

County Levels Championships 10th September

On the 10 September 2017 the annual Suffolk Championships took place at Pipers Vale. This is the highest level of county competition and showcases the best gymnasts from across Suffolk. The Pipers Vale gymnasts dominated the competition and won almost every level entered.

Pre Level 4 In the youngest category the in age level five gymnasts were unbeatable. Aaliyah Manning placed first with the highest score on every piece of apparatus and was crowned Suffolk champion. Ophira Chapepa was impressive throughout the competition and despite a slight error on the beam placed 2nd to take the silver medal. Aniya Barrado had an unfortunate fall during her bar exercise but showed real determination and maturity in continuing and raising her game on the remaining pieces to place third overall.

Level 4 The in age level four category is the first category that progresses to a National final at which the gymnasts have the opportunity to contest for coveted national squad places as well as a British ranking. Pipers Vale had three gymnasts competing at this level and they again proved to be a cut above the rest taking all of the podium places. Ellie Cornforth had an outstanding competition and obtained the highest score on vault bars and floor her impressive overall score meant that she became Suffolk champion. Taking the silver medal was Grace Wardley who excelled on beam with sky high jumps and beautifully linked elements to score a massive 12.55, the highest score of the day on beam. Gala Fraser-Lim has made massive improvements recently and showed some beautiful and precise work to clinch the bronze medal making it another clean sweep for the Pipers Vale girls.



In the out of age 10-11 section Teagan Butterton and Cerys Evans competed. Both girls had beautiful new floor routines and competed well in a very tough category to place 6th and 10th respectively. Teagan performed an impressive new vault which saw her receive the top score on this event.

In the age 12-13 category Chloe-Leigh Phelan and Kiera May performed exceptionally well. Chloe got the top score of her category on vault on floor and was second on Bars and beam to see her win the event and be crowned Suffolk champion. Kiera has hot on her heels and overcame her fears to place an impressive 3rd on vault and beam and take 4th place overall. Chloe qualifies for the Regional final in October and Kiera is the reserve for the event.

Level 3 In the level 3 age 11-12 competition Sofia Brooks took the top spot and became Suffolk Champion. Sofia competed the most difficult bar routine in her level and achieved an impressive score of 11.35. Sofia achieved the highest score of the round on bars and equal top on beam. Maia Coleman came in an impressive 2nd place demonstrating a lot of new skills to achieve the highest scores on vault and floor and equal top score on beam. Layla Fillbrook pushed the girls all the way finishing in a fantastic third place and making another clean sweep for the Pipers Vale trio.

In the 13+ category Sophie Tomlin took the silver medal and Melita Pritchard-Barratt the bronze. Both girls competed extremely well and on this occasion Sophie had the highest scores on bars and was second on vault and beam. Melita placed an impressive second on bars and floor. Both girls qualifies for the Regional final in October.

Level 2 In the in age level 2 category 11 year old Ruby Keeley and Mya Patel were evenly matched making it a tough competition. On this occasion, Ruby had a fantastic day achieving the highest scores of the day on Vault, Bars and Floor and reversed the positions from the previous competition to become Suffolk Champion for the first time. Mya was an impressive 2nd all around and despite a fall on beam claimed the highest score on this piece showing some beautiful leaps and artistry. Both Ruby and Mya have worked extremely hard to achieve this level and will now move forward to Regionals and the British Age Group Championships.

In the out of age level 2, 12-13 age group, twins Emily and Abigail Roper battled for the title. Both girls have made significant improvements in their routines and looked calm and impressive. Emily competed a difficult double backward somersault for the first time and pipped her sister to the post claiming the highest scores on vault, bars and beam and becoming Suffolk Champion. Abigail was not about to make it easy for her sister and pushed her all the way. Abigail's beautiful and well executed floor routine saw her steal the top score on this piece with an impressive score of 12.00 and claim the silver medal all around.

In the 14+ category Millie Finbow and Chiara Ciufo were in action. It was a tough competition but both girls were determined and demonstrated some beautiful gymnastics. Millie came out too on bars and beam to take the all around title by the smallest of margins. Chiara placed an impressive 2nd and posted the highest scores on vault and floor. Both girls qualified for the Regional final in October.



FIG Level Maisie Squire competed at the British FIG Espoir level for gymnasts aged 12&13 who are qualified for the British championships. Maisie is the only gymnast in Suffolk who qualifies to compete at this level which is an impressive achievement in itself. Maisie displayed some beautiful gymnastics with particular highlights being her beautiful bars and beam routines which earned her the highest score of any of the FIG gymnasts on these pieces.

13 year old Molly Howland competed at the FIG Espoir Challenge level and competed her beautiful and dramatic new floor routine for the first time. Molly landed her difficult double backward somersault with ease and conquered a difficult beam routine to take the gold medal and become Suffolk Champion for 2017.

Well done to everyone who competed!