

Name:	Club:	Honors	Activities	Role:	Why
Olivia Edwards	CPAC	Honor roll Multiple AP and Honors classes	Member of 3 after-school clubs (Treasurer of 2) National Charity League for 5 years board member for 4 Attended Leadership Program Lifeguard	I am applying for the role as I believe I have the experience, drive and tenacity to make an exceptional board member with a deep connection to the state and the sport. My story in swimming began in fourth grade, I had explored every sport imaginable, yet it was swimming that ultimately captivated me. Seven years later It has become one of my greatest passions; I started my journey as one of the worst swimmers on my team fighting to not get last place. Through grit, determination and the support of my coaches and teammates I progressively became a more confident swimmer and person, qualifying for Age Groups, Eastern Zones, Seniors, and YMCA Nationals. Swimming holds immense significance to me, not only as a sport but as a source of personal growth. Connecticut Swimming has been key in shaping me as an individual and athlete. It would be a privilege to contribute to Connecticut Swimmings continued success and development and make even the smallest positive impact on the program that has had such a profound effect on my life.	As stated above I have a passion for the sport of swimming. I genuinely care about Connecticut swimming and want to give an athlete's perspective on decisions being made. I take great pride in assuming leadership roles outside of what is expected in my swim team and school environment. I am a member of the charity NCL New Canaan. Throughout my 4 years as a member I have gained valuable experience in volunteering in the community as well as taking on many different roles within the organization. In addition to this experience I have taken a leadership course through a program at New Canaan Cares. These roles have equipped me to be an effective leader in my community, in a variety of ways including participating in group decision making and understanding how to interact, persuade and influence with different types of people and situations. Additionally, I am confident in public speaking and making persuasive arguments. I have successfully delivered presentations in front of large groups with ease, which gives me the confidence to effectively voice Connecticut Swimming and my opinion on the topics being discussed. During my time on the New Canaan Caimans I would regularly stay after practice to assist with coaching some of my younger teammates and I worked towards earning my USA Swimming Core Coaching Certification and became a Safe Sport athlete. I recognise that emotional support is as important as structured training. A good example of this is being seen as a mentor and approachable teammate. For instance I provided support for the junior team member at Zones where the swimmer was unfamiliar with protocols and the coach (who happened to be my primary coach). I provided a safe and familiar face taking the initiative to remain on deck for the duration of their sessions to ensure they felt more at ease during the competition. I was able to look at this situation and put my own needs aside to be able to help a teammate. In closing, I believe I have an approachable and natural leadership style with an open communication ethos. I have established relationships with coaches from RYWC, RAC, The Wilton Wahoos, The New Canaan Caimans, CPAC, and Zeus so I believe I already have a wide network to be able to represent Connecticut Swimming Swim effectively and help deliver the board's agenda. Thank you for your consideration and I hope to see you all at the next meeting.

