

GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

IMPROVING THE CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS EXPERIENCE
BY RUNNING SILVER AND BRONZE TOGETHER AT MULTIPLE SITES

MEET EMMA AND JULIA SMITH

In 2019, they went to different GASL Championship Meets

I love
breaststroke
best

Me Too!

The team didn't
have enough
kids to compete
in both relays.

Emma wasn't
selected for the
one the team
competed in.

Emma (9)

Silver:

- Breast

Bronze:

- Free
- Back



Julia (7)

Silver:

- Free

Bronze:

- Back
- Breast

Julia didn't get
selected for the
Free Relay.

The team didn't
have enough
legal kids to
form a Medley
Relay, too.

THEIR PARENTS WENT TO TWO MEETS

The family's experience was . . . less than ideal



- ❖ The Smith parents both commute to office jobs.
- ❖ Wednesday 4:30 warmup/5:30 start inconvenienced them.
- ❖ They saw the forecast: 60% chance of Thunderstorms.
- ❖ They feared it might be a long night.

Wednesday at Bronze

- Julia was slated to swim two events only.
- She swam no relays.
- The Smiths had a volunteer assignment.
- Thunderstorms caused a postponement.
- They had to return Thursday for Julia's breaststroke.

Saturday at Silver

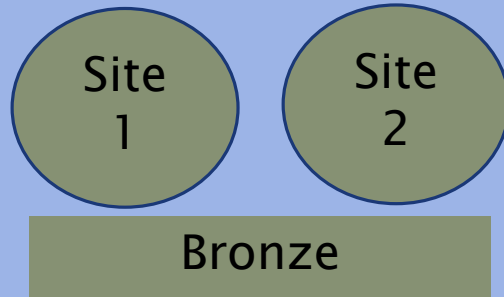
- Emma swam only her favorite event.
- She swam no relays.
- The Smiths had a volunteer assignment.
- The meet ran nearly four hours.



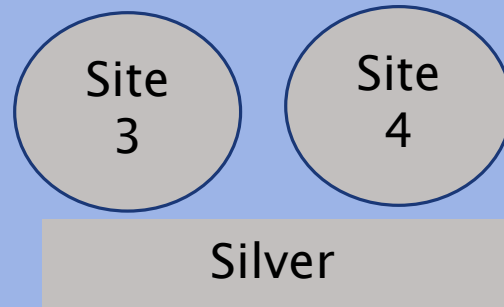
IMAGINE A BETTER FUTURE: GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

