

NEW BEGINNINGS

And suddenly you know ... It's time to start something new and trust the magic of beginnings. (Anonymous)

At long last we are beginning a new, almost normal, season. In September, 2019 over 25,000 swimmers in SoCal Swimming began a new season. On March 12, 2020 everything changed when we were forced to shut down due to the COVID pandemic. Facilities closed, teams shut down, swimmers were desperate for whatever training they could find. There was no season beginning for Sept 2020 and no beginning for Sept 2021. This past year teams and SoCal Swimming have been in 'recovery' mode. Over the 2 years, SoCal Swimming has lost around 8,000 swimmers. This is obvious when looking at the low turnout for swim meets.

This season teams and swimmers are trusting in the magic of new beginnings.

We had 23 swimmers competing in 64 events, achieving:

- 15 new C times;
- 11 new B times

RISING STARS

We had a lot of swimmers who did really well. There are a couple of 8-year-old swimmers who had an exceptional meet.

Jack Adams, Age Group Development, set 3 **TEAM RECORDS** and picked up 2 **FIRST TIME 5-8 B TIMES**,

Andrew Sanchez, Novice, set 1 **TEAM RECORD**, picked up 2 **FIRST TIME 5-8 B TIMES**, placed 1st, 2nd, and 6th, and placed 2nd in **TOTAL POINTS**.

ON THE WATCH LIST

Bella Lira, Age Group Development, dropped -11.55 for her 50 Free! WOW and was 2nd in overall **TIME DROPS**.

Grace Ma, Age Group, picked up **FIRST TIME B TIMES** in both her events and made the **TOP 10 TIMES** for those events.

Dominic Cordero, Age Group, continues to make significant performance improvements, dropping significant times in all his events and moving 2 of his events up in the **TOP 10 TIMES**.

TEAM RECORDS:

Our swimmers repeatedly demonstrate the highest level of personal performance as team records continue to be broken. The latest records to fall are:

- **Jack Adams** - Age Grp Dev (8 & Under 50 Back, 8 & Under 100 Free, 8 & Under 50 Fly);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (8 & Under 25 Free);

FIRST TIME SWIMS

Our swimmers continue to work hard on technique. Here we acknowledge the swimmers who accepted the challenge of swimming an event for the very first time.

New C Times

Attaining personal excellence and getting their first C times are:

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- **Jack Adams** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 100 Free, 50 Fly);
- **Osman Azurdia** - Junior (13-14 100 Back, 100 Fly, 200 IM);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 50 Fly);
- **Izay Cabral** - Age Grp Dev (13-14 100 Free, 50 Free);
- **Zarek Cabral** - Age Grp Dev (11-12 50 Back, 50 Free);
- **Zaaidaya Kazdailis** - Novice (5-8 25 Free);
- **Bella Lira** - Age Grp Dev (11-12 100 Free);
- **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Age Group (11-12 100 Free, 50 Back, 50 Fly)

First Time 5-8 B Times

Our youngest swimmers showed everyone they meant business and got B times the first time swimming these events.

- **Jack Adams** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 50 Free, 50 Back);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (5-8 50 Free, 25 Free)

First Time B Times

Taking personal excellence to the next level these swimmers reached B times the first time swimming these events.

- **Grace Ma** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free, 50 Fly);

NEW TIMES

More typical are the swimmers exhibiting personal excellence by moving up the time standards from C to B, or to BB, or to A, or to WAG / JO. These swimmers demonstrate their hard work pays off.

New 5-8 B Times

- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Free);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (5-8 25 Back)

New B Times

- **Adelaide Paul** - Junior (11-12 50 Back, 50 Breast);
- **Andrew Rodman** - Senior (15-18 200 IM)

TIME DROPS

Liam Medina posted **BEST TOTAL TIME DROP** by dropping a total of -18.02. **BEST SINGLE TIME DROP** goes **Bella Lira**. She dropped an amazing -11.55 for her 50 Free.

Getting those harder to get time drops are:

Liam Medina (-18.02); **Bella Lira** (-13.82); **Dominic Cordero** (-12.85); **Adelaide Paul** (-9.59); **Liam Santelio** (-7.69); **Samantha Bahena** (-7.25); **Andrew Rodman** (-7.06); **Nicholas Marzullo** (-4.44); **Josie Osborn** (-2.92); **Michael Stackhouse** (-2.21); **Myla Martinez** (-1.92); **Elyse Cordero** (-1.87); **Faith Rodriguez** (-1.7); **Mason Jimenez** (-1.57).

