

Gorilla Wrestling

“Success is a little like wrestling a gorilla. You don't quit when you're tired. You quit when the gorilla is tired.” (Robert Strauss)

The December 2023 CCAQ A/BB/B/C WAG Last Ditch swim meet was a lot like Gorilla Wrestling. At times it seemed a toss-up who would tire first ... the Gorilla (meet timeline) or our coaches and parents who had 10 and under and 13 and over swimmers! For them each day was a 12 hour day. It was even longer for the Officials, Admin, and meet host! Many events had 80 - 107 swimmers entered. Thank goodness the meet ran 12 lanes, or we'd still be there.

I am proud to say our 40 swimmers and parents did not quit. They out lasted the Gorilla ... success was theirs! For a rundown of what happened and why the meet ran so long see the Meet Recap.

This was an 'everybody can swim' meet and a TEAM BONDING event. **Temi Oyefeso** and **Benjamin Reyes** both earned some new times for their first ever swim meet. We know they have just begun to wrestle the gorilla.

We had 40 swimmers competing in events with 80-107 entries. Senior Development was represented by 16 swimmers (67%); Age Group was represented by 9 swimmers (56%); Age Group Development was represented by 10 swimmers (37%); Novice was represented by 5 swimmers (50%).

Our swimmers netted 17 First time times, 7 new B times, 2 new BB times, and 1 new WAG time.

Competition was fierce with 1,027 swimmers competing, many events had 80-107 entries. 15 of our swimmers picked up 32 awards (places 1-6). Now that is success!

Duel in the Pool

Since I have the privilege of analyzing the results and updating the stats I get to observe performances that stand out over time. We have a **Duel in the Pool** between **Jack Adams** (age 9) and **Mason Jimenez** (age 9). Both these swimmers are rising stars and fierce competitors. **Elijah Dailey** is only 7 but, based on his performance abilities, will be joining the **Duel in the Pool** group soon.

Rising Stars

Jaime Phillips, age 8, had a great meet. She picked up 4 of the awards (2 2nd place, a 3rd place, and a 6th place); came in 2nd in **TOTAL POINTS** with 65 and had 2 **TOP TEN** swims. Remarkable!

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:

- There were no new team records.

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:

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 Fly);
- **Jeremy Falardeau** - Age Group (13-14 100 Breast);
- **Jadelynn Farley** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM);

- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (7-10 50 Breast);
- **James Lohmeyer** - Age Grp Dev (15 & Over 100 Back);
- **Jacqueline Martinez** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 50 Breast);
- **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 Free);
- **Temí Oyefeso** - Novice (5-8 50 Free);
- **Nathan Phengsi** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 100 Back, 100 Fly);
- **Benja Reyes** - Novice (5-8 25 Back, 25 Free);
- **Antonio Vieyra** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 100 Breast, 100 Fly);
- **Dominic Wimberly** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 100 Back)

First Time B Times

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

- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (7-10 100 Back);
- **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 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 Free, 50 Back);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 50 Fly);
- **Zarek Cabral** - Sr Dev (11-12 50 Back);
- **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM)

New BB Times

- **Zarek Cabral** - Sr Dev (11-12 100 Free);
- **Sid Gauchan** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Free);
- **Faith Rodriguez** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Free)

CHAMPIONSHIP TIMES

WAG

- **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 200 IM);

TIME DROPS

BEST TOTAL TIME DROP was earned by **Marc Genovez** - Age Group with a total (-43.38). **Marc** also got **BEST SINGLE TIME DROP** for dropping an amazing (-43.31) for his 100 back!

Getting those harder to get time drops are:

Marc Genovez - Age Group (-43.38); **Josie Osborn** - Age Grp Dev (-31.3); **Jack Adams** - Age Group (-26.57); **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (-19.73); **Dominic Wimberly** - Age Grp Dev (-16.86); **Sid Gauchan** -

Sr Dev (-13.63); **Carissa Silva** - Age Grp Dev (-13.27); **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (-8.95); **Nathan Phengsi** - Sr Dev (-8.92); **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (-8.75); **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (-6.87); **Skylar Bahena** - Novice (-6.84); **Isabella Izquieta** - Age Group (-6.75); **Faith Rodriguez** - Sr Dev (-4.95); **Jeanette Adams** - Novice (-4.93); **Zarek Cabral** - Sr Dev (-4.43); **Jaime Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (-4.22); **Joy Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (-2.98); **Jeremy Falardeau** - Age Group (-2.51); **Sarah Munguia** - Age Group (-2.27); **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (-1.98); **Jadelynn Farley** - Sr Dev (-1.63); **Izay Cabral** - Sr Dev (-1.39); **Stephanie Bahena** - Novice (-1.24); **Jasmine Martinez** - Age Group (-1.02); **Jacqueline Martinez** - Age Grp Dev (-0.78); **Regina Estrada Maravilla** - Sr Dev (-0.42); **Dominic Cordero** - Sr Dev (-0.32); **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Sr Dev (-0.24); **Eva Barnhardt** - Sr Dev (-0.16); **Elijah Dailey** - Age Grp Dev (-0.09).

AWARDS & POINTS

Our 40 swimmers brought home 32 awards. 1 1st place, 6 2nd place, 7 3rd place, 6 4th place, 5 5th place, 7 6th place. These are our 1st thru 6th place winners.

