



Press Release

Sporting success

Well deserved sporting success was achieved by the South Hams team at the tenth annual Devon Youth Games on Saturday.

The young South Hams sporting stars won an impressive 11 medals – three gold, five silver and three bronze – to take second place overall. This was the highest medal tally for any team. Plymouth's team scored just four more points to take the top spot.

The event was hosted by Plymouth City Council, with the main sponsors being Devon County Council, Devonport Regeneration and Babcock Marine. The games are the largest sporting event for young people in the county; nearly 1,300 participants took part in 21 events across 14 different sports at three locations across the city. Nine Devon local authority areas were represented.

The 130 young athletes, aged between nine and 15 years of age, who represented the district were once again trained and organised by Ivybridge Community College. Based on a mini Olympics format with opening and closing ceremonies and medal presentations, the games place an emphasis on fair play and the enjoyment of taking part.

The South Hams youngsters won a total of 11 individual medals - three gold in boys' hockey, mixed tag rugby and table tennis; five silver in mixed athletics, mixed gymnastics, girls' hockey, girls' tag rugby and boys' volleyball; and three bronze in mixed aquathlon (year 5/6), senior aquathlon and girls' badminton. The team's performance put the South Hams team in second place overall with 106 points to Plymouth's first place total of 110.

Cllr Basil Cane, chairman of South Hams District Council and Cllr John Baverstock, member champion for children and young people were both at the games cheering on the South Hams youngsters.

Cllr Baverstock said: "I am absolutely delighted with this result which reflects the determination and hard work on the part of the South Hams youngsters. They put their heart and soul into the competition and can be justifiably proud of their efforts. Here's to the team winning the event next year!"

Cllr Cane said: "The Devon Youth Games is a great showcase of the rising young sporting talent across the county. The youngsters' success is a wonderful thank you to the many volunteers, local sports coaches, teachers and clubs without whom the South Hams teams would not be able to compete."

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For more information please contact the Press Office at South Hams District Council on 01803 861368.