

High Point Swim Club



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Aaron Reeves
Head Coach
High Point Swim Club
PO Box 5815
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Mike Brady
Chairmen, Andy Craver Determination Award
TYDE
Winston-Salem, NC 27101

Mike and Committee Members:

It is with great pleasure that I recommend Eduardo Garcia (Ed) of High Point Swim Club for the Andy Craver Determination Award. I have known Ed for five years.

Ed has always displayed a high degree of integrity, responsibility, and ambition. He is definitely a leader rather than a follower. He has proven his leadership ability by serving as a swim instructor with our Swim 4 Fun/Swim 4 LIFE program which provides young people an opportunity to learn to swim and compete when ready.

He is also a dedicated swimmer. He immigrated to the US about five years ago and spoke little English. He came to HPSC in the fall of 2006 wanting to learn to swim or take swim lessons so he could swim on the Trinity High School swim team. When Ed started with us that fall he was not able to complete on length of the pool. At age 14 we told him that he would have to start in our lowest group we had on the team so we could teach him from the ground up. He said fine and asked what time he should come to practice. The next day Ed was on deck ready to swim. He and his eleven 8-10 year old teammates jumped in and started learning to kick, breathe, and do flip turns. At the same time we had a family that looked out for Ed. They would help him get to practices and to meets. In one short year he progressed to the point that we had him swimming with our most advanced age group swimmers.

The fall of 2007 he started in with the senior swimmers. He trains 4-5 days a week, attends as many meets as he can and teaches up to six swim lessons a week as a volunteer. In the fall of 2008 the family that helped him moved to London. Now without a ride and his foster team family now Ed has to ride two buses to get to swim practice or to teach swimming lessons most days. In the winter of 2010 Ed qualified for the Sunkissed Jr-Sr Championships in Charlotte NC, a long way to come for anyone, especially for one who learned to swim competitively at age 14 and in a second language.

There is much more that could be said about what Ed has done for the program. How he has overcome enormous obstacles and continues to come to practice, or work and teach others. Ed not only teaches swimming, but life lessons to his pupils and our team and his other instructors. Eduardo Garcia would be an asset to any organization, I am grateful that he is a part of mine, and I am happy to give him my wholehearted endorsement as the Andy Craver Determination Award nominee.