

Box Hill gang scoop medals

SPARKLING Box Hill swimmers won eight more medals at the final weekend of the 2008 County Swimming Championship's which doubled the clubs tally to date.

Five gold, one silver and two bronze medals proves yet again that the small club can mix it with the larger Surrey outfits.

"I am so very proud of what the team have achieved. Results like this help to raise the profile of the young club", said Coach Conrad Cawley.

"We use a greener more skill based approach at Box Hill, naturally we have an ethos of hard work, but we have fun doing it and this keeps the kids motivated"

Not for the first time during the Championship's it was nine year old Tabitha Read-Cayton who led the way with gold in 50m freestyle, backstroke and butterfly.

She even managed a bronze in her weakest event the 50m breaststroke.

Box Hill cleaned up the

nine year old girl's events when Eve Williams swam to gold in the 50m breaststroke, not long after claiming silver in the 50m freestyle.

While Read-Cayton topped the age group table and took the Top Girl trophy Williams finished a credible fifth in this her first County Championship.

Fast improving Tilly Houston, 11, was ranked sixth from 66 in her field while 10 year old Zoe Lyon finished 10th from 68.

Surprise result of the weekend came in the girls 12 years 50m butterfly when Chloe Smale, ranked eighth in the programme, destroyed some tough opposition to snatch gold.

Cawley beamed: "I was over the moon when I realised that Chloe had won the gold, she really deserves it".

Abbie Regelous, 15, who had previously come agonisingly close to a medal in the 100m and 200m breaststroke events, finally broke her duck and claimed

bronze in the 50m sprint event in a lifetime best.

Last year Box Hill had no relay team entries, however in 2008 they fielded 14 teams and the quality shone through the quantity as they recorded eight top 10 places which helped push the club further up the rankings table.

The club finished 10th from 23 clubs in the age group events, seventh from 21 in the senior girl's category but Box Hill's lack of male swimmers was highlighted when the senior boys were placed 21 from 21.

There were too many fine performances from the Box Hill gang to mention in these columns but suffice to say that Cawley will reward them with some light training sessions before starting the build up to the next competition in Bournemouth on April 12/13.

Any young person wishing to try out for the club should call Conrad Cawley on 07813 355525.



Team work: Box Hill's young swimmers produced the goods at the last weekend of the Surrey Championship at the Guildford Spectrum