

ROUND 3 NASL REPORT

The third and last round took us to Basingstoke. We were up against Wey Valley, Bognor, Andover, Chichester and West Wight. I always wonder why, when the majority of teams from the South have to travel so far in land and not look at which pool would minimise the travelling as much as possible, however what a night and what an atmosphere. I knew we would struggle in the open age group as so many illnesses had taken most of our swimmers. A big thank you goes out to all those that stood in at the last minute especially both my daughters Emma and Rachel for travelling back from University to support the team.

After the first round of points after 10 events we were creating a small lead. We were proving to be a force in the relays with a series of 4 consecutive wins and although not our strongest, it just shows the depth Worthing has to be able to bring swimmers in and still compete and in this case take maximum points.

When the individuals started we were proving too strong for the other teams in most age groups. Fantastic swims from the usual suspects however this had spread and others were putting in swims that were just outstanding. We managed 21 wins out of 50 and 12 second and thirds combined. Personal best swims again were being achieved however this was a team event and this was clear to see with hand shakes to those that had just finished. Cheers for all from both ends of the pool were constant throughout the evening and this all added to one of the most memorable evenings I have had this year.

When the final results came the pool atmosphere was electric with the cries of celebrations from the team already fully aware that we could not be beaten. The smiles on the faces were clear to see, this may be due to the evening and the Victory, or the McDonalds which is where we were heading next.

The year draws to an end and the team were well deserving of time to reflect and rejoice over a Burger and Fries. I am so proud of what they have achieved and I look forward to 2012 and welcome a few new faces that turned in a fantastic performance it will make my job harder next year when selecting the squad which is a fantastic position to be in.

I wish to thank those that help poolside tonight and others during the year as it is not easy on poolside however every event in 2011 we had a swimmer ready to go when required many thanks. To all the time keepers' judges and referees over the year showing how good Worthing are when supporting events.

Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Go Green Army.

Nic Piper
Head Coach
Worthing Swimming Club