertram, Joe Glazebrook, Harry Jenner, Megan Holder, Emma Tunstall, Jen Budden, David O'Toole, Alex Pasmore, Zach Kirlew, Louis Kirlew