

Bedfordshire Masters team at Inter County Masters

The East Region round of the National Inter County Masters Team Competition was held at Newmarket on Sunday November 20th, and despite a couple of late withdrawals, Bedfordshire managed to get swimmers in all of the 68 events.

Bedfordshire managed eight individual wins, and one relay win. The wins came from Graham Powell (Team Luton) 55 + 50m Butterfly and 50m Backstroke, Marcel Scholten (Modernians) 45 + 50m Butterfly and 50m Breaststroke, Lawrence Palmer (Team Luton) 18 + 50m Butterfly and 50m Breaststroke, Janet Masters (South Beds Masters) 65 + 50m Backstroke, and Christine Ayers (South Beds Masters) 55 + 50m Breaststroke.

The relay win came in the Women's 140yrs + 4 x 50m Medley Relay, the four Ladies being Louise Jarvis (Biggleswade) Sarah Pearse (South Beds Masters) Sam Hammond (South Beds Masters) and Nicola Horsford (Biggleswade).

Hertfordshire retained the East Region Trophy, but Bedfordshire improved one place from last year to finish in fourth place.

Final Points.

Hertfordshire	289
Norfolk	266
Essex	248
Bedfordshire	238
Cambridgeshire	195
Suffolk	170

When all of the times had been fed into the computer with the times from the other Region rounds held over the same weekend, **Bedfordshire finished in a very creditable 14th place out of the 31 counties competing.** This was a very creditable performance, as in all of the years of this competition, Bedfordshire had never been in the top 20 before.

The best performance from Bedfordshire came from Lawrence Palmer of Team Luton in the 18 + 50m Breaststroke, where his excellent winning time of 29.50 secs, placed him as the only Bedfordshire swimmer to top the overall rankings.

Well done to all those who took part.

John Bellis

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