

Avon Head November 2021

Captains review – Peaches Hale



WJ15 4x-

The WJ15s were the first crew to kick off the event with Bethan Nicholls, Josie Asbury, Maggie Adams, Chloe Michell and Margy Farmer-Kindell coxing them over the line. With no competition in their own category, they sought to put out a good race as a milestone for their first ever event and show the rest of the club that they can handle the pressure of race day. Not only were they positive and confident on the water but they were particularly involved on land helping other crews.



WJ18 4x-

The senior girl's coxless quad was the first win of the day and despite catching a crab, the crew managed to gain back their mojo and push on through to the finish. Peaches Hale, Laura Willis, Megan Clifton, and Beth Crossley had all been down the course before but not yet in this boat. Laura and Megan both held the quad together with their passionate and concise calls and Beth kept an assertive line which was noted by marshals. With only four seconds between the winning women's quad of the day, Avon regatta will certainly be tense.



WJ17 4x-

Our second sixth form boat of Harriet Morgan, Ella Miles, Halle Unsworth and Kate Rogers not only raced up a year at an unfamiliar and reasonably technical course but put in a smashing performance, motivating each other down the course. They were calm and composed on the trip up and moved as one team on the way down. Beating three other quads in the women's open, one of which being a university boat, the girls should have no trouble next year demolishing the competition when they race in their own category.



WJ16 4x-

Seren Vanderhorst, Madison Dickens, Violet Holbrow-Brooksbank and Hannah Rogers certainly did not disappoint when they not only devouring the competition in their own category, by over 30 seconds, but then looked into the women's open where they beat four other quads and were the third fastest coxless women's quad of the day. They were technically elegant and put pressure on the boat in front of them as they sought out for the overtake. Each one of the girls brought a different quality to the boat which in the end lead them to a great race and a great day and is proven in their attitude both on and off the water.



J15 4x+ (Futcher)

Steven Hudson, Angus Keown-Boyd, Lewis Jones, Hector Futcher and cox Hannah Rogers set the bar for their first ever head. They were the first of our boys' crews to go down the course and am sure the nerves were settling in. With one external club in their category, there was tension between the three Monmouth Comp boats but nonetheless, they put in a solid and aggressive race. With a mere seven seconds between them and the next quad, the next event will certainly be a close one. Steven, Angus and Hector were also a very key part of the senior girl's races where they shouted memorable encouragement from the bank which was most certainly the backbone of their success. Hannah steered her second boat through the finish with equal aggression and assertiveness to finish off the day as positive as it began.



J15 4x+ (Cowton)

Archie Cowton, Freddy Potts, Oscar Wilkins, Robin Comben and cox Margy also completed their first ever race and placed third. Archie maintained a solid and powerful rhythm setting up the rest of the boat. Freddy was attentive to maintain the strong foundations in the stern pair and stamp on the power. Oscar Wilkins showed great determination and commitment to drive his crew through to the finish and put on a strong and convincing performance. Robin Comben looked calm and composed as he rounded off the crew with his technical focus. With Margy's experience at races she embedded a strong mindset in her crew and set the example getting involved and helping out the younger years.



J15 4x+ (Barrel)

Arthur Dennant, James Probert, Samuel Chilton, Archie Barrel and cox Keris Mcshane finished the course in sub 6 minutes only being beaten by the home crew by three seconds which just shows the physical and mental ability of the crew as a whole. For their first ever race, it certainly highlights the potential this crew has and what we might see in the next few years. Keris made some motivated and effective calls for pushes at just the right time and also displayed her maturity as an older and experienced cox.



0 4x-

Tom Powell, Tom Coates, George Knight and Jack Bufton each had big shoes to fill when they raced against Swansea University and Monkton Boat club in the open category. However, they not only set the standard for the rest of the club but impressed us with the kind of quality that is expected from the top men's quad. They placed 3rd, only seven seconds away from a university boat which in itself is something to be proud of especially with one of the boys racing two categories up. Jack led the crew down the course with an aggressive line, slicing seconds off their time and with Tom's consistent rhythm, they glided down the course.



J17 4x-

The second sixth form boy's quad followed them down the river, also racing in the open category which is two categories above. They rose up to the challenge with Elliot Lynch-warden at stroke followed by Lewis Edwards, Max Hole and Tom McNally. They were just as aggressive and passionate with a punchy rate and a crushing drive. They annihilated the home quad in their age group by almost a minute, but were only thirty seconds away from some of the crews in the older category which just shows the maturity and progression of this crew.

