

Age Group Bios

<p>Betsy Matheney</p>	<p>My biggest joy this year was coaching my third different 12 year old boy to the Connecticut State and Resident Record in the 50 yards Backstroke. His time placed him 10th in the country.</p> <p>Connecticut Age Group Championship meet statistics:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· 19 individual qualifiers· 14 First place seeds, 4 second place, 7 third place· 51 possible seeds that could have placed in the top 10· 83 possible seeds that could have placed in the top 20 scoring positions <p>Connecticut Swimming FAST search produced:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· 24 swimmers in the top 24· 18 First place finishes· 18 Second place· 10 Third place· 97 finishes in the top 10 places <p>USA Swimming Top Ranked Events</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· 1 swimmer ranked in top 10 in the country· 3 swimmers ranked in top 20 (total 6 events)· 4 swimmers ranked in top 50 (total 27 events) <p>Zeus Swim Team Records</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">· Records were broken 63 times across the season
<p>Kaya Small</p>	<p>Kaya Small's coaching career began in 2014 in Revere, MA as an Assistant Coach. During that time she also taught lessons for all ages, from Parent and Tot up to Adult lessons.</p> <p>Wanting to progress as a coach, Kaya enrolled at Springfield College to get her bachelor's degree in Psychology and minor in Athletic Coaching. A year later, Kaya became the Assistant Coach for the Tsunamis Swim Team at the Farmington Valley YMCA in CT. During her time there, she challenged her swimmers to reach new heights.</p> <p>During the 2019-2020 season, she helped eight of her age group swimmers to qualify for several events at the New Englands meet and four of her swimmers to qualify for the Age Groups meet, many of whom qualified for their first time under her leadership. It's unfortunate that the meets were cancelled due to COVID-19 for Kaya knows how excited her swimmers were to show off their swimming ability.</p> <p>In addition to qualifying for New Englands and Age Groups, her swimmers achieved some of their best times this season.</p> <p>Kaya has a great passion for the sport of swimming. She loves seeing her swimmers achieve their goals and feel confident in their skills. She instills the values of teamwork, hard work, individual responsibility and persistence into each of her swimmers. She has brought a great deal of enthusiasm to the team.</p>

Andy Ahlberg

Andy started coaching with the Glastonbury Swim Team in 2015. He was named the Head Coach of the program during the Summer 2019 Long Course Season. In his first Short Course Season as Head Coach of the program, Andy lead the team to achieve the following accolades:

Connecticut Regional Championships:

- 3rd Place Overall Finish at the Regional Championships held at East Hartford High School
- 10 Individual 1st Place Finishes for 14/Under Age Group
- 28 Individual Top 6 Finishes for 14/Under Age Group
- 2 Relay 1st Place Finishes for 14/Under Age Group

Connecticut Age Group Championships:

- 9 Individual Qualifiers, including 4 first-time qualifiers
- 1 Individual First-Place Seed
- 6 Individuals who were seeded to place in the Top 10
- 11 Individuals who were seeded to place in the Top 20
- 1 Relay seeded to place in the Top 10

Eastern Zones Championships:

- 1 Individual Qualifier for the Eastern Zone Age Group Championships

Connecticut 14/Under FAST Statistics:

- 3 Swimmers in the Top 25
- 2 Top 16 Finishes
- 8 Top 25 Finishes

Glastonbury Team Records

- 5 Team Records were broken by age groups 14/u (2 Individual/3 Relay)

Proudest Accomplishments/Moments

- Relay performances. I will never forget the day after our staff had to break the news to our swimmers that Age Groups was being canceled. We were allowed two more days of pool time before the schools were shut down. We gave the kids the chance to suit up and swim any of the events that they would have competed in at the Age Group Championships. Without hesitation, out of all of the relays that they could have chosen, the 13/14 boys quartet begged to swim their 800 freestyle relay to see how they could do. They swam over 30 seconds under our team record and succeeded in getting all other swimmers to stand on the side and cheer them on. This was a special swim from a special group of kids, which highlight the importance and value of team over individual performances.

Andy is most proud of the excellent achievements of many throughout the season following the passing of long-time Head Coach, Mark Kinne.

During this transition period, the kids displayed an increase in camaraderie, team spirit, and passion for the sport. Although the last Championship meets did not happen, the results put up throughout the season gave all swimmers something to be proud of. Andy has watched many athletes achieve goals by means of hard-work, a sense of balance around academics and other extracurricular activities, and being inspired by older swimmers and role models on the team.