



## Rich Blanc—Head Coach

Coach Blanc begins his 24th year coaching the Girls Varsity and the 22nd year coaching the Boys Varsity. In 2019, the Girls Varsity finished with an overall record of 6-0, won its 20th straight Trinity League championship and won the CIF Division I Championships for the 6th year in a row. The team also claimed back-to-back California State championship and the NISCA National Title. The Boys Varsity had a successful season finishing with a 6-1 overall record, won the Trinity League championship, and were CIF Runners up. Both varsity teams ended the season ranked in the Orange County Register Top 3 Rankings. Coach Blanc now has a combined 300-72-3 dual meet record in his years running the Eagles swim program, which is considered one of the top swimming programs in California. In 2000 and 2017, he was named the Orange County Swim Coach of the Year, and in 2014, Coach Blanc was named the National High School Coach of the Year by the National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA). In addition to swimming, Coach Blanc teaches Economics at SMCHS. He resides in Ladera Ranch and is married to his lovely bride Taylor and together they are raising their amazing sons Adrian and Chance.



## Ron Blanc—Head Coach

Like his brother, Coach Blanc brings 33 years of swim coaching experience to the Eagles. Coach Blanc coached at Mater Dei for 9 years, winning the 1990 CIF swimming title and a school-record 40 dual meets in a row. Coach Blanc has now coached at SMCHS for 26 years. When Coach Blanc captured the 2000 CIF swimming championship at SMCHS, they became the only coaches in CIF swimming history to win 2 CIF titles at 2 different schools. Coach Blanc has had the privilege of coaching 94 All-Americans and 390 All-CIF swimmers at SMCHS. Since he began coaching at SMCHS, both varsities have been ranked in the Top 10 in the OC Register every year and has won 95 of 120 possible team league titles—a record no team in the Trinity league can match. In 2014, Coach Blanc was named the National High School Swim Coach of the Year by the National High School Coaches Association (NHSCA) and is a Level 5 Certified coach with the ASCA which only the top 5% of coaches in the U.S. achieve. He is also the Admissions Director at SMCHS and is married to his lovely bride, Kelley and reside in Ladera Ranch with their amaaaazing cat, Mochi.



SM became the first high school in California to win two State Championships, claiming the prize in 2018 and 2019.





## YEAR-BY-YEAR WITH COACH BLANCS

YEAR	SCHOOL	GIRLS VARSITY	BOYS VARSITY	LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIPS	CIF CHAMPIONSHIP
1989	Mater Dei	8-1	5-4	League Champions (Girls)	CIF Runner Up (Girls)
1990	Mater Dei	12-0	8-3-1	League Champions (Girls)	CIF Champions (Girls)
1991	Mater Dei	11-0	6-5	League Champions (Girls)	
1992	Mater Dei	10-0	8-2	League Champions (Girls)	
1993	Mater Dei	5-5-1	5-6		
1994	Mater Dei		6-5		
1995	Mater Dei		2-8		
1996	Santa Margarita	8-3 (JV)	7-4 (JV)		
1997	Santa Margarita	8-3-1 (JV)	8-4 (JV)		
1998	Santa Margarita	7-5			
1999	Santa Margarita	10-3	5-7-1		
2000	Santa Margarita	11-0	8-3	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	CIF Champions (Girls)
2001	Santa Margarita	8-1	8-1	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	CIF Runner Up (Boys)
2002	Santa Margarita	9-0	7-2	League Champions (Girls)	CIF Runner Up (Girls)
2003	Santa Margarita	7-2	6-3	League Champions (Girls)	
2004	Santa Margarita	9-1-1	6-4-1	League Champions (Girls)	
2005	Santa Margarita	9-2	9-2	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	
2006	Santa Margarita	7-1	5-3	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	CIF Runner Up (Girls)
2007	Santa Margarita	8-1	5-4	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	
2008	Santa Margarita	7-3	7-3	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	
2009	Santa Margarita	6-2	6-2	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	
2010	Santa Margarita	6-2	5-3	League Champions (Girls)	
2011	Santa Margarita	7-1	8-0	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	
2012	Santa Margarita	8-0	6-2	League Champions (Girls)	
2013	Santa Margarita	8-0	8-0	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	
2014	Santa Margarita	7-0	7-0	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	CIF Champions (Girls)
2015	Santa Margarita	6-0	6-1	League Champions (Girls)	CIF Champions (Girls)
2016	Santa Margarita	6-0	6-0-1	League Champions (Girls)	CIF Champions (Girls)
2017	Santa Margarita	6-0	6-1	League Champions (Girls)	CIF Champions (Girls)
2018	Santa Margarita	6-0	5-2	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	State & CIF Champions (Girls)
2019	Santa Margarita	6-0	6-1	League Champions (Girls/Boys)	State & CIF Champions (Girls)
2020	Santa Margarita	1-0	0-1	Season cut short due to COVID-19	CIF Runner Up (Boys)

