



TOP CUP 2009

LEAD BY ABDULLAH AHMAD MSSAC IS THE BEST 10 AND UNDER CLUB IN ONTARIO

What a fantastic weekend at the Olympium for the Mississauga Aquatic Club. At the TOP CUP meet, MSSAC was the best 10 and under Club in Ontario, second only to Quebec powerhouse Point Claire.

To lead MSSAC's success, was **Abdullah Ahmad** who won the High Point Trophy for 10 year old boys, bringing home an impressive 12 individual gold medals, 2 silver and 2 bronze. Abdullah got also 4 gold medals with the 10 year old boys relays and lowered his own Club record for the 100 fly with a very fast time of 1:18.77. This young athlete displayed excellent swimming skills all year long and with his great work ethic, is becoming the leader of the young group of boys that will dominate the Canadian swim field for the years to come.

Great display of MSSAC's superiority was evident in all four boys' relays. Abdullah and his team mates, **Rodrigo Villalobos, Terry Li, Sasha Svitak and Vincent Nguyen** touched first with an unusual lead of several metres. Abdullah's great performance was coupled with **Rodrigo Villalobos** outstanding swims. Although he just came back from an injury, Rodrigo finished 3rd overall in the High Point race and brought home 2 individual gold medals, 4 silver and 5 bronze.

If one race needed to be picked as display of MSSAC boy's supremacy, that race would be the 50 backstroke. All three spots of the podium were taken by MSSAC swimmers in that race. Abdullah's first position and Rodrigo, third were joined by **Terry Li** that finished in second place. Terry completed his great weekend adding two more individual bronze medals. In the last couple of months he had a huge improvement and now is targeting, with a year in advance, to make the Provincial standards in the 11 and under boy's category. To complete the 10 year old boy's medals "bonanza", we had **Sasha Svitak** chipping in with 3 individual bronze medals.

In the 9 year old boy's category, we got more medals from **Pierre Truong**, 3 individual bronze and **Matthew Babits** with two individual bronze. Pierre and Matthew were also part of the freestyle relay that with the help of **Albert Nguyen** and **Michael Xu**, finished in an impressive second place!

In the 8 year old boys category, another very skilled MSSAC swimmer made the highlights. It was nice to see **Yang Ray** on top of the podium with his two gold medals for the 50 and 100 fly. Way to go Ray!!

The girls' performances were not less impressive than the boys. As a 10 year old **Angela Pan** finished second overall in the High Point race and brought home 5 individual gold medals, 6 silver and 6 bronze. Angela is another of MSSAC swimmers making great improvements this year and it was fantastic to see her swimming best times in all her events!. Although she is just 9 years old, she will definitely be one of the superstars at the Provincial championship in July against the 10 year old girls.

Another upcoming star is **Maggie Copland**, second and third in the breaststroke events. Angela and Maggie were also part of the girl's medley relay that with **Dana Perovic** and **Alyna Liu** got a bronze medal.

At the TOP CUP meet, MSSAC participated with 36 young swimmers who, in different ways, all contributed to this fantastic team success. I would like to congratulate all of them and I would like to highlight all the swimmers that scored points for the MSSAC team. They are: Abdullah Ahmad, Matthew Babits, Rachel Chan, Maggie Copland, Yvonne Gray, Chase Fitzgerald, Caroline Earle, Kate Trudeau, Laura Xu, Paige Hillis, Conger Zhang, Joshua Shieh, Thomas Rewa, Dhruv Gupte, Stephen Mojar, Amy Li, Terri Li, David Lu, Patrick Maxwell, Cameron McCabe, Albert Nguyen, Vincent Nguyen, Ouellette Cameron, Angela Pan, Dana Perovic, Karissa Shieh, Sasha Svitak, Pierre Truong, Rodrigo Villalobos, Yang Ray, Michael Xu.

A final well deserved note must go to the MSSAC coaching staff that is working with these 10 and under swimmers. **Erin Paton, Scott Kowalczewski, Jorgina Lee** and **Meaghan McDonnell** are doing a fantastic job all year long with our young swimmers. I would like to thank all of them for a job well done in constantly developing great young swimmers and providing the Club with an exciting present and a bright future. Well done guys!!!

Andrea Pittis