

## **Winsford Came, Winsford saw, Winsford conquered. Winsford crowned Top Club at Wigan.**

Winsford SC took an army & navy of 34 swimmers to the Wigan Starter Meet on Sunday 19<sup>th</sup> May to race and win and win and win and to keep on winning against many other clubs from the NW Region! This meet was over one day and was geared towards the younger swimmers who required race practice over all the distances and strokes. This meet was an ideal meet for the development squad and Comp B to gain licensed times in any event for the ASA database. Our swimmers were unbelievably, fantastically good! Forest Gump said life is like a box of chocolates you never know what you are going to get; sometimes swimming racing is like that. Sometimes we get coffee sweets sometimes we get caramel, today at Wigan we got fat on caramel chocolate!

Soldiers, soldiers, soldiers, no not what we dip into our eggs every morning but our swimmers from Winsford who went to war in Wigan. In previous weeks we took around 27 swimmers to Satellites and Wrexham but this week we took 34 swimmers. We went to Wigan in force ready to swim fast, very fast and eat some sweets! It was probably the biggest team we have ever taken to an away Open Meet, it was fantastic to see so many little swimmers racing and enjoying themselves. Racing is about having fun and challenging ourselves and boy our swimmers definitely had fun. Winsford SC parents definitely breed strong kids because on Sunday all swimmers performed with great big heart, guts and determination. I was so pleased with everyone's attitude on poolside and attitude when racing. Behind the block our swimmers looked like they were ready to kill someone (probably me for the training they receive!), they looked so focused on the race in hand and we certainly did perform.

Medals, medals and more medals, PB's, PB's and more PB's, so many that it is impossible to count them. We must have won a medal in every race we took part in. It was great to watch, I know we as coaches go on about racing with great technique, skill, pacing etc. Which are all very important to us the coaches but for the youngsters at the meet it is about winning medals and we certainly did that, mountains of them. Winsford youngsters did a fantastic job at Wigan, racing superbly well and I can honestly say the future is very bright for this swimming club with so many younger swimmers stepping up to the plate. So many highlights, I can't mention them all but race of the day for me was the girls and boys 200 Fly, this event is a challenging event but by far the most fun. We had 8 swimmers taking part (Martha, Charlotte P, Alisha, Domi, Kai, Jay, Finn & Adam) and it was so pleasing to see them race and pace the event so well. We have got some first class fly swimmers coming through and it showed in the result today.

We had 34 swimmers who contributed to Winsford SC being awarded Top Club and by a large margin (hundreds of points) so I will give every swimmer a mention that competed today. In alphabetical order well Done to: **Aaron Grindley** for achieving many medals and swimming many good races, **Adam Blackshaw** achieving so many gold medals and performing fantastic with very little or no rest between events!, **Adassa Sproul** for always giving her all and swimming a great 200 free, **Alex Clarke** who is very new to racing but showed class and swimming a great 200 free, **Alex Moss** who raced his heart out with courage, starts are getting better!, **Alice Deeming** always dependable and always happy to push through the pain of racing, dominated a lot of her heats, **Alisha Hawkins** for being made of iron, superb 200 free and born to race, **Alissa Blackshaw** like her brother had a very demanding schedule but swam and raced like an animal but always comes out smiling!, **Amelia Magee** who is always a regular at meets and always give it her all, some very good racing, **Charlotte Pagett or Pagut as she was announced** for racing smart and for a very good PB in the 200 Fly & 100 Brst, big improvements, **Domi Dean** for doing the 200 Fly and racing it with such great skill, I am so happy that you decided to do the 200 fly! **Elisa Hughes** for performing well in all races and always looking so laid back! Good work, **Ellie Cushen** for racing so well and for being so happy! Remember goggles nice and tight! **Faye Coleman** who is becoming a tiger behind the block, very good 200 brst, pity about the football score! **Finn Armitt** who is born to do fly and winning so many medals, bit like a bull he keeps on charging forwards! **Georgia Maundrill** who went about her racing with no fuss or drama and winning a lot of her heats she was in, some great racing, **Hannah Magee** who is new to racing but showed great bottle in all her races, **Harry Armitt** who always races 100% and wears his heart on his sleeve, super 200 Free, **Harry Goodfellow** for picking up lots of medals and swimming with desire, remember go on the b of the bang and not on the take your marks!!, **Jay Cushen** for having an outstanding day, a great talent, winning so many races, fearless! **Josh Fielden** for being so polite and for racing so well, definitely an up and coming free swimmer, **Kai Knowles** who performed superbly and being scared of nothing, always willing to do anything asked of him, **Katie Wilson** for swimming and racing so fiercely for someone so small! The starts are getting better; **Louie Goodfellow** for always racing with lots of fight without a doubt got great potential for the future, **Mad Langton Flint** for being so happy to race and to achieve some great swims, great fly swimmer, **Martha Townend** again another swimmer with a great smile and some great swims, most notable the 200 fly, **Max Beasley** for being a smart racer and always striving for better of himself, a very clever swimmer , **Olivia Morley** for superb racing on

free and Brst, huge potential for someone so young, **Reece Hughes** for swimming so well especially on the free events, could be a very good distance free swimmer in the future, **Rory Armitt** who was the youngest swimmer on the team, what superb fight for someone so inexperienced in racing, **Sam Hawes** who had no messing and got on with the job in hand, great to see him racing more, and shows great improvement, **Sam Houghton** who did an enormous amount of racing and always giving it everything, well done, **Taryn Lawson** who I nominated as captain of the day, raced with good understanding and pacing, great team member and support to the others, **Will Deeming** who has got huge potential on BK is without question one to look out for in these events, well done.

I like the saying a happy swimmer is a fast swimmer and a fast swimmer is a happy swimmer, we were so fast on Sunday I think most of our swimmers are still grinning now. It was great to be poolside with so many swimmers from Winsford and to be around such a positive team spirit. Together Winsford SC achieved fantastic results on Sunday, Well Done to one and all. Like the three musketeers say, one for all and all for one!

Swimmer of the day is very difficult to choose because I could name 34 swimmers but I will have to get off the fence for once and choose a swimmer! So swimmer of the day goes to **Rory Armitt**, it was his very first open meet for Winsford SC and was the youngest swimmer on the team, he raced so well, winning medals and always giving his all. So well Done Rory I hope you are racing for many more years to come.

My thank you goes to Jenny Lawson for being team manager with many little swimmers about she did a great job of getting everyone to their races on time. Thank you also to the parents, the support was phenomenal it really does make a difference to the swimmers. Thank you to Wigan also for bringing me water throughout the meet and for putting on a great meet and being so friendly and last but not least the swimmers, every swimmer contributed to Winsford SC being awarded top club what a day of racing from all, fantastic result.

My very last thank you goes to Jamie Carragher who retired today from LFC after playing for over 15 years, true legend. Dan Goodwin.