

Kevin A Zacher

Philosophy:

I believe in helping each swimmer reach their individual potential as a swimmer. For this to happen, the swimmers need to learn the values of hard work, commitment and dedication. I can teach them the tools to be successful, provided they commit to the goal fully. Each athlete's potential cannot be reached without daily attendance and hard work.

I believe in a program that strives for individual excellence and team cohesiveness. Together Everyone Achieves More is a great statement. I foresee a program in which all swimmers want to come to practice everyday and work hard to become better swimmers and athletes. I believe in asking the swimmers to make a commitment to swimming beyond a recreational/fun activity.

I know the strokes well and am an effective teacher of those strokes and know that each swimmer is a little bit different, but there are always things in stroke technique that can be improved. I believe that proper stroke technique is imperative to fast swimming, however it is no substitute for putting in the hard work and conditioning necessary to swim at a high level.

I believe that the skills these athletes learn and the obstacles that they learn to cope with and overcome are life skills that will help all these athletes as "people" once their swimming careers are over. Learning to set goals and steps to achieve those goals are what life is all about. Learning how to deal with setbacks and disappointments is also a very important life skill to learn.

Vision for SAC:

Under my leadership, I see SAC continuing to grow as a club on a National Level. Ultimately I would like to see a "TEAM" of SAC swimmers competing at the National Championships. By this I mean, more than a handful of swimmers; enough to have a presence at the meet. I also see SAC continuing to compete for the State Championship on a yearly basis.

I would like to have a program that is available to all levels of swimmers as long as they make a personal commitment to excellence, to being as good as they can be and to doing everything they can to reach their personal potential as a swimmer.

I would like to see a group structure that is more defined in terms of the skills that are necessary to advance. I would like to see each group have a stronger cohesiveness which will, in turn, make a stronger cohesiveness to SAC as a whole. If everyone believes in the dream, more people can help make it happen. I would also like to see a group structure that cultivates swimmers with a strong work ethic and high attendance. I would like to set up a structure that rewards commitment and hard work.

I would like to set up a system as well in which we can take care of problem areas before they become problems. I want to handle situations proactively as opposed to a "wait and see what happens" approach. I want to hear people out, but also have a firm stance on controversial issues. We need to be able to say "this is what is expected and I'm sorry if you don't agree."

Finally, I want to communicate our message to the entire membership. We need to do a better job of explaining why we do what we do. We need to do a better job of educating our parents as to what to expect from SAC and of what is expected of them. We need to do a better job of selling the strengths of our program and all of the positive things these children will experience and learn by being a part of SAC.

All of these things will take a tremendous amount of work from everyone involved, but if we can get the message across, our team will be stronger for it.