

Simon Carey –Sports Editor – Hastings Observer – 12 October 2009

Eighteen Girls and fourteen Boys from Hastings Seagull SC went to the Dolphin Leisure Centre in Haywards Heath on Saturday 10th October for the first round of this year's Arena National Swimming League. We were against five teams – East Grinstead, Orpington "O" Jays, White Oak, Redhill & Reigate and 1066. The format for this League consists of thirty four individual events and sixteen Relays covering four Age Groups for both Boys and Girls. Unfortunately last minute sickness in the Boy's team meant that some of the 11 year old boys had to swim in the 13 Year old Age Group as well as in their own in the individual events and also the relays.

In the individual events our swimmers won four, came second in five and third in four, Hannah Keen won both her events in the Open Age Group - 100m IM and the 100m Freestyle, Tom Creed won his Age Group 100m Breaststroke and Kathryn Clarke won her Age Group 50m Freestyle. Two very positive notes from the evening was that the swimmers achieved 11 Personal Best times and recorded 18 County Championship Qualifying Times and in addition in spite of having three relay teams disqualified for technicalities we came joint fourth on the night with Redhill & Reigate who we will meet again at the Beckenham Spa in the next round on 14th November.