

Another record breaking BUCS for UYSWC

UYSWC rallied round their swimmers with an impressive display in difficult circumstances.

The weekend saw York's swimmers competing in the annual BUCS teams event, held in the midst of controversy over the decision to hold it outside of term time. The depleted side was supplemented by willing volunteers from water polo, highlighting the sense of team spirit in last season's Club of the Year.

The gala started with the medley relays, the women's A team of Grace Gilmour, Fiona Whiting, Beth Richards and Sarah Peacop setting a time of 2:17.57. The men were up next, with a 1:55.60 from the B team of Tom Langford, Rob Mason, Laurence McLellan Bastidas and Jacob Mortlock Williams, and 1:52.89 from Ryan Conway, Chris Unsworth, Simon Duston and Jacob Shaw in the A team.

Next up was the 100m individual medley, President Beth Richards taking a break from her normal water polo duties to set a strong 1:12.97 before Peter Schlichter showed why he was awarded York Sport Sportsperson of the Week, setting his fourth club record of this season's campaign with a 1:02.04. Both Matt Anthony and Victor Amara set a sub one minute time for their 100m freestyle, 59.37 and 56.33 respectively, and Sarah Peacop hit her sub 1:10 target with a 1:09.20.

York had some strong entries for the 100m butterfly event despite the absence of club record holder Bill Timpany. Beth Richards continued her good form with a 1:11.17 and the men's entrants of Laurence McLellan Bastidas and Simon Duston set times of 1:02.06 and 1:01.51, respectively. The 100m backstroke was next, water polo recruit Annie Russell impressing in her first gala for the club with a 1:14.27 and captain Ryan Conway leading from the front with a 1:03.15.

The last session before the break saw Chris Unsworth breaking his own club record with a new time of 1:09.42. The women weren't to be outdone, Fiona Whiting and newcomer Jemima Beaumont finishing in 1:39.76 and 1:28.20, respectively.

The afternoon session began with the 200m freestyle, Fiona Whiting recording a 2:32.61 before Peter Schlichter continued to perform well with a 2:02.67. Next up was the 50m butterfly. Beth Richards finished her race an impressive third in 32.05 and it was close between York's men; 27.79 for Victor Amara with Laurence McLellan Bastidas a mere 0.05 behind. Grace Gilmour and Annie Russell were up next in the 50m backstroke, 36.26 and 33.43 for the girls. Jacob Shaw chalked up a 29.01 before Tom Langford finished just over a second behind in 30.05.

Fiona Whiting was next in the pool, a 39.56 for her 50m breaststroke. Rob Mason powered through to a 33.43 and it was a 32.13 for Chris Unsworth in their event. The last individual race of the meet saw polo ladies Fran Falcini and Sarah Peacop stepping up to set times of

37.93 and 31.26, before Jacob Mortlock Williams and Simon Duston rounded off the event with a 26.34 and a 25.37.

The gala finished with imposing displays from both men's freestyle relay teams. The B team of Tom Langford, Matt Anthony, Laurence McLellan Bastidas and Rob Mason finished in a time of 1:46.08, filling UYSWC with confidence that this Roses will be a victorious one. The day ended with a superb 1:41.13 from the A team of Jacob Shaw, Victor Amara, Ryan Conway and Simon Duston, the squad collecting enough points to remain in their divisions.

Captain Ryan Conway thought both teams performed very well under the difficult circumstances. "We were missing some of our best swimmers but everyone put in a huge effort today and we got some good results. My male swimmer of the meet is Chris Unsworth – he set a new club record in his 100m breast and did very good swims in his other events! My female swimmer is Annie Russell, she filled in for us last minute and swam some fantastic times! Special mention also to Matt Anthony for going under a minute in his 100m freestyle for the first time".

Captain's picks – Annie Russell & Chris Unsworth.

