

Over 600 Swimmers Compete in Annual FSPY First Frost Meet



By KAREN FOLKOWSKI, SPECIAL TO TAPINTOSPF

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PERTH AMBOY, NJ -- The annual Fanwood-Scotch Plains YMCA ("FSPY") First Frost Invitational Meet was held on Saturday, Nov. 13, in a new location at the Raritan Bay Area YMCA in Perth Amboy. Eleven teams competed with over 627 children ages 6-12 competing. The event gives the swim teams' youngest members the opportunity to experience the excitement of an invitational meet and to compete in new events.

The meet started bright and early with the youngest swimmers, ages 6-8, competing in their events. Twenty-three of FSPY's 8 and under swimmers placed in the top 10 in numerous events. Aaron Frank led the way with four first-place finishes: 100 Individual Medley (IM), 25 Back, 25 Free, and 50 Free. Other first place finishers included: Normandie Beversluis (1st 25 Back, also 4th 100 IM, 5th 25 Breast, and 7th 50 Free); Zac McGeehan (1st 25 Breast, also 6th 100 IM, 5th 50 Fly, and 8th 25 Free); Fiona Rovito (1st 25 Breast, also 6th 25 Free and 4th 25 Fly); Muhammad Sayani (1st 25 Breast and 25 Back, 2nd 25 Free); Sean Stanik (1st 25 Fly, 6th 25 Breast, 2nd 25 Back, 2nd 25 Free); and Vivian Yu (1st, 25 Back, 2nd 25 Free, 3rd 25 Fly).

Other 8u swimmers finishing in the top 10 included: Shriya Bhushan, Sawyer Briamonte, Amelia Condell, Ashlyn D'Souza, Douglas Gee, Terry Gould, Alex Holston, Luke Iannotta, Matthew Iannotta, Sophie Isleta, Ella Lin, Jenny Markwant, Harrison McClure, Tyson Moose, Claire Sewald and Jamie Trela.

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In the 9/10 age group, Billie Rose Sherratt had three 1st places finishes: 200 IM, 50 Free, 200 Free, as well as 2nd in the 100 Free. Meghan Lai placed 1st in the 100 Back, 4th in the 100 Breast, and 3rd in the 200 IM and 200 Free. Owen Waibel touched 1st in the 50 Breast and 2nd in the 50 Fly, 100 Free, and 100 IM. Other top six ribbonwinners included: Hannah Alber (4th 50 Breast), Grace Best (3rd 100 Fly), Dylan Condell (6th 50 Breast), Brandon Calderone (6th 50 Back), Caitlyn Falkowski (6th 200 IM and 4th 100 and 200 Free), Kayla Gould (3rd 100 IM), Victoria Gee (2nd 50 Free and 50 Fly, 3rd 100 Back), Mia Gonyou (6th 100 Breast), Anthony Guan (6th, 100 Back), Ryan Jawor (3rd 200 IM, 4th 100 Free, 5th 100 IM), Keira Kaminskas (6th 50 Fly), Laura Kim (2nd 50 Back, 100 Back and 100 Fly and 3rd 100 Free), Tyler McGeehan (4th 50 Free), Lindsey Midrano (3rd 50 Free), Haley Oliver (4th 100 Back, 6th 100 Free), MacLaine Priesing (2nd 100 Back and 100 Fly), Isabella Rovito (6th 50 Breast and 100 IM), and Evan Weber (3rd 50 Breast, 5th 100 Breast, 6th 100 IM).

For the 11/12s, Darien Betances touched first in all of his events: 200 IM, 50 Free, 100 Free and 100 Fly. Jenna Aldana was 1st in the 50 Fly and 2nd in the 100 Back. Olivia Alpizar was 1st in the 50 Breast and 4th in the 100 Breast. Abby DiGiorgio was 1st in the 100 Breast, 2nd in the 200 IM and 50 back, and 5th in the 200 Free. Corey He placed 1st in the 100 Breast and 2nd in the 200 IM, 100 Free and 100 Fly. Richard Park was 1st in the 100 Back, 5th in the 200 IM, 6th in the 100 Free, and 3rd in the 100 Fly. Aidan Trenery was 1st in the 50 Fly, 2nd

in the 200 Free, and 3^{rd} in the 200 IM and 50 Free.

Other top six swimmers were: Julia Bonhote (6th 200 IM, 4th 50 Free), Brandon Cortez (2nd 100 Back and 100 Breast), Chloe Howell (2nd 50 Free, 3rd 100 Breast, 4th 100 Free), Lily Hughes (3rd 100 Back, 5th 100 Breast, 6th 100 Free), Ryan Kim (3rd 100 Breast and 200 free, 5th 100 Back and 100 Free), Katherine Li (2nd 50 Breast), Cameron Linenberg (5th 50 Fly and 100 Fly), Dylan Negron (3rd 100 Back and 100 IM, 5th 200 Free, 6th 50 Fly), Elle Priesing (4th 50 Fly, 6th 100 Fly), Hirad Sharifian (2nd 50 Breast, 6th 50 Free), Morgan Tsin (6th 100 Breast and 50 Fly), and Julianna Warren (5th 100 Fly).

In a wonderful show of team spirit, the older FSPY team members volunteered to assist at the event by timing, handing out heat winner ribbons and "Hot Heat" rubber ducks, and marshaling the young swimmers.

The Fanwood Scotch Plains Y swim team would like to thank the following YMCA teams who attended for a great day of swimming at our annual event: Freehold-Old Bridge, Greater Morristown, Hunterdon County, Lakeland Hills, Montclair, Raritan Bay Area, Raritan Valley, Red Bank, Wayne and Westfield.

The Y is the nation's leading nonprofit committed to strengthening communities through youth development, healthy living and social responsibility. For information on membership or programs, or to request a schedule of classes, call the Y at (908) 889-8880 or visit www.fspymca.org. Financial assistance is available for those who qualify.

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