

## 2012 New Zealand Short Course Championships – 30<sup>th</sup> September to 4<sup>th</sup> October 2012

The champs this year had a very different format, due to them becoming a qualifying meet for the World Short Course Champs to be held in Turkey later this year. This meant that there would be the inclusion of Open grade swimmers (Olympians) at the meet so the morning sessions were for age group finals and the evening sessions included Open finals plus A & B Finals made up in two groups of 15 and Under and 16 and over. These evening results did not affect the age group results posted earlier in the day at the morning sessions.



Bronagh Ryan, Chris Andrews-Kidd, Ben Walsh & Nev

Overall the team achieved 2 Open Bronze Medals, 4 Age Group Gold Medals, 2 Age Group Bronze Medals and several National Top 10 placings. PCA finished 29<sup>th</sup> on the final points table out of the 73 clubs that appeared. Against the Wellington clubs we were place 4<sup>th</sup> just behind Capital, Karori and Swim Zone. This achievement is outstanding when you consider we had one of the smallest teams there.

Results:

**Bronagh Ryan (19) Open swimmer:** 50m Breaststroke (7<sup>th</sup>), 100m Backstroke (6<sup>th</sup>), 100m Freestyle (12<sup>th</sup>), 100m Medley (9<sup>th</sup>), 50m Freestyle (8<sup>th</sup>), 50m Backstroke (4<sup>th</sup>) and 100m Breaststroke (6<sup>th</sup>). Bronagh was also selected for the Wellington Regional Women's 16 & Over Freestyle Relay team who were successful in taking out the Bronze medal position.

**Christopher Andrews-Kidd (15):** 100m Breaststroke (7<sup>th</sup>), 50m Freestyle (12<sup>th</sup>), 50m Butterfly (17<sup>th</sup>), 100m Freestyle (13<sup>th</sup>) and 100m Medley (13<sup>th</sup>). Christopher was also selected for the Wellington Regional Mens 15 & Under Freestyle Relay team who were also successful in taking out the Bronze medal position.

**Ben Walsh (15):** Turned in a series of top performances winning 2 Open Bronze Medals, 4 Individual Age Group Gold Medals, 2 Individual Age Group Bronze medals, he was a member of the Wellington 15 & Under Mens Regional Freestyle Relay team who took out the Bronze and also a member of the Wellington 15 & Under Mens Regional Medley Relay team who took out a hard fought Silver medal. This brought Bens overall medal haul to 10.



Ben achieved a clean sweep of the Breaststroke events winning the National titles in the Mens 15 years 50m, 100m and 200m races. He then went on in the evening to compete in the **Open finals** of these events where he placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 50m and 100m races and placed 4<sup>th</sup> by a few hundredths of a second in the 200m race.

He also won the National title in the Mens 15 years 100m Medley setting a new **NZ Age Group record** at the same time, he then went on to compete in the **Open Final** where he placed 7<sup>th</sup>. Not bad for a 15 year old and the first open Medals for PCA club.

Ben also placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Mens 15 years 200m and 400m Medleys and finished his campaign with a gentle 200m Backstroke on the last day where he finished 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ben also set 2 new Wellington Open Breaststroke records in the 100m and 200m events, 4 Wellington Age Group records in the 200m, 100m and 50m Breaststroke and the 100m Medley.

Overall an exciting meet with many hard fought races and several great results produced by our Senior National Swimmers!!

Thanks to all our swimmers, you were a pleasure to look after, our coach Nevill and the parents and volunteers who officiated, the club members who came in and supported the team and finally to all those others who helped in so many ways during the meet.

Regards  
Bill