

BUTCHER – WORLD NUMBER 1!

15.8.08

Lane Cove swimmer, Phil Butcher, continued his habit of shattering records at last weekend's NSW Age Swimming Championships, becoming the world's fastest 17 year old butterflyer.

The captain of the Lane Cove Swimming Club demonstrated loudly and convincingly why he's one to watch by recording a stunning 53.04 to win gold in the 17-18 year old 100 metre butterfly event.

Along the way he smashed the NSW record by 0.4 of a second, as well as the NSW Allcomers record belonging to Olympic Gold Medallist, Michael Klim, set in 1995.

His time is also faster than the NSW record for 18 year olds, set by Olympic Silver Medallist, Scott Miller, set in 1983.

Lane Cove Head Coach, John Thompson, paid tribute to his young charge.

"Phil has come along way over the past couple of years – not only as an athlete but as a person", said Thompson.

He added "what makes these achievements even more remarkable is the way he has balanced his training with studying for his HSC in a couple of months time."

He also performed strongly in his backstroke and freestyle swims.

Overall, Lane Cove performed strongly at the Short Course Championships with some outstanding performances, including:

- **Arianne Bauchinger** (10): Finalist in all events
- **Angus Callister** (12): Last to 14th position in 100 Freestyle
- **Shori Hijikata** (14): Lane Cove's youngest National Open short course qualifier – in 100 Fly
- **Sally Gilbert** (15): Silver - 200 Breaststroke, Bronze - 100 Breaststroke
- **Brandon Tam** (15): 9 second PB in 100 Freestyle

17 Lane Cove swimmers qualified for the championships, the club's biggest ever team reflecting the growing strength and depth of the club.

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