**Southeastern Swimming**

**Athlete Representative**

APPLICANTS

•Zoe Summar

• Excel Aquatics

• Upcoming junior

• I have been on excel aquatic since I was seven years old. I love being involved with the swim community. I would say I’m a pretty outgoing and very happy person to be around. I would love to have this position because of how much swim means to me and the people of SES. My favorite weekend of the whole year is Southeasterns; getting to see and race some of the most amazing people! Being able to help make our LSC closer would mean the world to me!

Matthew Potter, Hello, my name is Matthew Potter. Upcoming sophomore and swimmer for Barracuda Swim Club of Northeast Tennessee. I would first like to say that this is an opportunity I have been wanting for some time now. I have always been obsessed with swimming, doing it for almost 9 years competitively now. Whether it be with my swimming itself or as a leader I’ve always tried to get to the next highest level. I feel if I am chosen I will be one step closer to achieving the next highest level as a leader. Some traits about myself are I am always trying to get “business” done. If something is thrown my way I will do anything possible to get it finished on time. I always want to make something the best it can be, and I apply that to pretty much anything I do. I look at situations as grounded, logical, and realistic as I can. I want to achieve great things but also make sure it is something that can be achievable. I love to meet new people and attend events, especially with swimming. Like I said earlier, swimming is my true passion, and being a leader is part of that too me.

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Cassie Lowe. I swim for Barracuda Swim Club of Northeast TN. I am a junior in high school.   
  
• I am a very team person i love helping people no matter who they are or what they look like. I travel a lot from state to state to sometimes swim for some teams or to just see family or friends. I can play guitar and piano. Also, i am a very outgoing nature person who loves to be active 24/7.   
  
• I would like to be consider for this position because i feel as if i can be a leader and be able to communicate well with all teams and the board.   
• I can speak my opinions with no doubts about them.   
• I never will back down from a task or speaking up.   
• I love being a team player i always will try to make sure everyone is doing their part.   
• I can bring that communication from areas of other teams that is missing right now.

* Jalen McDade
* Montgomery YMCA Barracudas
* Entering senior year in Fall of 2020
* My career in swimming has certainly progressed over the past seven years. Beginning competitively swimming at the age of ten, I quickly found myself consumed in the competitive nature of sports. As I grew older I became interested in accomplishing more in different areas of my life; however, as I started to add on more and more, I quickly realized that my passion lies solely in the sport of swimming. As I reminisce about the opportunities I’ve graciously been exposed to, I apply each one of the many qualities I’ve been taught over the years to my role in the leadership positions I hold. The sport has provided me with resources I am beyond grateful for, and I hold it as a mission to better improve swimming and the potential opportunities it can provide. Listed below are the reasons I have compiled, which I believe makes me a qualified candidate for Athlete Representative on the SES Board of Directors.
* Weaknesses can either be the downfall of an athlete’s career or signal the potential for future growth and strengths. My weaknesses include:
  + Avoiding confrontation - This weakness can hold me from approaching others with new ideas and can keep me silent from inputting new information into the group. However, I feel avoiding confrontation can also play as one of my strengths, as I thoroughly process my ideas before approaching others with them.
  + Perfectionist - Some would consider this to be a strength, however, it can hinder the progress of the team. As a perfectionist, I have a difficult time furthering a project if I feel a detail is lacking.
* Strengths can place an individual at the top of the podium. Understanding where your strengths lie can help advance an athlete to the next level.
  + Investment - One of my greatest strengths is my investment in a group, individual, or project. When I fully commit to something, I invest one-hundred percent of my time and energy into it.
  + Creativity - Another one of my strengths is my ability to bring new ideas to the table due to my creative thought process. Along with thinking creatively, I am able to propose solutions that differ from the norm. Thinking outside the box is a strength I use in my everyday life.
  + Adaptability - A strength of mine is adapting to the conditions of any given situation. This can come in handy when discussing topics relating to COVID and the future of Southeastern Swimming.
* Over the years I have been involved in numerous leadership positions. I have held these positions in volunteer organizations, student government, and my high school swim team. One of my proudest accomplishments while holding a leadership position is reopening my high school team, which went unfunded and unrecognized for over five years. By accomplishing this, I was able to bring more attention and funds to the sport of swimming in my high school and inspire young future athletes to join when eligible.

Nicole Caruso   
- I swim for Excel Aquatics in Brentwood, Tennessee  
- In the fall, I will be starting my junior year of high school  
  
- I am incredibly grateful for the sport of swimming, and for all of the opportunities it has given me. Because of swimming, I have made countless friends, built meaningful relationships with my coaches and my peers, grown to be a better person, and learned valuable life lessons. I dedicate every part of myself to this sport because of the love I have for swimming and the swimming community. More than anything, I would love to give back to the sport and the people that have given me purpose. As an athlete rep, I will do everything in my power to make sure that everyone gets the chance to benefit from the fulfilling experience they deserve. I am very communicative, organized, honest, and passionate, and it would be a privilege to help make our voices heard and to fight for the changes that the southeastern swimmers need. Thank you.