



SSMAC wins big at International Swim Meet

This past weekend a small but focused team of 14 SSMAC swimmers took the long drive to compete at the Canada Games Complex in Thunder Bay, Ontario for the Thunderbolt International Swim Meet. Nineteen teams from Minnesota, Winnipeg and the rest North-Western Ontario competed at this event. This mighty SSMAC team brought home 52 medals, 3rd place in overall team standings, personal best and provincial qualifying times as well as some good memories and experiences.

The team comprised of junior, senior and veteran swimmers. Nine year old Alexander Gelmych handled the pressure of a big international meet very well bringing home 3 SILVER medals (50 back, 100 fly, 200 free), and 5 BRONZE medals (50 & 100 breast, 200 I.M., 100 back, 100 free) and 2 – 4th places to round off his week-end. Looks like he is well on his way to being a force to be reckoned with! Meanwhile, SSMAC alumni swimmer Shannon Hazelton returned to her old club for the summer after a 3-year break. She is attending the University of Toledo on a swim scholarship. Shannon added to the medal count by bringing home 3 GOLD medals (100 & 200 back, 100 fly) and a SILVER medal in her 200 fly.

Erin Lee (10) led the junior girls with a total of 8 medals. She won 3 GOLD medals (50 & 100 back, 800 free), 2 SILVER medals (200 I.M., 200 free), 3 BRONZE medals (50 fly, 100 breast, 200 free) and had a 4th place finish in her 50m breast. Kalen Critchley (11) swam to 6 medal finishes. Kalen received 2 GOLD medals (50 free, 100 back), 2 SILVER medals (200 fly, 200 back), 2 BRONZE medals (100 fly, 400m I.M.) and had 4 more top 10 finishes. Fellow junior swimmer Steven Lee (12) swam away with 2 GOLD medals (100 breast, 400 free), 2 SILVER medals (100 fly, 200m I.M.), 1 BRONZE (200 back) and 3-4th place finishes.

Shane Rock (13) led the senior boys with a total of 6 medals. Shane received 2 GOLD medals (100 & 400 free), 2 SILVER medals (200 free, 400m I.M.), 2 BRONZE (100 & 200 back) and 2-4th place finishes in his 50m free and 200m I.M. Brian Lee (15) captured GOLD (400m I.M), SILVER (100 breast), BRONZE (200 breast), and 3-4ths to complete his weekend. Brothers Joshua (16) and Michael (13) Lawrence both brought home SILVER medals. Joshua's silver was in his 100m back and Michael's was in his 200m fly. Joshua completed the weekend with 4 more 4ths while Michael had 4 more top 10 place finishes.

Julia Turgeon and Marina Fournier both received 5 medals for their efforts. Julia (14) won 2 GOLD medals (100 & 200 back), 2 SILVER medals (100 & 400 free), 1 BRONZE (100 fly), combined with 2 more 4th place results. Marina (14) won GOLD (200 fly), 2 SILVER (100 fly, 100 back), 2 BRONZE (200 back, 400m I.M.) along with 3 more top 10 results.

Honourable mentions go out to senior swimmers Sarah Theodossiou (15) and Brendan Wilton (13) for reaching finals in your events. Sarah ended up with 2-4th place finishes and 5 top 10 results. Brendan swam to a 5th in his 400m I.M. and had 6 top 15 finishes. Rounding up the group was our junior swimmer Erinn Theodossiou (10) who came in with an impressive 5th place finish in her 800m free event as well as placing in the top 15 in her remaining 8 events.

The next meet for the SSMAC swimmers will take place June 13, 14 and 15 at the Laurentian University Pool in Sudbury for the Regional Long Course Championships. Good luck to the swimmers.