

Lane Cove marches onwards & upwards

4/7/08

The resurgent Lane Cove Swimming Club continued its march onwards and upwards through the ranks of Sydney's swimming community at last weekend's Metropolitan Swimming Championships.

Two years ago only 5 swimmers represented the North Shore club at the Metropolitan Short Course Championships; the club came last in the point score.

This year a team of 20 swimmers competed for Lane Cove, led by the up and coming 15 year old breaststroker, **Sally Gilbert**.

Gilbert demonstrated why she remains one to watch by winning 2 bronze medals in the 100 and 200 breaststroke events, despite swimming against girls who were nearly 12 months older.

The Lane Cove team included 9 rookies:

Arianne Bauchinger (10)
Angus Callister (12)
Courtney Gibson (13)
Chris Huang (12)
Eliza O'Doherty (10)
Cameron Piper (16)
Samantha Pratt (11)
Mamo Shiitsu (13)
Oliver Wallace (14)

Another of the highlights was the impact of **Mamo Shiitsu**, entering his first championship meet with a bang, by narrowly missing out on a medal and coming 4th in the 100 fly.

Overall, the club came 21st out of the 77 competing clubs with 187 points.

Head Coach, John Thompson, was impressed by the entire team's performance.

"Nearly 90% of all swims were personal best times" Thompson said.

"This reflects on the talent of our swimmers and their ability to step up and perform when it counts."

He added "it is also a reflection on the high standards of the Lane Cove coaching team (**Scott Farnell, Phil Hughes, Scott Pietriche, Carlos Chitau & Luigi Sarkissian**) – none of this would have been possible without their input."

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