

PASS and Central California and Region B Age Group Championships

If there were semi-finals in synchronized swimming, the weekend meet of May 15-16 would have been it. The Sacramento Synchronized Swim Team hosted the PASS and Central California and Region B Age Group Championships in Folsom, California. WCA sent the 10 & Under A, 11-12 A and B, 13-15 A and B teams, and several Jr A and B members to compete for an opportunity to swim at the US Age Group National next month. The meet was definitely hot—figuratively and literally. Judges, coaches and parents sweltered in triple digit temps while WCA athletes fired up the competition with their sizzling performances.

In the 10 & Under split competition, Lauren Simonelli came in 6th followed by Haley Watson in 7th who also placed 7th in figures. In solos, Haley earned 5th and Lauren 7th. The pair (Lauren and Haley) also competed in duet and received a bronze; Kristen Berardi and Dana Drury placed in 6th. In the trio routine, Gennifer Malpass, Katya Mizin and Amanda Portier received a silver medal, followed by teammates, Kristen, Dana and Renee Stehlik who earned a bronze. The 10 & Under A's: Kristen, Dana, Gennifer, Katya, Amanda, Lauren, Renee and Haley executed their routine to finish in 1st.

Jasmine Carrillo of the 11-12 age group placed 4th in figures and Natalie Fletcher placed 8th. Autumn Cody placed 7th in the split event. In solos, Jasmine was 5th, followed by Autumn in 6th. The duet of Jasmine and Ariel Saiga earned a bronze medal while teammates Natalie and Rachael Lewin placed 6th. In the trio event, Natalie, Rachael and Ariel captured silver. In team routines, the 11-12B team of Lucia Bautista, Rachel D'Lima, Gabriella Garcia-Roy, Peyton LeGate and Daria Torba came in 5th place. The 11-12A team of Violet Castle, Joanna Langner, Remy Mink, Jasmine, Autumn, Natalie, Rachael and Ariel earned a team silver medal.

WCA's 13-15 squad dominated their age group. Beginning with the split event, Sofia Bouzos earned 1st, Monique O'Bryan 5th and Grace Moran 7th. In figures, seven(!) of the top eight finishers were Aquanuts. Gold went to Jourdan Meltzer, silver to Morgan Boneberg, and bronze to Marisa Tashima. Next was Suying Rothrock 4th, Karime Andere 5th, Carolyn Morrice 7th and Heidi Homma, 8th. In solos, Taylor Miron earned 8th place, Grace Moran 6th, Heidi 3rd and Karime 2nd. WCA swept the medals and claimed five of the top eight places in duets. Gold went to Karime and Marisa, silver to Heidi and Carolyn and bronze to Rina Horii and Suying. Lizzie Welzien and Tori Yee took 5th and Gwen Gabie and Sandra Ortellado 7th. In the trio event, Karina Boyle, Leah Read and Laila Shaker came in 6th; Heidi, Jourdan and Veronica Fletcher earned 2nd; and Marisa, Suying and Rina captured 1st. The 13-15B team of Kelsey Bowman, Devan Murphy-Hopson, Cassie Naughton, Karina, Sofia, Monique, Leah, and Laila earned a bronze medal for their routine; while the 13-15A members: Karime, Rina, Grace, Sandra, Suying, Marisa, Lizzie and Tori, performed to a gold medal finish.

Juniors Jane Homma, Miriam Margolis and Samantha Golomb competed in the split and figures competitions. Jane placed 3rd in splits and 2nd in figures in the 16-17 age group. Sam followed with an 8th place finish in figures. Miriam competed in the 18-19 age group and placed 7th in splits and 6th in figures. The top three Region B medalists in the team and individual events, excluding the 10 and Under age group, will continue onto the next competition, the Esynchro Age Group Championships in Gainesville, Florida next month. WCA's tally for the Age Group National: 30 athletes; 1 team, 1 duet and 1 trio in the 11-12 age group; 2 teams, 2 solos, 3 duets and 2 trios in the 13-15 age group. To these athletes and their coaches, we send you our best wishes. GO NUTS!!!