AWARDS & POINTS

Our 23 swimmers brought home 21 awards. 2 1st place, 4 2nd place, 5 3rd place, 3 4th place, 3 5th place, and 4 6th place. These are our 1st thru 6th place winners.

1st place

- **Andrew Rodman** - Senior (15-18 200 IM);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (5-8 50 Free)

2nd place

- **Grace Ma** - Age Group (7-10 50 Fly);
- **Adelaide Paul** - Junior (11-12 50 Breast);
- **Faith Rodriguez** - Junior (11-12 50 Fly);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (5-8 25 Free)

3rd Place

- **Osman Azurdia** - Junior (13-14 200 IM);
- **Elyse Cordero** - Age Group (15-18 50 Free);
- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Free);
- **Grace Ma** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free);
- **Liam Medina** - Junior (13-14 100 Free)

4th Place

- **Liam Medina** - Junior (13-14 100 Breast, 50 Free);
- **Adelaide Paul** - Junior (11-12 50 Back);

5th Place

- **Osman Azurdia** - Junior (13-14 100 Fly);
- **Elyse Cordero** - Age Group (15-18 100 Free);
- **Liam Medina** - Junior (13-14 100 Back);

6th Place

- **Dominic Cordero** - Age Group (11-12 50 Fly);
- **Bella Lira** - Age Grp Dev (11-12 50 Free);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (5-8 25 Back);
- **Michael Stackhouse** - Age Group (13-14 100 Fly)

POINTS

Taking **TOP POINTS** at this meet was **Liam Medina** / Junior with 60 points followed closely by **Andrew Sanchez** / Novice with 51 points.

Congratulations to all our point getters.

- **Liam Medina** - Junior (60);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (51);
- **Elyse Cordero** - Age Group (42);
- **Michael Stackhouse** - Age Group (36);
- **Osman Azurdia** - Junior (34);

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- **Grace Ma** - Age Group (34);
- **Adelaide Paul** - Junior (33);
- **Faith Rodriguez** - Junior (29);
- **Bella Lira** - Age Grp Dev (25);
- **Dominic Cordero** - Age Group (23);
- **Andrew Rodman** - Senior (20);
- **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Age Group (18);
- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Grp Dev (16);
- **Jack Adams** - Age Grp Dev (14);
- **Nicholas Marzullo** - Age Group (14);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Grp Dev (13);
- **Zaaidaya Kazdailis** - Novice (2);
- **Myla Martinez** - Junior (2);
- **Liam Santelio** - Age Group (2)

TOP 10 BEST TIMES

New Top 10

Placing their event in the **ALL TIME TOP 10 PERSONAL BEST TIMES** for the first time are:

- **Jack Adams** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 100 Free, 50 Back, 50 Fly, 50 Free);
- **Zarek Cabral** - Age Grp Dev (11-12 50 Back);
- **Grace Ma** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free, 50 Fly);
- **Myla Martinez** - Junior (11-12 50 Back);
- **Liam Medina** - Junior (13-14 100 Back, 100 Breast);
- **Adelaide Paul** - Junior (11-12 50 Breast);
- **Andrew Sanchez** - Novice (5-8 25 Back, 25 Free, 50 Free);
- **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Age Group (11-12 50 Back, 50 Fly)

Top 10

Updating their personal bests in the **ALL TIME TOP 10 PERSONAL BEST TIMES** are:

- **Dominic Cordero** - Age Group (11-12 50 Back, 50 Fly);
- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Free);
- **Adelaide Paul** - Junior (11-12 50 Back);
- **Andrew Rodman** - Senior (15-18 200 IM);
- **Faith Rodriguez** - Junior (11-12 50 Back)

RELAYS

We did not have any relay events at this meet.

WRAP UP

The beginning is the most important part of the work. (Plato)

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As we begin a new season we realize that beginning is the most important part of the work. We are very proud of our swimmers who showed up and did their very best. Even those who had DQs. DQs are learning experiences. The swimmer learns there are competition rules for each stroke and event and the coaches learn what the swimmer needs to work on. Parents only get to ask 2 questions of their swimmers, (1) Did you do your best? and (2) Did you have fun? Let the coaches do the rest.

This season is a **NEW BEGINNING**. We have only just begun.

GO THUNDERBOLTS

GMA Sherry