

## **NER Report 2007.**

Wear Valley ASC's swimmers have just completed a busy few weeks of competitions. The beginning of May saw Philip Hodgson(15) qualify for events in the North East Regional Youth Championships at Ponds Forge , Sheffield. His highest placing was in the 1500m freestyle where he finished 12th.

Wear Valley also hosted their Annual Graded Gala in May. A large entry saw a lot of swimmers rejected from races but Wear Valley swimmers managed to bag a massive 31 gold medals by Amy Brown (10), Philip Hodgson (6), Kyle Boyek(6), Emma Hodgson ( 4), Adam Hodgson, Robert Richardson, Alex Attle, Lee Corkin and Richard Suddes. 22 silver and 11 bronze medals were also won by Karl Teasdale, Robert Richardson, Megan Baker, Alex Attle, Adam Hodgson, Amy Attle, Caiti Washbourne, Amy Brown, Lauren Teasdale, Emma Hodgson, Lee Corkin, Bronwyn Truman, Philip Hodgson, Bethany Briggs and Hayley Bradley.

The end of May saw Philip Hodgson again travel to Ponds Forge for their No Frills Gala. He competed in the freestyle events over various distances. In the 1500m freestyle he finished in 7th place recording a personal best time and adding a National Qualifying Time to his collection. He also mirrored this achievement in the 200m freestyle with another fine swim and another National Qualifying Time.

The final competition concluded with two weekends for our age group swimmers in the BAGCAT North East Regional Championships. 11 of our swimmers travelled to Sheffield to gain valuable experience of swimming in a 50m pool. For some it was their first time.14 year olds Patrick Callan and Kyle Boyek provided the entertainment in most of their races Kyle was the first to win a title when he won the 100m breaststroke in a hard fought race. Patrick finished in close second place. The 200m IM and 200m breaststroke was also closely contended but this time it was Patrick who was victorious with Kyle settling for silver. Patrick completed his medal collection with a bronze in the 200m freestyle. He was also a finalist in all his other events. In the BAGCAT points category Patrick finished in 2nd place followed by Kyle in 3rd.

Amy Brown(12) also had a successful meet where she gained a bronze medal in the 100m breaststroke and made finals in another 3 events ( 200m breaststroke, 100m freestyle and 400m IM). Emma Hodgson (13) was a finalist in the 400m IM, 200m and 400m freestyle. 10 year olds Adam Hodgson and Robert Richardson also gained a final placing each in the 400 IM where they finished 7th and 8th. Other swimmers qualifying were Lauren Teasdale, Hayley Bradley, Lucy Holmes, Caiti Washbourne and Bethany Briggs