

## 2020 Star Q Qualifier

# Confusion – Part 1: STAR Sr Q Qualifier

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*Anyone who isn't confused here doesn't really understand what's going on. (Anonymous)*

On Jan 18-19 our team attended 3 different swim meets. and two of them were at the same location.

- (1) SCS Senior Q Qualifier at STAR– (was held in the morning);
- (2) BR SCY at STAR (was held in the afternoon)
- (3) Road to Omaha Senior Meet

In over 5 years I've never seen 2 totally different meets on the same day at the same location. Then, adding to the confusion, last minute changes to the qualifying standards for the Senior Q Challenge meet had our heads spinning. But, in order to figure out what was going on, here's some background for the Q meets.

## BACKGROUND FOR THE Q MEETS

Within Southern California Swimming (SCS) there are 6 Geo(graphic)-Committees: Coastal, Desert, Eastern, Metro, Orange, and Pacific. We are one of 33 teams in the Eastern Geo-Committee. SCS sponsors a senior competition between the Geo-Committees. The idea was for each Geo-Committee to bring their best senior team to compete against each other.

Each Geo-Committee was to hold a Q Qualifier meet to determine who would represent their Geo-Committee. The top 6 times in each event would qualify for their Geo-Committee team AND, ONLY swimmers attending the Q Qualifier would be eligible for the team. Since this is a Senior meet there are no age groups and no age limits. All swimmers who met the qualifying standards could compete – 13's were competing against 20's and 30's.

Except for a few swimmers attending the Road to Omaha meet, we sent our best Titanium and Platinum swimmers to this meet.

At the coaches meeting, 10 minutes before the start of the meet, the coaches were informed the rules had changed for how swimmers and teams could qualify for the SCS Sr Q Challenge. The new rules were:

- (1) Everyone who swam any event at the Q Qualifier meet would qualify to swim at the SCS Sr Q Challenge. Not only that, they could swim ANY 6 events ... there was no qualifying time standard.
- (2) Anyone who swam at the Road to Omaha meet could qualify to swim at the SCS Sr Q Challenge but ONLY their Road events plus bonus.
- (3) Anyone who met the Road to Omaha time standard (equivalent to Sectional Bonus times) could swim those events at the SCS Sr Q Challenge

OK, confusion was rampant. What did that mean for the top 6 times? How does the Geo-Committee enter swimmers? As it turned out, the SCS Sr Q Challenge was no longer a competition between Geo-Committees ... it was just another (LCM) senior swim meet.

## **What Happened**

Looking at what happened to this meet gives a very good insight to the challenges of holding swim meets. Swim meets are expensive to run. The pool must be rented for 2-3 days, admin and officials need to be paid (and fed), awards need to be purchased, etc. In addition, meets are one of the few ways teams have to generate income. If a meet doesn't have a good turnout the team will lose money.

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As the entries came in for the Orange, Metro, and Pacific Geo-Committees there were not enough swimmers entered to make it financially feasible to hold meets at 3 different locations. So, at the last minute, all three Geo-Committee meets were combined into one qualifying meet.

Also, for our Eastern Geo-Committee there was not enough swimmers to cover all the costs for STAR. So, an afternoon meet was added to the schedule at the last minute. And that is how the afternoon STAR BR SCY meet was born.

## QUALIFYING SWIMMERS

Congratulations to the SCS Sr Q meet qualifiers. They all qualified.

- *Jill Adams*
- *Kai Anolin*
- *Samantha Cummins*
- *Michael DiBello*
- *Brooke Etter*
- *Vincent Frausto*
- *Makayla Hatzfeld*
- *Joshuah Jauregui*
- *Joshua Jenkins*
- *Nathan Lee*
- *Ethan Lopez*
- *Nailyn Lopez*
- *Nohely Lopez*
- *Luke Pedroche*
- *Nijal Suthar*
- *Victoria Villarreal*
- *Madeline Wheeler*
- *Yimo Zou*

## TEAM RECORDS

- *Michael DiBello* (Open 200 Breast, 200 IM);
- *Nathan Lee* (Open 200 Back)

## NEW TIMES

### New Senior:

- *Michael DiBello* (Open 100 Free)

### New Far West

- *Michael DiBello* (Open 100 Free)

### New Blue Times

- *Yimo Zou* (Open 100 Free);
- *Joshua Jenkins* (Open 500 Free)

## TIME DROPS

**BEST TOTAL TIME DROP** goes to *Jill Adams* for dropping a total of (-8.49).

**BEST SINGLE TIME DROP** goes to *Joshua Jenkins* for dropping (-6.33) in his 500 Free.

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Here's our other time drops:

*Joshua Jenkins* (-7.17); *Madeline Wheeler* (-3.79); *Michael DiBello* (-2.84); *Ethan Lopez* (-1.83); *Nathan Lee* (-1.63); *Joshuah Jauregui* (-1.11); *Yimo Zou* (-0.51); *Luke Pedroche* (-0.16); *Kai Anolin* (-0.13).

### FINISHING PLACES

This meet did not give awards. These are the top 6 finishers.

#### 1<sup>ST</sup> Place

- *Samantha Cummins* (Open 200 Fly);
- *Nohely Lopez* (Open 50 Free);
- *Victoria Villarreal* (Open 100 Back, 200 Back, 200 IM)

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

- *Michael DiBello* (Open 200 Breast);
- *Luke Pedroche* (Open 200 Fly);
- *Victoria Villarreal* (Open 50 Free)

#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Place

- *Samantha Cummins* (Open 100 Free);
- *Luke Pedroche* (Open 200 Back)

#### 5<sup>th</sup> Place

- *Jesie Castaneda* (Open 200 Back);
- *Michael DiBello* (Open 200 IM)

#### 6<sup>th</sup> Place

- *Jesie Castaneda* (Open 100 Breast);
- *Michael DiBello* (Open 100 Back, 100 Free)

### POINTS

Our individual swimmers earned a total 454 Points. *Victoria Villarreal* was **TOTAL POINTS** leader with 95 points.

