



SSMAC Strong at NEOR #2

The Paula Patangio Memorial Neor #2 swim meet on November 27th and 28th in North Bay saw four Sault Ste Marie Aquatic Club (SSMAC) swimmers attend. Developmental meets are designed to encourage new and younger swimmers by developing their competitive swimming skills in a more relaxed environment. For SSMAC, two first time swimmers made this transition into the competitive world of swimming. Riley Kennedy (12) and Cassidy Bolton (11) are two of SSMAC newest competitive swimmers who got their feet wet at this meet.

Riley for her strong swim in the 50 meter back stroke won an 8th place ribbon in the girl's 11 to 12 age group. Riley also swam the 100 meter back stroke, 100 meter freestyle, 100 meter breast stroke and the 50 meter butterfly to fill her weekend with events.

Cassidy, also competing in the girl's 11 to 12 age group, swam some great races of her own. Cassidy competed for the first time in all four strokes in the 50 meter events (freestyle, back stroke, breast stroke and butterfly) as well as the 100 meter freestyle event.

Lucas Luciani (13) competing in the boys 13 to 14 category, swam to all 5 personal best times in this meet on his way to receiving ribbons in 4 of them. Lucas swam to 6th place ribbons in the 200 freestyle and the 200 meter I.M. As well he won a 7th place ribbon in the 100 meter breast stroke and a 8th place ribbon in the 100 meter freestyle. In the 100 meter butterfly, Lucas finished 9th just out of ribbon placing.

The big winner for SSMAC on the weekend was Aron Mohammadi (14) also competing in the boys 13 to 14 year old category. Aron won 1st place ribbon in the 800 meter freestyle event by taking over 16 seconds off his previous best time. Aron also won a 1st place ribbon in the 400 meter freestyle. In the 200 meter I.M., Aron shaved off time to finish 2nd and also receive a 3rd in the 200 meter freestyle by swimming a best time once more. To round off a weekend full of ribbons, Aron swam to a 4th in the 200 meter breast stroke.

Coach Stratton was proud of his swimmers and was pleased at how well they swam after driving the distance to North Bay. Riley and Cassidy are the new growth in SSMAC's club while Lucas and Aron showed what hard work and dedication to swimming can lead to.

The Sault Ste. Marie Aquatic Club (SSMAC) is for swimmers from age seven to seventeen. Swimmers at all competitive levels enjoy the benefits of professional coaching. The club, founded in 1978, is managed by dedicated volunteers and sanctioned by Swim Ontario. For an interview or more information about Sault Ste. Marie Aquatic Club programs call 705-941-9880.