

Back when I swam under Tony, everyone in the group knew that Tony never ever responded to emails about missing or being late to practice. Everyone experienced it and no one understood why there was never a reassuring response. If you got anything it was just an “OK” or a short witty response that made you either grin or squirm because you knew the pain was going to be awaiting you at your next practice. But now, as a coach myself, I see why Tony was the way he was, why he never ever responded to your polite, very well scripted emails...it’s because he gets too many!

From the exact words of Tony describing my job, I’m an “international private coach” and I owe that to PASA and USC for building me into a strong swimmer. When I swam under Tony I always told myself I’ll go as far as swimming will take me, and it brought me far during my time in the water. But I never ever would have imagined swimming taking me farther and this far. When I’m in Hong Kong coaching little swimmers, I think of all the fun things Tisha did to make the 9-10 age group awesome (Half-way dance). When I coach older kids in the Philippines I remember back to the (fun) sets Tony would give (endless rockets).

When the quarantine ends, I’ll be back to coaching. But right now, I’m catching up on all the TV I missed out on from going to practice.

Thank you Tisha, Tony, all my coaches and PASA for everything.

Jasmine