Well done to our other points earners.

- *Michael DiBello* (75);
- *Luke Pedroche* (67);
- *Jesie Castaneda* (47);
- *Samantha Cummins* (36);
- *Nathan Lee* (29);
- *Madeline Wheeler* (24);
- *Brooke Etter* (23);
- *Nohely Lopez* (22);
- *Ethan Lopez* (19);
- *Yimo Zou* (9);
- *Jill Adams* (8)

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### TOP 10 TIMES

#### New Top 10 Times

Congratulations to these swimmers who made the **Top 10 Times** in their events for the very first time.

- *Jill Adams* (Open 200 Free);
- *Joshuah Jauregui* (Open 100 Free);
- *Joshua Jenkins* (Open 500 Free)

#### Top 10 Times

Continuing to swim times in the **Top 10** are:

- *Jill Adams* (Open 100 Breast);
- *Kai Anolin* (Open 100 Free, 200 Back), 00 Free, 200 IM, 50 Free);
- *Jesie Castaneda* (Open 100 Back, 100 Breast, 200 Back, 200 Breast, 50 Free);
- *Samantha Cummins* (Open 100 Free, 200 Fly);
- *Michael DiBello* (Open 100 Back, 100 Breast, 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Breast, 200 IM);
- *Brooke Etter* (Open 100 Breast, 200 Breast);
- *Vincent Frausto* (Open 200 Back, 200 Breast);
- *Joshuah Jauregui* (Open 100 Fly, 500 Free);
- *Nathan Lee* (Open 100 Back, 100 Breast, 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Breast, 200 IM);
- *Ethan Lopez* (Open 100 Back, 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Free, 50 Free);
- *Nailyn Lopez* (Open 100 Breast, 100 Free, 200 Free, 50 Free);
- *Nohely Lopez* (Open 100 Fly, 200 IM, 50 Free);
- *Luke Pedroche* (Open 100 Back, 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Fly, 50 Free);
- *Nijal Suthar* (Open 100 Fly);
- *Victoria Villarreal* (Open 100 Back, 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Breast, 200 IM, 50 Free);
- *Madeline Wheeler* (Open 100 Breast, 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 Free, 200 IM);
- *Yimo Zou* (Open 100 Breast, 200 Fly)

### USA MOTIVATIONAL TIMES

These are the USA Motivational times achieved by our swimmers at this meet.

#### AAA Times

- *Michael DiBello* (Open 100 Breast, 100 Free, 200 Breast, 200 IM);
- *Luke Pedroche* (Open 200 Back)

#### AA Times

- *Samantha Cummins* (Open 100 Free, 200 Fly);
- *Michael DiBello* (Open 100 Back);
- *Ethan Lopez* (Open 200 Free, 50 Free);
- *Nohely Lopez* (Open 50 Free);
- *Luke Pedroche* (Open 100 Back, 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 Fly, 50 Free);
- *Victoria Villarreal* (Open 100 Back, 200 Back, 200 IM); 50 Free);
- *Madeline Wheeler* (Open 200 Free)

#### A Times

- *Jill Adams* (Open 200 Free, 50 Free);
- *Kai Anolin* (Open 100 Free, 200 Free, 50 Free);

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- **Michael DiBello** (Open 200 Back);
- **Brooke Etter** (Open 100 Breast, 200 Breast);
- **Nathan Lee** (Open 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Breast, 200 IM);
- **Ethan Lopez** (Open 100 Back, 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 Back);
- **Nailyn Lopez** (Open 50 Free);
- **Victoria Villarreal** (Open 100 Free, 200 Breast);
- **Madeline Wheeler** (Open 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 IM)

### **BB Times**

**Jill Adams** (Open 100 Breast, 200 Breast, 200 IM); **Kai Anolin** (Open 200 Back, 200 IM); **Brooke Etter** (Open 100 Free, 50 Free); **Vincent Frausto** (Open 100 Free, 200 Back, 200 Breast, 200 IM); **Makayla Hatzfeld** (Open 100 Free, 200 Free, 50 Free); **Joshuah Jauregui** (Open 100 Fly, 100 Free, 200 Free, 200 IM, 500 Free); **Joshua Jenkins** (Open 100 Free, 200 Free, 50 Free, 500 Free); **Nathan Lee** (Open 100 Back, 100 Breast); **Nailyn Lopez** (Open 100 Breast, 100 Free, 200 Free); **Nohely Lopez** (Open 100 Fly, 200 IM); **Nijal Suthar** (Open 50 Free); **Madeline Wheeler** (Open 100 Breast); **Yimo Zou** (Open 100 Breast, 100 Free, 200 IM, 50 Free).

### **B Times**

**Kai Anolin** (Open 100 Breast); **Makayla Hatzfeld** (Open 100 Back); **Joshua Jenkins** (Open 200 IM); **Nailyn Lopez** (Open 200 IM); **Nijal Suthar** (Open 100 Fly).

## **WRAP UP**

*Eventually all the pieces fall into place, until then laugh at the confusion, live for the moment, and know that everything happens for a reason. (Unknown)*

As the dust (or water) settled we began to figure out what happened, and the pieces started to fall into place. The reason ... a lot of our swimmers get to experience their first Senior meet.

One last shout out to **Elaine Alvarez** and **Carmelia Pedroche** who had not one, but TWO meets to get setup and manage! You ladies rock!

GO SHARKS

GMA Sherry