

Western Championships - Victoria

Having home turf advantage didn't hurt! UVPCS came up big all four days of Westerns. At 28 athletes **UVPCS was the largest club team** at the competition. **Michael Schmidt, Jake Rambo** and **Keir Ogilvie** lead the scoring with 99, 89 and 111 pts respectively.

Schmidt was in record setting form taking slices off the 15-17 club records in all three breaststroke events and taking down his first VIR record in 15-17 class by knocking off **John Stamhuis** 50m Br mark. **Schmidt** was close in to the 100 and 200 marks as well, and slid under the Senior Nat cuts in both events.

Ogilvie competed in 8 individual events and three relays for 17 swims, picking up medals in 100 and 200 Fly. Over 100m he made his first Sen Nat cut. He stepped up and passed the field over the final 50m of the 200 event to take Gold, his first national title! **Keir** also finaled in 200 Fr, 50 Fly, 400 Fr, 200IM.

Jake Rambo also qualified for Senior Nationals for the first time in 200 Bk. He swam in 9 individual events, finaling in 6 events and assisted the 15-17 Relays, along with **Anthony Gutierrez** and **Tom Chapman**, in taking out the existing club records in all three relays. The 4x100 M.R. was also a VIR regional record.

Sophie Lorette rose to the occasion to snatch four medals across the weekend. Gold in 1500m, and Silver in 400Fr, 800Fr and 200 Fly, all hard fought races. Her 400Fr sailed under the Senior national and trials qualifying mark for the first time.

Cale Murdock scored 74 points by competing in 5 events plus relays, taking silver in 200 Fr and Bronze in 400Fr both in PB's.

Eric Hedlin took gold in 1500Fr with teammate, Jon McKay, taking Bronze in the same event.

Other finalists included:

Hannah Lorette, Allison Ballantyne, Anna Letkeman, Justin Howe, Hana Edwards(bronze in 100 Bk) Chris Deegen, Arthur Firmino, Anthony Gutierrez, Naeva Scott Bouris, Taylor Snowden-Richardson.

Very impressive depth: Eighteen of the twenty-eight competitors scored points taking the team to fourth overall, **second in the men's division** and eleventh for the women.