

season "The big one" was this going to be a rollercoaster of a final with teams changing positions, or was the outcome going to be the same as in previous years gone by.

Southport Aqua currently our top junior team in the country up against the unified Blackpool Aquatics who had already enjoyed success in our first gala of the day with there B squad. Pioneer 79 speared by their new chief coach John McGinty and the ever trying Leyland Barracudas with their never say die attitude.

The pool arena was set for a great gala the spectators in fine voice and our top official Garry Whittle getting this final underway after the first four events each team had won one event, however by the end of eight events, Southport Aqua obtained four firsts in a row starting off with a record breaking girls 10yrs medley team bringing their total to five that made a statement in its self they were not relinquishing their crown just yet some quality swims in the team events with well timed changeovers.

The individual events tends to bring out the best of the junior swimmers not only in speed but the quality of their stroke in which they cut through the waves of the water gaining that all important first touch on the timing pads so much that we witnessed two more records being broken again from Southport Aqua one of which was held since 2005.

Pioneer 79 was making a strong challenge in trying to take charge of this final winning fourteen individual events whilst Blackpool runners up in the league could not hold onto the ropes and Leyland Barracudas they were drifting away.

We return to the team events and head towards the closing stages Pioneer 79 could they sink Southport Aqua or will Southport Aqua steam ahead. The last eight events unfolded prior to the cannon and Pioneer 79 won three of the last eight events with Leyland floating in with a win but sadly none from Blackpool.

Southport Aqua again consistently dominate and breaks another record bringing a total of four new records to this year final. As the cannon brought the finals to a close with another cruising win from Southport which sadly did not live up to the previous two final cannons.

<u>Final Results</u> Southport Aqua 159 Pioneer 79 131.5 Blackpool Aquatics A 106 Leyland Barracudas 89.5

Our congratulations go to all the junior swimmers for the quality and sporting behavior that was shown throughout this final.

Congratulations go to Southport Aqua who takes the long road to Lincoln on October the 3rd to compete with the best of the North of England. The executive committee and all the clubs wish them good luck and a successful journey in reaching that all important National Junior Final.

Our golden handshake with best wishes for the season 2011 is offered to Pioneer 79 Blackpool Aquatics and Leyland Barracudas