

LOCAL ATHLETES STAR IN SOUTH EAST REGIONAL BIATHLON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Four talented local athletes who all swim for our premier local swimming club; Hastings Seagull; competed in the 2011 South East Regional Biathlon Championships at Medway Park, Chatham Kent on Sunday. .

All four were all striving to achieve a top six placing in their respective age category in order to be selected to compete in the British National Biathlon Championships which are scheduled to take place at Birmingham on 8th May 2011.

Three of the four are siblings and the youngest of the trio; 10 year old Elizabeth Clarke, featured in the Youth D category of 11 to 12 year old girls. Each competitor in this category was required to swim for 50m and then to run for 1km.

Elizabeth demonstrated her great potential by clocking personal best times in both disciplines to finish 17th overall. Her older sister Kathryn featured in the Youth C category of 13 to 14 year olds which consisted of a 100m swim, followed by a 1.5km run and Kathryn finished a creditable 8th after finishing 2nd in her swim with a time of 1.08.67.

The oldest of the remarkable Clarke family who competed on the day is 15 year old William; who finished 18th in the Youth B category of 15 to 16 year old boys.

However, the most successful of the four is 11 year old Emily Williams, who won the Silver Medal by finishing 2nd in the South East Region in the Youth D category of 11 to 12 year old girls from a field of 37 competitors..

Emily was truly outstanding as she powered her way to first place in the 50m swim with a personal best time of 30.83 and then to 8th place in the 1km run by clocking another personal best time of 3.47.94.

Not only did her performance secure Emily an overall 2nd place in the Region but she also secured her place in the British National Biathlon Championships in May when she along with every other qualifying athlete will be competing for the opportunity to represent Great Britain.