

2022 Okaloosa County Swimming & Diving Hall of Fame

Female Athlete Inductee

MaryEdith Smith Malin

MaryEdith Smith Malin started her swimming career in summer league when she was very young, joining her first year round team at age 10. She swam in Jamaica for the Flying Fish Swim Team and the Jamaican Swim team, which represented Jamaica in competitions all around the Caribbean. Locally, she swam for Playground Area YMCA (PLAY) and Greater Pensacola Area Aquatic Club (GPAC). In her youth, she held various pool records, qualified for Junior Nationals in the 50 free, the 100 free, and the 100 butterfly, and, after taking 4th, went on to compete in the 50 free at Senior Nationals. MaryEdith swam for Choctawhatchee High School from 1993-1997, where she held various team records, qualified for state all four years and finished in the top 8 in seven individual races, and was a team captain. The 50 freestyle record that she set in her junior year still stands in 2022.

After high school, Malin swam for the United States Air Force Academy Swim Team, and, at the time, held relay records and had the second fastest 50 free in school history. After college, she continued to swim with the United States Air Force Swim Team, representing the team in European Championship Swim Meets, continuing to reign in the 50 and 100 frees.

She still coaches, and helped out with the Bernie Bullsharks Swim Team for 3 years, before becoming the coach at Viking Meadows Summer League Swim Team in Westfield, Indiana. Malin said of swimming, "You won't ever regret it. The friends and lessons you learn during the journey are priceless."

