

Last Weekend 18 swimmers from our premier local swimming club, Hastings Seagull, competed with swimmers of the highest calibre from all over the South East of England in the Tom Handley Open Meeting at Prince Regent Swimming Complex in Brighton.

Seagull's swimmers achieved 48 Personal Best Times over the two days which included 43 qualifying times for the forthcoming 2011 Sussex County Swimming Championships and a cumulative total of 13 medals.

The racing was very close, hard fought and highly entertaining.

The medallists included; Ben Horner who finished a comfortable third in the boys aged 10 and 11 years 100m backstroke with a personal best and County Qualifying time of 1.24.36.

Darius Khaledi finished third in both the boys aged 13 and 14 years 100m and 200m Breaststroke events with Personal Best and County Qualifying times of 1.18.21 and 2.49.00 respectively.

Three girls led the Seagull's honours with a grand total of ten medals between them.

11 year old Emily Williams bagged three after finishing third in the girls aged 10 and 11 years 50m and 100m freestyle events in addition to another third place in the 100m breaststroke. All were personal best and County Qualifying times.

14 year old Joanna Fitzpatrick was outstanding. She won both the 100m and 200m breaststroke events in her age group, demonstrating a smooth style and great power.

The remaining medals; 5 in total; were won by one of Seagull's most consistent and widely skilled racing swimmers.

13 year old Jodie Shoesmith powered her way to winning her age group 200m Individual Medley; finishing second in her age group 200m breaststroke and finishing third in her age group 100m and 200m freestyle and 100m breaststroke events.

Many of Jodie's winning times were Regional Qualifying times; which shows that she is fast becoming one of the best young racing swimmers in the South East of England.