

# MN Swimming: National Meet Report

TYR Pro Swim Series

Westmont, IL

April 12-15, 2023

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The TYR Pro Swim Series in Westmont, IL took place from April 12-15, 2023. The event brought together some of the world's top swimmers to compete in a variety of races and showcase their skills.

Over the four-day competition, there were many exciting races and record-breaking performances. Some of the highlights included Regan Smith approaching world record times in her events, and Leon Marchand's continued domination of his events, particularly the 400 IM. Everyone is predicting that he will break Michael Phelps' long-standing record this year.

In addition to the top-tier performances from well-known swimmers, the TYR Pro Swim Series also provided an opportunity for up-and-coming athletes to compete at a high level and gain valuable experience. It was so interesting to realize that we had athletes representing 41 different countries at the meet!

From an officiating perspective this meet was organized and operated using standard national protocols and procedures. Of interest were the following:

- One official per lane at the start end vs the traditional "3 chairs". The start official had a watch, pressed a button and observed the start, turn and finish.
- Walking/observing stroke with very different protocols on each side due to diving boards on the lane 9 side of the pool and not much room to move.
- A steady camera crew. During finals, NBC employed a steady camera that followed the race up and down the pool. It was an interesting experience trying to effectively observe the race and stay off camera. (I actually missed a call because I was so focused on walking and staying out of the way of the camera - very embarrassing).
- Protocol, protocol, protocol - Following National Deck protocol is so much about "choreography" and "synchronicity." Much of it is about the fact that it is being televised, but it also is a good reminder to look and act professional at all times. This is something we should always strive for.
- We had a very good presentation about Safe Sport and its history. Safe sport protocols were constantly emphasized. It was clear where you could and could not be. What you could and could not do.