1st place

- **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM);

2nd place

- **Elijah Dailey** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Fly, 50 Free);
- **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 200 IM);
- **Jaime Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Fly, 50 Free);
- **Antonio Vieyra** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 100 Breast)

3rd Place

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 50 Fly);
- **Eva Barnhardt** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Free);
- **Marc Genovez** - Age Group (15 & Over 100 Free);
- **Jaime Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Breast);
- **Faith Rodriguez** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Breast);
- **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM)

4th Place

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 Breast, 50 Back);
- **Zarek Cabral** - Sr Dev (11-12 200 Free, 50 Back);
- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (7-10 100 Back);
- **Antonio Vieyra** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 100 Fly)

5th Place

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 Back);
- **Eva Barnhardt** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 Free);
- **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 500 Free);
- **Faith Rodriguez** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Back);

- **David Vasquez** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 100 Breast)

6th Place

- **Jack Adams** - Age Group (7-10 100 Fly, 50 Breast);
- **Eva Barnhardt** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Fly);
- **Jadelynn Farley** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM);
- **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 Free);
- **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 100 Breast);
- **Jaime Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 50 Breast)

POINTS

Our swimmers earned a **total of 814 points**. Taking **TOP POINTS** at this meet was **Jack Adams** - Age Group with **91** total points.

Congratulations to all our point getters.

Jack Adams - Age Group (91); **Jaime Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (65); **Zarek Cabral** - Sr Dev (49); **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (45); **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (44); **Eva Barnhardt** - Sr Dev (43); **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (41); **Antonio Vieyra** - Sr Dev (39); **Elyse Cordero** - Sr Dev (36); **Elijah Dailey** - Age Grp Dev (36); **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Sr Dev (34); **Nathan Phengsi** - Sr Dev (30); **Faith Rodriguez** - Sr Dev (30); **Marc Genovez** - Age Group (26); **Sarah Munguia** - Age Group (23); **Regina Estrada Maravilla** - Sr Dev (21); **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (20); **Jadelynn Farley** - Sr Dev (18); **Jeanette Adams** - Novice (17); **Izay Cabral** - Sr Dev (17); **Isabella Izquieta** - Age Group (16); **David Vasquez** - Sr Dev (14); **Dominic Cordero** - Sr Dev (12); **Jake Martinez** - Age Grp Dev (12); **Sid Gauchan** - Sr Dev (7); **Jasmine Martinez** - Age Group (7); **Stephanie Bahena** - Novice (5); **Joy Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (5); **Keith Johnson** - Age Grp Dev (4); **James Lohmeyer** - Age Grp Dev (4); **Jeremy Bustamante** - Age Group (3).

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 (7-10 100 Back, 100 Breast, 100 Fly, 50 Back);
- **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 50 Fly);
- **Regina Estrada Maravilla** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Back);
- **Jadelynn Farley** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM);
- **Sid Gauchan** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Free);
- **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (7-10 100 Back, 50 Back, 50 Breast);
- **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 Free);
- **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 500 Free);
- **Aaron Virgen-Calcoa** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM);
- **Dominic Wimberly** - Age Grp Dev (7-10 100 Back, 100 Free)

Top 10

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

Jack Adams - Age Group (7-10 100 Free); **Samantha Bahena** - Age Group (7-10 100 Free); **Eva Barnhardt** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 Free); **Izay Cabral** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM); **Zarek Cabral** - Sr Dev (11-12 100 Free, 200 Free, 50 Back); **Isabella Izquieta** - Age Group (15 & Over 100 Fly); **Mason Jimenez** - Age Group (7-10 100 IM, 50 Free); **Jake Martinez** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Fly); **Myla Martinez** - Sr Dev (13-14 200 IM); **Connor McAleer** - Sr Dev (15 & Over 200 IM); **Jaime Phillips** - Age Grp Dev (5-8 25 Breast, 50 Breast); **Faith Rodriguez** - Sr Dev (13-14 100 Back, 100 Free)

RELAYS

We did not have any relay events at this meet.

WRAP UP

The will to win, the desire to succeed, the urge to reach your full potential...these are the keys that will unlock the door to personal excellence. (Confucius)

Our athletes will to win, desire to succeed, and the urge to reach their full potential was pitted against the gorilla. It's easy to tell our kids don't quit until the gorilla is tired and, even then, they don't quit. We are very proud of our swimmers and their parents for committing to unlock the door to personal excellence in a very challenging meet.

So, what happened? Why so many swimmers all of a sudden?

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic there were around 26,000 swimmers in Southern California Swimming (SCS). To accommodate that many competitors for 'everybody can swim' meets our Eastern Committee used dual pools (2 different pools for a meet). After the pandemic ended, SCS had about 16,000 registered swimmers. That's a decrease of about 40%. Also, some teams did not recover, and many facilities were slow to return while other pools were no longer available. (And facility costs went up significantly.)

Our Eastern Committee plans meets a calendar year in advance. Meets for 2022 were planned for the normal dual meets but attendance was so low that the dual facility meets had to be combined into one facility. When planning mid 2022 for 2023 no dual facility meets were planned. The good news is that the CCAQ meet showed swimming registration and meet attendance is recovering. The bad news is that we only had one facility planned. According to Julie, the meet Admin, "This was a total surprise, we did not see this coming".

The challenging news is that we have another 'everybody can swim' meet in January. They are working on this. It will be interesting. There are no other 'everybody can swim' meets planned for 2024 so our beginner and 'C' level swimmers need to take advantage of every beginner meet in order to get those minimum B times!

GO THUNDERBOLTS

GMA Sherry