



## **Head Coach Brenda Smart**

### **PROFESSIONAL BACKGROUND**

- Aquatics program professional since 1980 (teaching, guarding, coaching, managing)
  - Coached in the Bay Area 1984-1990
  - Coached in Elk Grove continuously since 2003
- Head Coach at Washington High School, Franklin High School and Laguna Creek High School
  - Led all three programs to top 3 league finishes every season
- Head Coach of the Elk Grove Piranhas since 2007
  - Developed program to be the largest team for the Nor Cal Swim League over our 60+ year team history
  - 2018 NCSL Comstock Conference Champions; top three finish since 2011
  - Five 1st-place finishes at Meet of Champions; top three since 2007
  - Coached numerous swimmers to team, conference, league and MOC records
  - Developed numerous swimmers to swim collegiately
  - 8 years running with a 75-85% average return rate to the team
- USA Swimming Coach
- Level 3 US Masters Swimming Certified Coach

### **AQUATIC ATHLETIC BACKGROUND**

- Swam for 6 years (2 years for Newark High School, 4 years Cal State Hayward (now East Bay))
  - 2-time Team Captain

- 2-time NCAA DII Qualifier
- 3-time NCAC All Conference
- MVP Recipient
- NCAA DII All-American
- NCAC Golden 4 Recipient
- 5-time Team Record Holder

## **OTHER ATHLETIC BACKGROUND**

- Played softball one year at Cal State Hayward
- 11-time Varsity letter winner high school (4 years soccer, 2 swimming, 2 x-country, 3 softball)
  - 6-time MVAL League Championships
  - 2-time Team Captain
  - 9-time CIF Qualifier
  - 9-time All-League, All-South County, All-East Bay Honors
  - Scholar Athlete Award

## **GOALS FOR MY COACHING CAREER**

- My goal is to help every swimmer become the best they can be. I want them to learn that through hard work, perseverance, believing in oneself and never giving up they can achieve many of their goals and dreams not only in swimming but in all aspects of their life. In other words, Dream It, Believe It, Achieve It! I love how athletics helps people develop a strong work ethic, team building skills, self-confidence, self-esteem, sense of character, morals, and supporting one another through the ups and the downs.

## **COACHING PHILOSOPHY**

- It is never too late to start. Where there is a will there is always a way. Swimmers should always do their best and to remember our best is different every day. You will always walk away proud knowing you did your best, but you will always question yourself and your results when you don't. Everyone deserves an opportunity to be the best they can be in all they choose. There is not one direct path for everyone to follow, but many different paths along the way. It is finding the right path for the individual to help them become the best person/athlete they can be. To have no regrets at the end of the day. Athletics have been very important to me growing up. I have learned so many valuable life lessons along the journey and continue to learn more every season, and want my athletes to have the same experience.

## **FUN FACTS**

- Happily married to my husband Mike since 1993, and we have two incredible children, Zachary and Emily.
- Bachelor of Science Degree in Physical Education, Exercise Nutrition Option from California State University of Hayward