

Bucket List

With time rapidly running out on the season (although who can be sure, since no one can read an analog clock), the Sharks used the final full week of practice to squeeze in all of the fun things that they hadn't had a chance to do yet. On Monday morning, at the request of Cate Ledoux, the 11&up Sharks took part in the first Australian relays of the season. The large number of older Sharks led to the first ever 4 team Australian relays. After some more potential biased timing from Andy, the team of CG Combs, Michael Langer, Alex Lopez, Erica Lopez, Andrew Vorozheykin, and Charlie Wernimont made quick work of the bracket to take home the victory. On Thursday morning, at the "request" of Cate Ledoux, the older Sharks played their first game of gopher on the season. While some are hoping that this means that Thursday has again been rebranded, this time from Swimming Thursday to Gopher Thursday, the editors are not so sure. Fuster Kyle continued the Fuster Family Gopher Dynasty and won the second game. Alex Lopez won the first game. The games of gopher gave the Sharks plenty of time to stare at the bottom of the deep end of the pool (oh well), and

determine if there are any new lines at the bottom. We know that the wall hasn't moved since 1974, but it took a thorough investigation on Tuesday morning to determine when the bottom of the pool was last painted.

Coaches Longcourse Meet

On Tuesday night, a record 6 Sharks competed in the prestigious Coaches Long Course Meet in a 50m (i.e. a very very long) pool against the fastest swimmers in the entire county. Brandon Pino led the way with a 3rd place finish in the breaststroke and a 5th place finish in the freestyle. Jordan Kelly was similarly 3rd in IM. The Sharks are great backstrokers, as Jingjing Wu (5th), Dylan Pino (6th), and Lindi Cheng (8th) all swam a backstroke race. Maddy Manne was an alternate in the IM.

Tallyho Meet

On Wednesday night, the Sharks used their superpowers (especially from best dressed winners Hawie Abera, Andrew Butters, Chace Kelly, and Lucy Stanton) as they took on the Tallyho Foxes. The meet got off to a great start. In the very first heat, the 4 Sharks competing (Nicolas Cheng, Michael Langer, Eshaan Mishra,

and Clement Yuryev) all got best times and dropped a combined 27 seconds. From there the Sharks never looked back. Joanne Li dropped 20 seconds in both free and breast for the biggest drops of the day. Other swimmers that dropped over 10 seconds in an event included, Lorelei Banas (twice), Luke Hussmann, Nick Kim, Selena Li (twice), Eshaan Mishra, and Alyssa Wang. Kim Abera, Emilia Arellano (twice), Daniel Blate (3 times), Nicolas Cheng, Nick Kim (twice), Mitchell Kupersmith, Michael Langer, Eesa Sihal, Camden Tropp, Alyssa Wang (twice), and Greyson Woolley all dropped at least 5 seconds in an event. The 15-18 boys were super, as both Daniel Blate and Alex Lopez had 5 best times. Kim Abera, Emilia Arellano, Nick Kim, Cate Ledoux, Erica Lopez, Alyssa Wang and Angela Wang were not far behind with 4 best times. Nicolas Cheng, Raimi Kvedys, Eshaan Mishra, Eesa Sihal, and George Xie had 3 best times.

Friday Activities

On Friday morning, the Sharks competed in their final ("last one fast one") mankillers of the season. After last week's mankillers test the Sharks' math skills, this week's moved on to the next subject and tested their

spelling skills as they struggled to come up with words that started with S H A R and K (hold on, I'm doing spelling). They also proved that while they may be great at backstroke, backwards freestyle is a totally different activity. In the afternoon, the Sharks enjoyed their final team picnic of the season and competed in the first annual rock-paper-scissors tournament. After a few early snafus (and some more potential biased timing), the final four was Zena Badr, CG Combs, TJ Miller, and Olivia Qin. In the finals, CG (with advice from Daniel Blate) faced off against Olivia (with advice from Juliana Combs). Ultimately, CG was able to use his jedi mind tricks to bring home the victory.

Lake Marion Meet

On Saturday morning, the Sharks again put their spelling skills to the test as they took to the road to face off against the Lake Marion Lasers. For the 2nd meet in a row, the 12&under boys IMers got the meet off to a great start, as Alex Thompson knocked 12 seconds off his best time for the biggest drop of the day. Alex went on to lead the team with 3 best times. Fuster Kyle, Chace Kelly, Maddy Manne, TJ Miller, Felicia Wang, Gabi Winnig, and Clement Yuryev also had multiple best times. Fuster Kyle, Joanne Li, Alex Thompson (again), and Jingjing Wu dropped at least 3 seconds in an event. The Sharks

won all 4 relays. First, Marco Minai, Nick Kim, Max Fuster, and CG Combs won the Men's Open Medley. Daniel Blate, Matthew Ledoux, Alex Lopez, and Raimi Kvedys added a 3rd place finish. In the next event, Jingjing Wu, Sidney Thompson, Gabi Winnig, and Cate Ledoux won the Women's Open Medley. The meet finished just as well as it started as Dylan Pino, Jason Cobb, Fuster Kyle, Brandon Pino, Clement Yuryev, Alex Thompson, Andrew Vorozheykin, and Luke Hussmann took 1st and 3rd in the Boy's Graduated Relay and Judy Wu, Maddy Manne, Chace Kelly, Lindi Cheng, Zena Badr, Hawie Abera, Felicia Wang, and Katie Wang took 1st and 2nd in the Girl's Graduated Relay. In addition to the relay, the Sharks swept 5 events. Hawie Abera, Lindi Cheng, CG Combs, Max Fuster, John Karacki, Nick Kim, Julia Liao, Melissa Lopez, Lukas Nuredini, Brandon Pino, Emily Qian, Lucy Stanton and Katie Wang contributed to those sweeps. Individually, Maddy Manne, Brandon Pino, and Dylan Pino swept their events. Hawie Abera completed the sweep of the 11-12 girls events. Lindi Cheng, Julia Liao, and Katie Wang combined to sweep the 8&under girls events. Michael Langer added events at the last minute. The Sharks celebrated these great swims in Travilah Square, where they were seemingly joined by the rest of the MCSL.

Best Times

The Sharks were well past the #roadto80 on Wednesday night, as they earned 116 best times. They followed that up with 40 best times on Saturday morning. This brings their season total to 709 best times, which means that they have surpassed their season goal of 700 best times! (Congratulations to TJ Miller for earning the 700th best time of the season). Therefore, Andy will jump into the pool at the end of Cobblestone Relays on Tuesday night.

Upcoming Events

On Monday, the Sharks will take a well-deserved break from practice and go to Six Flags. On Tuesday night, they will take part in the first ever Cobblestone Relays. On Friday night, they will have a pre-divisionals dinner. On Saturday morning, they will attempt to leave the rest of Division I green with envy as they compete in Divisoinals at Regency Estates.