

## SWIMMING

Thursday, October 25, 2007

# Box Hill reaps awards in the pool

BOX Hill shone in the pool as the inaugural Surrey County Development Gala took place at the Elmbridge Xcel Leisure Complex.

The idea of the meet was to give swimmers an opportunity to gain qualifying times for the 2008 County Championships. With the qualifying times acting as 'speeding tickets', medals were awarded to those who finished outside the standard.

The Box Hill swimmers once again showed that working on their technique during training sessions pays off in the long run after coming away with 10 county standard times and 17 medals.

Eve Williams led the way

with three qualifying times in the 100m individual medley, 50m freestyle and 50m breaststroke. Eloise Smith and Chloe Smale both qualified for the 200m freestyle while Smith later added the 50m breaststroke and Smale the 200m individual medley.

Fast improving new girl Jessica Filbey powered home to qualify in the 50m freestyle while team-mate Zoe Lyon took the 200m individual medley.

Nine-year-old Samantha Terry qualified but is unable to compete in the 100m backstroke as she will be too young.

With qualifying times hard to come by, the next target

was medals. Box Hill swimmers won nine Golds out of their overall tally. Terry was in stunning form all weekend, taking four golds and one bronze, closely followed by Smith with two golds and three silver medals. Gold and silver followed for Smale, and gold for Filbey in the 50m butterfly.

Johanna Jeffery had a 44-second improvement in the 200m individual medley for a bronze medal, with Jenny Ball third in the 100m breaststroke and Zoe Lyon taking the bronze in the 50m backstroke.

In total, 95 per cent of all Box Hill swims were achieved in personal best performances.