



Ana Leaf Foundation Tri Series St Catherines Junior & Senior Relay Triathlon Sunday 28 September 2014



It was a great turn out at the second relay event of the season. This time with a slightly different format from last event with saw each team member complete the full 250 meter (ish) swim, 6k bike and 1.6k run with the teams been picked at random on the morning and including with a mix of Jnr's and Seniors racing.

It was a beautiful morning, dry, sunny and calm, except for some very excited Jnr's who were eagerly looking forward to showing the Seniors how it should be done, which they did. We ended up with 6 teams of 4 all raring and ready for action.

The race got started with the Under 11's racing a very fast shortened course with Harry Worth leading the way on the swim closely followed by Thomas Atkinson and Libby Atkinson. Thomas took the lead during the bike and although he took a heavy tumble on his way into transition he carried on with a very strong run and was first to tag team member 2 at transition – an extremely gutsy performance and one to remember.

This is where it all got very hard for Lisa to keep track of who was doing what (and to allow her to write this excellent race report) as there were competitors coming for every direction keeping the timekeepers on their toes trying to get split times for everyone.

Spirits were high and team support was great as the team members headed out on their leg of the race.

The race was finally won by a very strong team of Harry Worth, Steve Hargreaves, Jack Kennedy and Demri Mitchell who won in a very impressive time of 1hr18 minutes and followed closely by the team of Matthew Stocke, William Atkinson, Tom Perchard and Vaughan Robinson in a time of 1hr 21.

Individual splits were also very close and if Demri had not been show boating coming down the finishing shoot to claim the winning team title he would also have taken the winning individual time but as it turned out he shared the winning time of 20 mins 19 with Tom Perchard.

Some highlights were watching Nick Saunders Lung his way out of transition to complete his run leg in a WHITE see through tri suit (banned for future races, not Nick – he is more than welcome but not wearing white), Matt Ebbrell's bike rack being cleared away before he came into transition to rack his bike, which he smoothly dealt with by racking in another space, and the return of Claire Forbes who in her usual fashion turned up late and minus a bike helmet still managed to have a great race.

A special mention should be made for the new comers team of Nigel, Billy & Fiona supported by a great first leg of Adam Kennedy as they braved the swim which appeared to be getting longer with each leg, as one of the buoys drifted out to sea, and had a great race, overcoming flat tyres and choppy sea conditions to finish strong.

Thank you to all of the Marshalls and support crew for making this a great event one which saw both Jnrs and Snrs racing together and have a great time. This is definitely a race format that we will see again next year.