

## Traralgon Swimmers at State Age SC

The Traralgon Swimming Club produced its most successful result ever at the recent Victorian State Short Course Championships held recently at the Melbourne Sports and Aquatic Centre.

39 swimmers brought home 11 Gold, 12 Silver and 8 Bronze medals breaking 2 Victorian, 10 Country and 29 Gippsland records. The Club finished 7th overall in the State with its powerful girls coming 3rd, only behind 2 of Australia's biggest teams, Melbourne Viccentre and Nunawading.

Lily Collins (15) was the outstanding performer with 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 2 Bronze medals. Her winning time of 1.09.88 in the 100 metre Breaststroke was a new Victorian record, however with her other successes in the 50 Free (26.06), 200 Breast (2.33.22), 100 Medley (1.03.89), 100 Free (56.79) and 200 Medley (2.20.89) she also broke 4 Country and 11 Gippsland records.

13 year old Annie Pepper had an excellent meet with 3 Gold, 2 Silver and 1 Bronze medal, breaking the Victorian and Victorian Allcomers record in the 200 metre Medley in a time of 2.20.45. The previous record was held by Traralgon's Georgia Tsebelis, however this was not Annie's only success with a further 2 Country and 3 Gippsland record swims in the 100 Fly (1.03.38), 200 Back (2.18.42), 100 Free (57.70), 100 Medley (1.06.27) and 100 Breast (1.15.94).

14 year old Georgia Tsebelis was once again a tremendous performer for the Club. Dominating in winning the 200 Back (2.13.42), with silver in the 100 Medley (1.04.31), 50 Free (26.20), 100 Back (1.02.80), 100 Fly (1.04.44) and bronze in the 100 Free (57.44) and 400 Medley, Georgia finished with 2 Country and 10 Gippsland records.

Jasmine Doultree (11), after being sick for the week preceding the meet, still swam at a high standard, winning the 50 Free (29.57) in a new Country record time, the 100 Fly (1.10.71) and 200 Fly (2.45.50), finishing the weekend with 3 Gold medals.

Erin Roberts (13) was the outstanding breaststroker in her age group, winning the 200 event (2.41.69) and picking up silver in the 100 Breast (1.14.33) and another in the 50 Free (27.56), breaking 1 Country record.

The Club's final gold medal winner was 14 year old Brayden Haney, who won the 200 Breast in 2.30.67 in a dominant display of technique and pacing.

Other medal winners over the weekend were Alex Tsebelis (10) who won 2 Silver in the 100 Back (1.12.23) and 100 Medley (1.13.33) with 3 Gippsland records; 12 year old Fabienne Schoutens with 2 Bronze in the 100 Breast (1.16.60) and 200 Breast (2.45.18) and 2 Gippsland records; and Philip Blunt (16) with a bronze in the 200 Fly (2.07.70).

Senior Head Coach of the Club, Brian Ford, could not speak highly enough of the team.

"The Club had one of the youngest groups of swimmers at the meet and to come away with a strong 7th position in the State and being top Country club again, was a fantastic result for everyone involved. 90% of swims were personal bests and with our very talented girls team coming 3rd in the State, we are expecting a terrific year ahead with the main game being the Long Course States in December, Country Champs in January, and

Olympic Trials and National Age in March-April 2012. A great effort by swimmers, coaches, team managers and ably supported by our wonderful parents.”

The Club now focuses on the Long Course season with upcoming camps in Runaway Bay on the Gold Coast for its National qualified swimmers and the Urban Camp in Melbourne for its State and Country qualified athletes.