

## Race Report: Cerist Junior Aquathlon

Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April 2017

### Cerist Triathlon Club, Machynlleth

The annual Welsh Triathlon TriStars Series opener took place at Bro Ddyfi leisure centre in Machynlleth on Sunday 16<sup>th</sup> April, 2017. The weather forecast didn't bode well for the scheduled 12.00 start, and as the race progressed the dark clouds and occasional rain turned into heavy showers at times – however, the unkind weather didn't dampen the spirit, and the biggest starting field ever for this race all thoroughly enjoyed the day!

A feature of this race is that 5 to 7 year olds can enter in the **Cerist Kidz** age category, and for most of them this was their first ever race. This year seven little ones started, and they all completed the course to proudly collect their finishers medals!

**Gwenlli Pennant Jones** [5:45.0], **Alaina Jones** [6:50.7], and **Martha Fychan** (Cerist Juniors) [8:02.6] took the top three places for the girls. For the boys were **Rhys Thomas** (Celtic Tri) [5:04.0], **Oscar Patrick** (West Coast Triathlon) [5:19.0], and **Oliver Lerigo** [6:13.8].

In the official age groups, **TriStars Start** saw some close competition. **Seren Borland** (Tristars Conwy) [4:55.2], **Thea Patrick** (West Coast Triathlon) [4:59.2], and **Isabelle Edghill** (Tristars Conwy) [5:06.6] came in 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> respectively, and for the boys it was **Tristan Warrender** (Cerist Juniors) [4:02.7], **Liam Reading** (Cerist Juniors) [4:04.1], and **Ando Hannant** (Ruthin Tristars) [4:36.0].

**Millie Hannant** (Ruthin Tristars) [10:47.2] won the **TriStars 1** girls race with the quickest swim and run, with a keen battle for second place eventually going to **Josie Hurst** (Denbighshire Tri Club) [11:09.4] over her clubmate **Lily Roberts** [11:11.4]. In the boys race, Cerist Juniors completed a clean sweep, with only six seconds between the top three. **Finlay Thapa** [10:35.0] just edged **Louis Roberts** [10:37.8] and **Daniel Warrender** [10:41.5] in a fantastic race for the line!

**TriStars 2** girls saw last year's friendly rivalry resume, with **Abigail Davies** (AIM2TRI) [13:42.9] first, teammate **Eve Hickman** [14:22.6] second and **Freya Thapa** (Cerist Juniors) [14:59.4] in third. The honours also went south in the boys race, with **Finlay Catling** (Celtic Tri) [13:10.2] coming in ahead of **Luke Wyatt** (AIM2TRI) [13:37.0], with Ruthin Tristars' **Oliver Jones** [14:16.0] claiming third spot.

**Carys Borland** (Tristars Conwy) [17:58.2] finished strongly on the run to secure first place in **TriStars 3** girls, and she was followed home by **Tia Froom** (Ludlow Junior Tri Club) [18:08.2] and **Eve Scott** (Ruthin Tristars) [19:06.8]. **Osian Perrin** [16:12.8] also produced a storming run to win the boys race, with **Alex Layzell** (Triathlon Coaching Wales) [16:49.1] second and **Liam Edwards** (Pembrokeshire Tristars) [17:04.6] third.

The final age group to race were the **Youths**. For the girls, **Kirsha Nicholson** (Ruthin Tristars) [21:56.8] came in ahead of **Eva Edwards** (Pembrokeshire Tristars) [22:59.3] and **Lauren Watts** (Cerist Juniors) [23:30.3]. The boys race was won by **Carwyn Owen** (Welshpool Sharks) [20:03.9], with **Alex Roberts** (Tristars Conwy) [20:29.3] second and **Tomos Jones** (Taf Ely Tri Club) [23:05.9] third.

And so, despite the rain there was an excellent day's racing, with some superb performances in the pool and out on the run. The club places strong emphasis on participation, and among the high turnout were many first-timers and novices. The friendly nature of Cerist Tri Club races was again evident, and all involved seemed to really enjoy the occasion and showed great sportsmanship

throughout. Full results can be found at [www.whatsmytime.co.uk](http://www.whatsmytime.co.uk) and TriStars Series points at [www.welshtriathlon.org](http://www.welshtriathlon.org).

Cerist Tri Club wishes to thank everyone who helped stage the race (apologies to the marshals who bore the brunt of the rain!), and the many local sponsors who contributed so generously: AHE Refrigeration & Electrical, Plant i, SJ Joinery & Construction, DJ Holt Painter & Decorator, AL Thomas Builder, El Diablo Tattoos, Maenllwyd Guest House, Mid Wales Removals, Dyfi Plumbing & Heating, Brighter Foods, Co-op Machynlleth, The Floor Covering Centre, Continental, and Dwr Cerist. Thank you all.