



## Orinda Aquatics College Support/Culture

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Created of culture of collegiate pursuit (assumed unless it is not an option)

Created a positive training environment to support higher levels of training and motivation to compete, i.e., continue in college

As year-round student-athletes (at a high level), the average GPA among 75+ high school (Senior) athletes is near 4.0.

Have a strong legacy of collegiate swimming, success, and leadership (see national history and college team captains)

Team has a very strong reputation nationally, with regard to athlete development and character

Coaches have a very strong relationship with most collegiate coaches (including Olympic coaches)

Coaches support every athlete and their family throughout the entire process (meetings, letters of recommendation, emails/phone calls to coaches, guidance/advice, etc.)

College swimming has supported swimmers at all levels with admissions

Outside of the team culture, collegiate swimming has been the most dominant and significant aspect of the program

### *Myths dispelled are:*

- *“burn-out” (virtually none)*
- *academic challenge – “can’t do both” (the results speak for themselves), and,*
- *“only the top athletes swim in college” (far from the truth).*