

AMSC 2021 Club Championships Round 4 – 5 June 2021

Eighteen members sated their curiosity and turned up for our first short course round of the 2021 Club Championships – in the 50m pool! How is this possible? Thanks to our friends at Armadale Kelmscott Swimming Club, we borrowed their Finis Turnmaster Pros – basically lane width boards attached to the lane ropes that provide a stable platform for starts. This enabled us to hold short course competition at Armadale with dive starts from the blocks.

For those who don't know, the Club Championships is not about being the fastest swimmer in the club – or even your age group. Points are awarded based on how well you swam that day in comparison to your previous times for that stroke and distance. It is a friendly competition rewarding consistency, effort and having a go.

Three events were on offer – 100m choice, 50m choice and 25m.

Gillian Caruso was top point scorer of the day with 11 points, followed by Charles Croft on 10, and Pamela Pearson feeling fresh after her trip to warmer climates on 8 points.

With 18 swimmers warming their toes in the pool, it is no surprise that 8 club records and 4 PBs were set. This was probably helped by the advantage of dive starts after a couple of years of in water starts for our short course rounds. Club records went to Sarah Carr (3), Gillian Caruso, Shaun Williams (2), Wayne Sam-Hayes, and Charles Croft. PBs went to Wayne Sam-Hayes (2), Pamela Pearson and Charles Croft. Charles' 50m butterfly PB (and club record) is especially impressive as he beat his previous best time from 2015!

In the Men's competition, Wayne Sam-Hayes and Charles Croft are tied for first place on 14 points, with Graham Hicks nipping at their heels in third on 13 points.

In the Women's competition, Pamela Pearson regained the lead on 20 points from Sarah Carr on 17. It's a tight tussle for third with Jennifer Findlay, Gillian Caruso and yours truly all on 11 points.

The next round of Club Championships is scheduled for Saturday 3rd July 2021. As always, let us know what you think of the outdoor short course format. Yes, it was cold, but there's no such thing as bad weather, just bad clothing choices... some sort of shoes definitely recommended if you don't want to feel every single pebble in the concrete!

Captain Rowie