## Renee Blanc-Supernaw—Girls JV Head Coach

Coach Blanc returns for her 24th year coaching the Eagles Junior Varsity. In her 23 years with the Eagles, Coach Blanc has compiled one of the most impressive records of any junior varsity team in California. She has coached the team to a 167-16 overall record and has guided her swimmers to break 99 lower level school records. Her JV team in 2019 won its 20th straight Trinity League championship, going undefeated in league (4-0) and 6-0 overall. Coach Blanc's teams have built a reputation as the best junior varsity girls program in Orange County. 152 of her swimmers have won individual league titles in 21 years and the SM JV Girls team now owns every Trinity League record. Coach Blanc teaches math at SM & enjoys making lemon squares and is enjoying being married to the love of her life, Mr. Shaun Supernaw and welcomed their first child Kayla Marie in November 2018. Mr. & Mrs. Supernaw currently live in Ladera Ranch.



## Kristen Zepeda—Boys JV Head Coach

Santa Margarita is blessed to welcome back Coach Kristen Zepeda to the staff. In 2019, Coach Zepeda led the Boys JV team to a 6-1 overall record and the Trinity League runner up finish. In the past two years, her team broke 5 league records and 6 school records. Coach Zepeda is no stranger to Orange County swimming as she swam for and graduated from Mission Viejo high school and was a long-time member of the Mission Viejo Nadadores swim team. Coach Zepeda went on to swim at Texas Christian University (TCU) where she majored in Communications. After gaining her teaching credential from Cal State Fullerton, she student taught at Tesoro high school. For three years, Coach Zepeda was the Girls Head Water Polo coach and Boys Head Swimming Coach at Trabuco Hills high school. Coach Zepeda has earned the respect from her student/athletes and this is evident in their efforts. She currently teaches English at SM and resides in Newport Beach.







## Jennifer Abalos—Girls Open Head Coach

While new to Santa Margarita swimming, Coach Jennifer Abalos is no stranger to Santa Margarita Catholic High School. Coach Abalos has been a counselor at SMCHS for the past six years and has specialized in working with the school's many international students. In 2019, Coach Abalos led the Frosh/Soph girls to a 6-0 record and the Trinity League championship. Coach Abalos believes swimming can do just as much for the mind as it does the body by saying, "the weight of the world is less in water," and finds motivation from the movie Finding Nemo and the quote, "Just keep swimming!" Coach Abalos is passionate about supporting dog rescue efforts and volunteers regularly walking dogs in foster care and spending time with her rescue dog. In her free time, Coach Abalos is also an avid spin class participant.



## Joel Yamasaki—Boys Open Head Coach

Finding high-quality and experienced coaches is always a challenge, so finding Coach Joel Yamasaki is truly a blessing. Coach Yamasaki brings extensive swimming experience to the position. Coach Yamasaki swam for the Hawthorne Otters swim club and the Lakewood Aquatics Club under legendary coach Jim Montrella. Coach Yamasaki swam for Jim Montrella's brother, equally legendary John Montrella at Millikan High School, where he set 2 Moore League records in the 100 free (:51.11) and the 100 fly (:57.13). Coach Yamasaki then went on to swim at Long Beach City College with his 3rd legendary coach, Dennis Fosdick. In 2019, Coach Yamasaki led the Boys Frosh/Soph to the Trinity League title breaking one school record. Coach Yamasaki is a "meat and potatoes" eater and anything salty and spicy, and enjoys fishing too.



## Olivia Romo—Boys JV and Open Assistant Coach

Also back to the coaching staff but not new to Santa Margarita is Coach Olivia Romo. Coach Romo is no stranger to Eagle Aquatics as she swam for four years and played water polo for four years, being part of a Trinity League championship team in each season of swimming. Coach Romo was a captain of the SM Swim Team her senior year and is part of the school-record 4x50 backstroke relay. Coach Romo took her aquatics skills to Goldenwest College where she is on her collegiate swimming and polo teams. In 2015, 2016 and 2018 Coach Romo led the Frosh/Soph Boys teams and helped coach the Boys Frosh/Soph win the Trinity League title in '18. Coach Romo also helps out coaching the team during dryland workouts. Coach Romo enjoys going to the beach and camping, and is also a nanny and flight attendant for Alaska Airlines.



## Andrea Laliena—Sports Performance Coach

Santa Margarita swimming and diving is honored to have Eagle alumnus, Andrea Laliena joining the team as its first sports mental performance coach. Coach Laliena graduated from SMCHS in 2015 and won back-to-back CIF Division 1 team championships in her junior and senior years. A native of Huesca, Spain, Coach Laliena swam the backstroke leg on the school's legendary 200 medley relay school record team that still stands today. After graduation, Coach Laliena swam at and graduated from Cal Baptist University where she majored in psychology. Now a grad student in the Cal Baptist Sports Performance School, Coach Laliena will be graduating with her Masters in Sports Psychology this August. Coach Laliena currently resides in Murrieta Valley and enjoys water skiing, running, and makes a mean paella.

