



## Swimming: Hutchins wins tussle with Tyrrell

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By Alistair McMurrin on Mon, 7 Jun 2010

Swimming

Nick Tyrrell (Neptune) won the head-to-head battles but Matthew Hutchins (Wharenui) accumulated more points and became the senior men's champion at Moana Pool yesterday.

The Wharenui club, of Christchurch, brought 53 swimmers to Dunedin for the 27th annual Neptune Queen's Birthday Carnival and won the laurels.

Wharenui won the Interclub competition with 3837 points from Neptune on 3652.50, Waves on 2645 and Queenstown on 1737.50.

The top three clubs with 10 or fewer swimmers at the event were the QEII Swim Team, of Christchurch, with 945 points from Swimming Mid North Coast (New South Wales) on 554 and Ashburton on 384.

There were 327 swimmers from 26 clubs competing at the carnival.

This included swimmers from New South Wales and Queensland.

Hutchins won the senior men's title with 197 points from Tyrrell on 170 and Matthew Glassford (Neptune) on 158.

Hutchins (15) won the overall competition last year when he competed in the boys aged 13 and 14 grade.

However, the Lincoln High School pupil was tested this year when he entered in the open events.

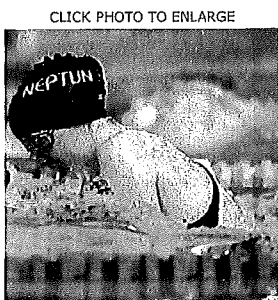
He came to the meeting with an impressive record in age-group swimming over the past 12 months.

He won seven titles at the New Zealand age group championships in Christchurch in February and holds five national age group records.

He won three events over the weekend: 50m freestyle (25.08sec), 50m butterfly (27.01sec) and 400m freestyle (4min 01.54sec).

His best race was in the 400m freestyle that was within two seconds of his personal best short course time.

Tyrrell (19), a member of coach Gennadiy Labara's Osca squad, won seven events and had the better of Hutchins in three significant head-to-head clashes.



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Aleisha Ruske competes in the girls 11-12 50m breaststroke race at the Neptune Queen's Birthday meeting at Moana Pool yesterday. Photo by Gerard O'Brien.

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Tyrrell won the 100m butterfly in 58.79sec and Hutchins was second in 60.43sec.

He also won the 200m backstroke in 2min 06.93sec with Hutchins runner-up in 2min 09.66sec.

Tyrrell's third triumph was in the 100m freestyle that he won in 53.13sec from Hutchins (53.68sec).

William Campbell (Wharenui), competing in the boys aged 13 and 14 grade, was the overall champion for the meet with 256 points.

Neptune's Ronald Poon (231 points) and Katie Kenneally (228) filled the minor placings.

Katie Kenneally (Neptune) was the top senior women's swimmer with 228 points from clubmates Kate Godfrey (188.50) and Emily Poon (153).

Kenneally (19), a food science student at the University of Otago, won eight events and had six personal best times.

The most significant of these was her 200m butterfly time of 2min 19.79sec that reduced her time by a nine seconds.

She reduced her 200m backstroke time by two seconds when coming second to Godfrey in 2min 23.61sec.

Ronald Poon, a pupil at John McGlashan College, won the boys aged 11 and 12 grade with 231 points.

He won 10 events and lowered his 400m individual medley time by nine seconds when winning in 5min 22.65sec.

He swam personal best times in six other events.

Aleisha Ruske (Neptune), a pupil at Balmacewen Intermediate, broke the only Otago record at the carnival when she won the girls aged 11 and 12 100m butterfly in 1min 08.88sec.

It beat the record that Sharon Hanley (Taieri) swam in 1987 by 0.09sec.

Ruske swam six personal-best times during the weekend.

Sophie Gibson (Queenstown) was the champion in that age group with 175 points and was followed by Ruske (173) and Lulu Schneiders (Waves) (166).

Chelsea Easter (Wharenui) won the girls aged 13 and 14 grade with 210 points.

The other winners were Ella Gibson (Queenstown) girls aged 10 and under, Declan Dempster (QEII) boys 10 and under,



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