

West Suffolk Swimming Club swimmers aged from 7 to 37 congregated at Bury St Edmunds Leisure Centre over the past weekend for three days for the annual Club Championships. Hundreds of new personal best times were recorded, with many swimmers setting new qualifying times for January's Swim England Suffolk County Championships 2023.

The fastest six qualifiers from the 100m Individual Medley event on Friday qualified to compete in the showcase Skins event, held on Sunday. Typically, this event thrilled the spectators with its exciting series of back-to-back, 50m knockout races at three minute intervals. Each round, the eliminated swimmer picked the stroke for the following round from a hat and, as ever, the outcome was hard to call, with competitors favouring particular strokes.

Very well done to all the qualifiers, pictured here:



In the male 15 years and over category, the winner was Matthew Baker from Bury St Edmunds, with Jake Thomas-Mansfield from Cheveley pipped into second place. Charlotte White from Linton triumphed in the women's 15 years and over age category, with training partner Cerys Williams from Wethersfield the runner up. A special mention also goes to Sean McKenny and Eloise Perry who withdrew from the Skins after qualifying in this age group.

Edison Lorejo won the 14 years and under boys' category with a stunning final 50m butterfly race against Corey Huckstep from Boyton End and Isabelle Moore just beat Kiera Broad in a 50m backstroke head-to-head in the girls' 14 years and under category.

An enormous and heartfelt thank you to the event organisers, officials, coaches and team of volunteers who gave up their weekend to help as well as to parents and spectators for their enthusiastic support of the swimmers.

Wishing the very best of luck to the West Suffolk swimmers competing at the Swim England National Winter Championships in Sheffield next weekend.