

Seagulls book Weston place

CHRISTCHURCH and New Milton Seagulls and Bournemouth Dolphins B will be heading for Weston-super-Mare on December 9 after coming first and second in their Division Three gala at Littledown.

They are now second and fifth in the table. The Third Division final will follow the Premier showdown, with promotion on offer to the top three.

Despite two disqualifications and the absence of three first-choice swimmers, Seagulls won 14 of the 50 races and clocked 37 personal best times.

James Bourne returned from injury to win the 13/u 50m butterfly (31:31) and breaststroke (38:16). He also contributed to two relay wins.

In the same age group Taylor Priest won the 13/u 50m backstroke in 34:66.



DELIGHT: Christchurch and New Milton Seagulls celebrate their Speedo League second round victory at Littledown which put them into the Division Three final at Weston-super-Mare on December 9, when three promotion places will be on offer

Two out of two for Seagulls

Despite two disqualifications and a team missing three first team swimmers, Seagulls showed the quality and depth of their squad to win Round 2 of the Speedo League Division 3 event at Littledown on Saturday evening.

This was a significant win for the Christchurch and New Milton Seagulls, after having won Round 1 by a margin of 56 points they have now made it two wins out of two against

their more successful neighbours — Bournemouth Dolphins.

There was a great atmosphere on poolside as the match ebbed and flowed throughout the evening, Seagulls eventually winning by 19 points over Dolphins, with 14 wins in the 50 races and an equal number of second places as Seagulls' swimmers again showed their continued improvement, notching up 37 personal bests (PBs).

Of particular note was James Bourne who, following injury, achieved PBs in all of his races; taking first place in both his individual 13 and under years 50m butterfly (31:31 secs) and 50m breaststroke (38:16) as well as a first in the 4x50m freestyle relay and a second in the 4x50m medley relay.

Taylor Priest also picked up PBs in all of his four events whilst gaining two wins in the boys 13 and under 50m backstroke (34:66) and 4x50m freestyle relay and two second places in the 100m backstroke and 4x50m medley relay.

Of particular note for the girls was Stacey Angliss returning to top form after a summer injury with PBs and wins in her open 100m butterfly

(1:10:44), 100m backstroke (1:13:81) and 4x50m medley relay events.

The only other individual win for the Seagulls' girls was Sophie Duffell in the 11 and under 50m breaststroke (48:56). Elsewhere Alice Black and Emma Duffell picked up two PBs each.

While Seagulls' first squad were engaged in Speedo, the club's New Milton based juniors were competing in a novice gala at their home pool, their last event as Torpedoes.

Joe Quigley was a very busy swimmer, notching up wins in the 11 years boys 25m breaststroke (24:62 secs) and 4x25m freestyle relay as well as second places in the 50m breaststroke, 25m butterfly, two 4x25m medley relays and the 10x25m Cannon.

Other boys individual wins were achieved by James Rogers in the 13/14 yrs 50m breaststroke in 47:75; Jonathon Crowther, 12 yrs 50m freestyle in 41:04 and James Mayo, 10 yrs 25m freestyle.

For the girls Georgina Crossley won the 11 yrs 25m freestyle in 19:56; Isabelle Fitzsimmons the 10 yrs 25m butterfly in 24:50; Megan Chapman, the 11 yrs 25m breaststroke in 24:14; Laura Spence, the 12 yrs 50m freestyle in 39:94 and Holly Welton the 13/14 yrs 50m freestyle in a time of 34:72.

The gala again emphasised the promise of the recently enlarged Seagulls club as the swimmers scored 10 first and 16 second places in the 54 races and achieved an overall second place in the final results.



Stacey Angliss

Stacey Angliss, also back after injury, was involved in three wins, including the women's 100m butterfly (1:10:44) and backstroke (1:13:81).

Sophie Duffell won the 11/u 50m breaststroke (48:56).