



Rother League – Relay Gala Review

The second gala of the 2012 Rother League was held at Woking leisure Centre against strong opposition, who had recovered from not having many of their Regional swimmers available for the 1st round.

Having been promoted last year, Worthing were competing amongst the top 6 teams in the Rother League and fought hard to try and maintain that position. The 2nd Gala of the League is always an interesting 1 with most of the races being held in relay format.

The younger age groups have 2 swimmers, each swimming 25 metres on each of the strokes, as well as the traditional 4 person relay races on freestyle and medley. The older age groups swim 50 metres on each stroke, as well as the 4 * 25 metre relays.

Therefore, clean and quick takeovers were essential as well as team work. Worthing made a strong start in equal 4th after the 1st results announcement. This included a win in the boys open 100 metres breaststroke with Pierre Ainscow and Joe Hazeldine in fine form.

Many of the Clubs had a number of Regional swimmers in action, which meant Worthing had to battle to stay in contention throughout. Breaststroke is a strong stroke for the Worthing boys and Nicholas Savill and Elliott Moore proved this with a great performance in the boys 13 & under 50 metres Breaststroke, as well as Joe Hazeldine and Harry Burnell in the 15 & under age category, securing 2nd place.

Worthing's 2nd race victory was secured in 1 of the 2 individual races on the evening. The boys 13 and under individual medley was won by Nicholas Savill in a new Club Record for that age group, using his advantage of being strong on each of the strokes.

As the Gala continued, Worthing were jumping between 5th and 6th and there were only 3 points separating Worthing and Haslemere with just a few races to go. Despite some valiant performances, Worthing lost out on 5th place by 7 points after a very competitive Gala in which Woking dominated, as home Club.

1 st	Woking	277	2 nd	Staines	204.5	3 rd	Elmbridge	167
4 th	Sutton & Cheam	159.5	5 th	Haslemere	132	6 th	Worthing	125

Congratulations to all of the Worthing swimmers for their performance on the night, have a fantastic summer and we look forward to round 3 of the Rother League in September.

Chris Luesley, Swimming Secretary, Worthing Swimming Club