

Gloucester County Championships Week 1 - 29th/30th January 2022

Written by Mae S, Club Captain



This was the first weekend of the Gloucester County Championships of 2022. This was also the first competition of the new season, so there was a lot of excitement for what the Club had in store. The weekend kicked off at Bristol Hengrove with the boys 200m Breast which 13 of our swimmers competed in, 4 of which made the final. Then 3 of the girls braved the 800m Free event and the session finished off with the boys 50m Fly which 18 GCSC swimmers raced. The second session opened with the girls 200m Back which 9 of our swimmers took part in. It then moved on to the boys 100m Back which 21 GCSC swimmers raced. The session ended with the girls 100m Fly event of which 9 of us swam.

Sunday began with 21 GCSC girls competing in the 200m free, then 5 boys took on the challenge of the 1500m race. The afternoon session opened with the boys 200m Fly which 5 boys competed in. It then moved on to the girls 100m Breast that 13 GCSC girls swam. Then, 16 GCSC swimmers raced the final event of the weekend which was the boys 50m Back.

Overall, this last weekend was an extremely exciting number of events that Gloucester really excelled in. The team came together to cheer and support each other through their races and the atmosphere amongst the club was really positive. We're really proud of everyone who competed and thanks for representing GCSC so well! This was the first Counties since 2019 due to Covid and it was lovely to see everyone's hard work and patience paying off.

Results

- **Personal bests:** Out of 180 races in total, 142 were long course PBs. That's **79% PBs!**
- **GCSC swimmers made the Top 10 of their age groups this weekend...**

Alicia B - 200m Free. **Amos S** - 200m Breast, 200m Fly. **Amy S** - 100m Breast. **Ben F** - 200m Breast. **Ben N** - 200m Breast, 50m Fly, 100m Back, 200m Fly, 50m Back. **Cam L** - 50m Fly, 100m Back, 50m Back. **Charlie D** - 100m Back, 50m Back. **Dan F** - 200m Breast, 50m Fly, 100m Back, 200m Fly, 50m Back. **Don B** - 200m Breast, 100m Back, 200m Fly. **Eloise B** - 200m Back. **Euan T** - 100m Back, 200m Breast. **Fay N-A** - 100m Fly, 200m Back. **Freddie F** - 200m Breast. **Freddie S** - 200m breast. **George K-J** - 100m Back. **Grace M** - 200m Free. **Hugo B** - 50m Fly, 50m Back, 200m Breast. **Jacob W** - 100m Back. **James B** - 50m Fly. **Jessica K** - 200m Back. **Jocelyn H-H** - 100m Fly. **Joseph G** - 100m Back, 50m Back. **Josh H** - 50m Fly, 100m Back, 50m Back. **Leo N** - 50m Fly, 100m Back, 50m Back. **Louise B** - 200m Free. **Mae S** - 100m Fly, 200m Free. **Matilda W** - 200m Back. **Matthew B** - 200m Breast, 1500m Free. **Max T** - 50m Fly, 200m Breast, 1500m Free, 200m Fly. **McKenzie O** - 100m Back. **Meg T** - 100m breast. **Morgan D** - 100m Back, 50m Back. **Nathan B** - 50m Fly, 100m Back, 200m Breast. **Neda M** - 100m Breast, 200m Back, 200m Free. **Nicola T** - 100m Fly. **Noah S** - 100m Back, 50m Back. **Rebecca T** - 200m Free. **Ruth P-W** - 100m Breast. **Sian W** - 100m Breast.

- **Medals:** Team GCSC won **29 medals!**

Gold -16- **Don B x2** (200m Breast, Senior 200m Fly). **Dan F x4** (50m Fly, 1500m Free, 200m Breast, 200m Fly). **Cam L** (50m Fly). **Josh H x2** (100m Back, 50m back).

Mae S (100m Fly). **Max T x2** (1500m Free, 200m Fly). **Amos S** (1500m Free). **Leo N** (50m Back). **Rebecca T** (200m Free). **George KJ** (100 Back).

Silver -8- **Dan F x2** (200m Breast, 50m Back). **Leo N x2** (50m Fly, 100m Back). **Cam L** (100m Back). **Don B** (1500m Free). **Amos S** (200m Fly) **Jacob W** 100 Back.

Bronze -5- **Max T** (50m Fly). **Joshlyn H-H** (100m Fly). **Cam L** (50m Back). **Freddie F** (Junior 200m Breast). **McKenzie O** (100 Back).

- **Qualifying Times**

Donald B (200brs), Cam L (50fly, 100bk, 50bk), Mae S (100fly), Amos S (1500free) and Joseph G (50bk) all achieved British Championship Qualifying times. The six-day meet is envisaged to help Team GB selections for senior and junior international meets in 2022, so that's a huge achievement for those swimmers.

Shout outs

A huge shoutout goes to the 800m swimmers: Eloise B, Fay N-A and Harriet L, along with the 1500m swimmers: Don B, Amos S, Dan F, Max T and Matt B. The long-distance events are a really tough mental battle which requires great endurance and resilience.

An equally big shout out and applause to the 11 swimmers who competed in their first-ever individual county races: Joshlyn H, Jess K, Grace M, Leo N, McKenzie O, Ruth PW, Noah S, Ruby T, Megan T, Matilda W and Jacob W.

Thank yous

We couldn't attend Counties without the help of our coaches and volunteers. A big thank you to James, Craig and Lily who were the GCSC coaches this weekend; the Team Managers (Clair, Claire, Christine, Paul, Julie, Debs and Chris) for looking after swimmers; the Competitions Team (Marg and Claire T) for coordinating all the entries and event information; other GCSC helpers (Heidi, Sam, Kerry, Sarah, Allie, Katherine, Abi, Sally and Chris), along with our very own announcers (Paul and Matt) who kept the competition running smoothly; and, finally, the captains and older GCSC swimmers who looked after the Team.

The biggest 'thank yous' go to the swimmers for representing Team GCSC brilliantly.

**Good luck to anyone competing in the next weekend of counties,
we'll see you soon on the 12th of February!**