

The Journey Continues – OTTR Meet Recap

Success is a journey, not a destination. The doing is often more important than the outcome. (Arthur Ashe)

Our beginners journey continued at the October 7 OTTR Fest C 1 Day meet in Palm Springs. Success was evident as our 22 beginner swimmers picked up 14 new C times, 4 new B times, and 1 new BB time. The journey has just begun for first time swimmers: **Jeanette Adams, Alexandria Gonzalez, Adrian Rocha, Mahogany Sherman.**

Along the way there were a few DQs. These are a part of the journey. Everyone gets a DQ at some time, even Olympic swimmers get a DQ occasionally. DQs are a learning opportunity. Maybe a technique mistake, maybe a lapse in concentration, maybe a bit of nervousness. The official will tell the swimmers what they did, coaches get a report and know what to work on, and parents are there to give encouragement and support. We all work together. It takes a team.

OUTSTANDING SWIMS

Jeremy Bustamante, age 12 soon to be 13, took his journey to the next level. He got the **TEAM RECORD** and a **NEW BB** time for his 50 Back, winning the event with a **1st place** finish. His 50 Free was a **NEW B** time and a **4th place** finish. Both events placed in the **TOP 10**. Jeremy placed 7th with his 100 Free, earning the top **TOTAL POINTS** with 47. Success as his journey continues.

RISING STARS

Jack Adams, age 9, surprised everyone with his 100 IM. He swam to a **NEW 'B'** time and qualified for all A/BB/B meets. This 100 IM placed **6th** and made the **TOP 10 Times** along with his 50 Breast and 50 Free. Jack placed 3rd in points with 23 points and dropped a total of -16.52! Great way to continue your journey!

Samantha (Sammy) Bahena, age 10, is continuing her journey with her first meet this season. Last season she was one of our rising stars and her stardom continues, picking up **NEW B** times for both her 50 Back and 100 Free. Sammy will be entering her first A/BB/B meet on Oct 20. She won **1st** place in the 100 Free and earned 31 **TOTAL POINTS**. Her 100 Free was a **NEW TOP 10** time. Go Sammy!!

ON THE WATCH LIST

This was **Evelyn Harriman's**, age 7 soon to be 8, 3rd beginner meet and she took her journey to the next level. She dropped an amazing **-20.89 in the 100 Free**. Her **TOTAL DROP** (-23.59) was the **BEST** for our team for the meet. Evelyn, we're watching now. You got our attention as you continue your journey.

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:

- **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (11-12 50 Back);

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:

- **Jeanette Adams** - Novice (5-8 25 Free);

- **Ayden Cuevas** - Age Grp Dev (11-12 50 Fly);
- **Alexandria Gonzalez** - Age Group (11-12 100 Free, 50 Breast, 50 Fly, 50 Free);
- **Keith Johnson** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 50 Fly);
- **Camila Maldonado** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 100 Free);
- **Adrian Rocha** - Novice (11-12 100 Free, 50 Back, 50 Free);
- **Bjork Rodriguez** - Age Grp Dev (13-14 50 Free);
- **Mahogany Sherman** - Age Grp Dev (13-14 100 Breast, 200 IM)

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 / Age Group Champs (Spring and Summer formerly JO). These swimmers demonstrate their hard work pays off.

New B Times

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 IM);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free, 50 Back);
- **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (11-12 50 Free)

New BB Times

- **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (11-12 50 Back)

TIME DROPS

BEST TOTAL TIME DROP was earned by **Evelyn Harriman** - Novice with a total (-23.59), followed closely by **Camila Maldonado** - Age Grp Dev (-23.57) . **BEST SINGLE TIME DROP** was earned by **Keith Johnson** - Age Grp Dev for dropping an incredible (-21.87) for his (100 Free)

Getting those harder to get time drops are:

Evelyn Harriman - Novice (-23.59); **Camila Maldonado** - Age Grp Dev (-23.57); **Keith Johnson** - Age Grp Dev (-22.19); **Ayden Cuevas** - Age Grp Dev (-18.03); **Jack Adams** - Age Group (-16.52); **Kaylin Harriman** - Age Grp Dev (-16.14); **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (-15.83); **Jeremy Falardeau** - Age Group (-15); **Ryder Costa** - Age Group (-13.18); **Reese Harriman** - Age Grp Dev (-9.72); **Rolando Nicasio** - Age Group (-9.3); **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (-6.56); **Elyse Cordero** - Sr Dev (-3.96); **Zaaidaya Kazdailis** - Age Grp Dev (-2.84); **Dominic Cordero** - Sr Dev (-2.67); **Kaidas Kazdailis** - Age Grp Dev (-1.69).

AWARDS & POINTS

Our 22 swimmers brought home 4 awards. 2 1st place, 1 4th place, 1 6th place. These are our 1st thru 6th place winners.

1st place

- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free);
- **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (11-12 50 Back)

4th Place

- **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (11-12 50 Free);

6th Place

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 IM)

POINTS

Taking **TOP POINTS** at this meet was **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group with 47 points.

Congratulations to all our point getters.

Jeremy Bustamante - Age Group (47); **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (31); **Jack Adams** - Age Group (28); **Elyse Cordero** - Sr Dev (27); **Zaaidaya Kazdailis** - Age Grp Dev (19); **Evelyn Harriman** - Novice (14); **Mahogany Sherman** - Age Grp Dev (14); **Keith Johnson** - Age Grp Dev (12); **Dominic Cordero** - Sr Dev (6); Reese Harriman - Age Grp Dev (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 Group (7-10 50 Breast, 50 Free);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free);
- **Evelyn Harriman** - Novice (5-8 25 Back);
- **Keith Johnson** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 100 Free, 50 Fly);
- **Zaaidaya Kazdailis** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Back, 25 Free);
- **Mahogany Sherman** - Age Grp Dev (13-14 200 IM)

Top 10

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

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 IM);
- **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (11-12 50 Back, 50 Free)

RELAYS

We did not have any relay events at this meet.

WRAP UP

Sometimes we make the process more complicated than we need to. We will never make a journey of a thousand miles by fretting about how long it will take or how hard it will be. We make the journey by taking each day step by step and then repeating it again and again until we reach our destination. ([Joseph B. Wirthlin](#))

If we view destinations as goals, our new swimmers have just begun their journey to new destinations, new B times, new BB times, championship meets, senior and national meets, high school CIF meets, college scholarships, or just physical and mental well-being.

Along the way our swimmers make new friends, learn to be part of a team, learn to prepare physically and mentally for the challenges ahead, learn the meaning of commitment, and understand the benefits of hard work.

And what would this journey be like without the help and support of our awesome parents and dedicated coaches giving encouragement and praise step by step.

2023 Oct OTTRFest C Meet Recap

GO THUNDERBOLTS

GMA Sherry