

Club Excellence

USA Swimming established its Club Excellence program to identify clubs that execute strong, well-rounded age group and senior swimming programs to produce elite 18-and-under athletes. The top 20 clubs earn Gold Medal status, those ranked 21-100 are designated as Silver, and the following 100 clubs are recognized as Bronze. The program is voluntary, but those clubs that are eligible for recognition receive grant funding to expand and enhance the services already provided to athletes. USA Swimming distributed \$450,000 in grants to the 100 Gold and Silver level clubs in 2015.

SwimMAC Carolina held the top spot in the nation from 2012-2014, but was edged into second in 2015 by Nations Capital Swim Club from Washington, DC - lead by standout swimmers Katie Ledecky and Andrew Seliskar. NCAP scored 52,942 to claim the top spot in 2015 and repeated for the 2016 rankings, increasing its points to 68,604. SwimMAC came in second, and in the latest 2016 rankings, Lakeside Swim Team (KY) took third, followed by Dynamo Swim Club (GA) in fourth.

New to the program in 2016 is the Podium Club. According to USA Swimming's website: "Beginning in 2016, a club achieving a Gold Medal ranking for four consecutive years will be named to the Podium Club. In addition to earning Gold grant dollars, Podium Club members will receive a financial bonus from a pool of dollars to be divided equally among the number of teams in the Podium Club each year."

The following eight teams were inducted into the Podium Club for 2016:

Aquazot Swim Club	Nation's Capital Swim Club
Bolles School Sharks	North Baltimore Aquatic Club
Dynamo Swim Club	Sarasota YMCA Sharks
Lakeside Swim Team	SwimMAC Carolina

All SwimMAC Carolina team members should be proud of our long history of performance excellence, and the group effort it takes, day in and day out, to achieve those results. Congratulations MAC Nation!

Year	Rank	Points
2016	2 nd	36,509
2015	2 nd	40,540
2014	1 st	57,297
2013	1 st	49,432
2012	1 st	59,856
2011	5 th	33,015
2010	4 th	43,685
2009	3 rd	42,091
2008	Gold Medal	n/a
2007	3 rd	26,895
2006	7 th	21,934

