

VIRGINIA SWIMMING

JUNIOR ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE: BEN EICHBERG

TEAM: RAYS

AWARDS & HONORS:

- MVP for High School Swim
- Honor Roll for Academics
- All area swimmer for 2019, 2020
- Eagle Scout

CANDIDATE STATEMENT:

Since I have been swimming for 13 years of my life, I understand the needs of swimmers of all levels. Although I started swimming around 3 years old I have learned what it is like to be a first time swimmer. I have gone through the ranks all the way to the National level. This experience I have makes me the best candidate for this position because I can relate to all sorts of swimmers in swimming.

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JUNIOR ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE: BOONE FLEENOR

TEAM: SFY

AWARDS & HONORS:

- 5x Virginia Age Group Champion
- 4x Virginia All-Star Team member
- 2x Eastern Zone Champion
- 3x Eastern Zone Finalist
- NHS member

CANDIDATE STATEMENT:

Participating on a small team, about fifteen 14 and older, I have a unique view of competitive swimming. As a member of a YMCA club, I also have the opportunity to see the sport in a much broader view. However, my experience is not limited to small teams or experiences. As an age-group swimmer, I was a part of two very successful Zone Teams. In 2016, I helped win two relays at Zones, something that has forever impacted me. At my home club, I never had the opportunity to compete in relays, as there were not enough participants in my age group. So, participating in championship relays at Zones (and setting a record) was certainly an experience from which I can communicate the importance of teamwork, regardless of club background.

Coming from a small team I also have learned an important skill: communication. Both of my years at Zones were heavily dominated by Richmond and Virginia Beach swimmers, who often already had established friendships. I had to learn how to talk with people from other teams, talk to strangers, and become a better listener. From these experiences, I think I could provide leadership from a place of valuing all perspectives and building consensus through good communication. My experience with small teams is one that is rare to Athlete Representatives, yet valuable because I have a heightened appreciation for a team. Combined with my experiences with large teams such as Zones, I make the perfect Representative because I understand the importance of taking responsibility for your own swimming and actions, as well as the importance of having supporting training partners and teammates. Given the privilege of Athlete Representative, I would make sure that every athlete's voice is heard, regardless of the team, while also promoting the excellence of Virginia Swimming at all levels.

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JUNIOR ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE: JENNA KAPP

TEAM: RAYS

AWARDS & HONORS:

- RAYS junior representative 2020
- One of two RAYS representative of 2019 Eastern Zone Diversity Select Camp
- Distinguished and A&B Honor roll in Academics for the past 7 years
- Twice the Reserved Grand Champion of the 4-H Livestock Club Show and Sale Feeder class steer
- Twice the President of the 4-H Livestock Club
- Vice President of FBLA
- Nominated for a leadership summit in Washington DC
- MVP of KGHS swim season 2020

CANDIDATE STATEMENT:

Let's be real. I must sound like a real cookie cutter poster girl, but what separates me from the rest is my PERSONALITY and passionate ENTHUSIASM. I believe that I represent my generation's intensity (when they are finally off their phones and get a full 8 hours or sleep) and am willing to have fun doing so. I can also wink pretty well (-.<). As you can tell, I like having fun and making things fun for other people, but I can also be serious when the time calls for it (swim competition). I am also a safe person to be around with (I'm a lifeguard) and I like to make cookies (not that I'm bribing you!!) It's true that I'm not that conventional, but a change of scenery and perspective is good for the soul, right?

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JUNIOR ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE

CANDIDATE: HANNAH TSE

TEAM: RAYS

AWARDS & HONORS:

- Acceptance of The Commonwealth Governor’s School of Virginia
- Selectee of Virginia Space Coast Scholars year-long college level program
- High School Summa Cum Laude Academic Award for freshman year
- Member of National Honor Society in Stafford High School Chapter
- Selectee of All County and All District Band through Highly Competitive Auditions
- Received “Superior” ratings in National Federation of Music Clubs (NFMC) Music Festivals in Piano Solo, Piano Concerto and American patriotic songs categories
- Junior Composers Awards from National Federation of Music Clubs in Virginia for Piano and Clarinet
- High School Swim Team Varsity Award
- Qualifying for High School State Swimming Team for State Meet
- Age Group Champ Participant
- Placed Top 16 Places in Different Year-round Swim Meets
- Certificate of Appreciation from Salvation Army for Organizing and Helping Food Drive

CANDIDATE STATEMENT:

I have been swimming since I was five years old. Outside of swimming, I play tennis for my school, play three musical instruments including the piano, clarinet, and ukulele, and I am also a student in the Commonwealth Governors School program. As this all piles on top of each other, a lot of stress and anxiousness is often produced as an effect. Swimming gives me the opportunity to evade my problems and gives me a break from everything going on around me. Good communication skills are one of the most obligatory characteristics essential to being a good Representative. I have developed a personable trait along with my strong ability to respect and relate to other people and sympathize with them. For example, I often serve as my friend group’s “therapist” and “mediator.” I also elucidate information well in an efficient and mature manner to get my point across. While I do other activities outside of school that take a good amount of time, I have learned to become good at time management and organization. I always have a thorough schedule to make sure I get everything done to the best of my ability. I balance all of my activities well and am not a huge procrastinator as I have a 4.4 GPA. Having a diverse set of representatives can represent a diverse demographic. As an Asian descent, I provide a different set of eyes and different perspective that can represent the minorities within the swimming community. Based on my unique characters and qualifications, I am pretty confident that I will be the best Athlete Representative and will better serve the swim community.