Multiple Saturday meets running Silver and Bronze events together at each site

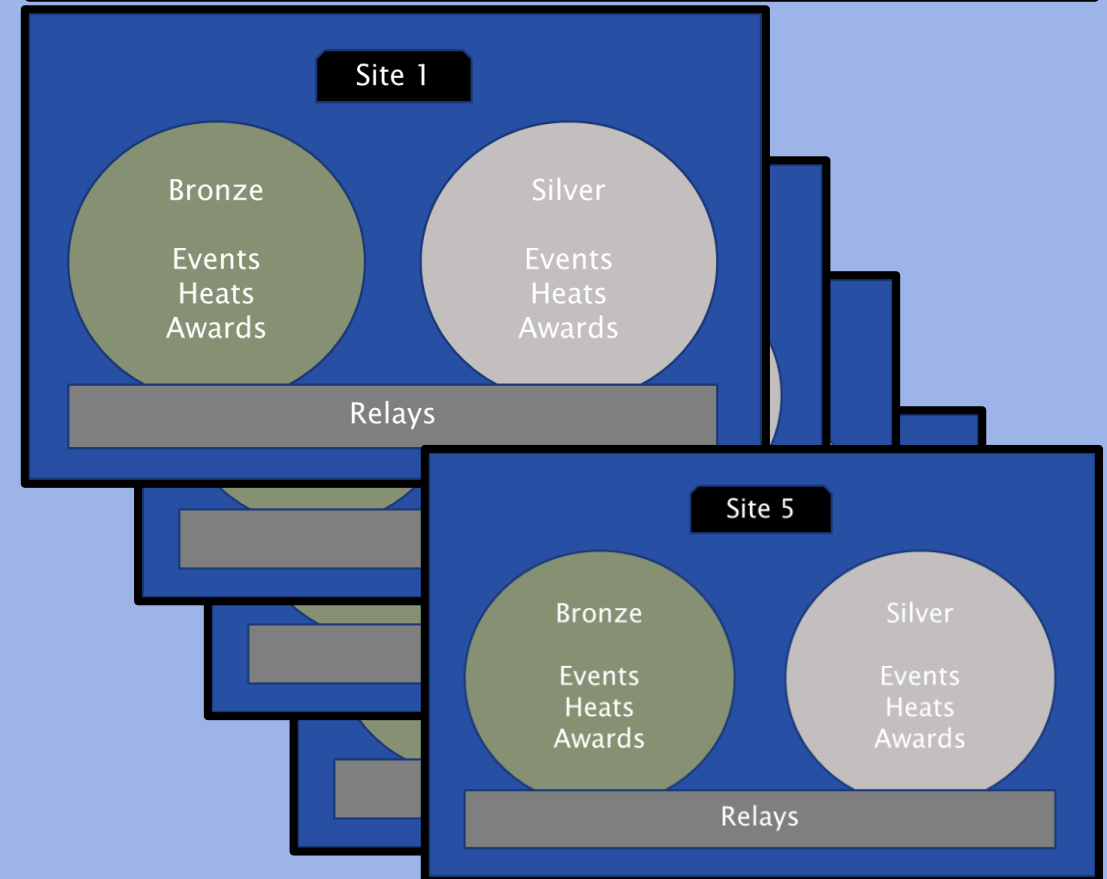
2 Meets – Wednesday 5:30pm



2 Meets – Saturday Morning



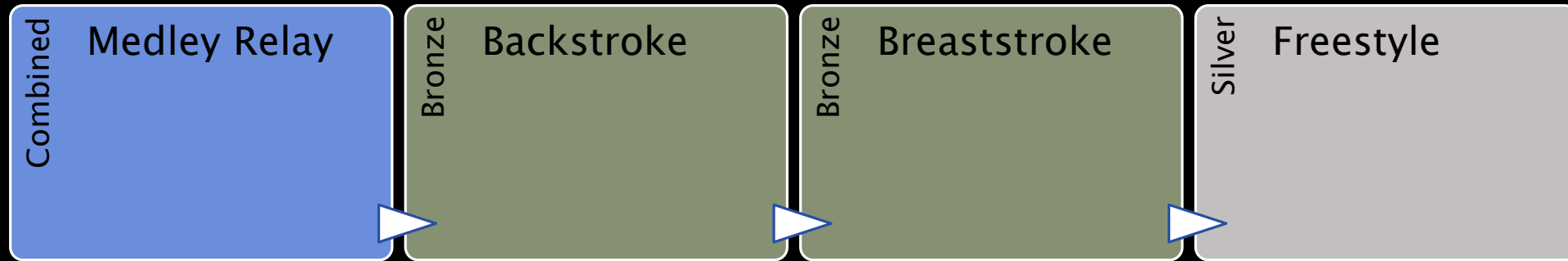
5 Meets – Saturday Morning



GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

Four meets become five because more swimmers will compete in more events

Swimmers may swim any mix of Bronze and Silver events they qualify for...



... up to the Meet maximum number of events (4)

Benefit #1: Raises average number of events per competitor

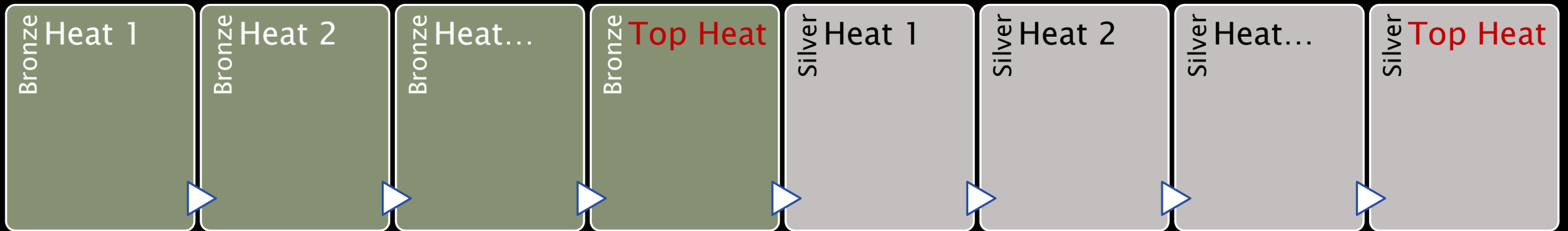
Benefit #2: Reduces number of families opting out due to:

- Not wanting to attend multiple meets
- Limited events available when having to choose Bronze OR Silver

GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

For each individual event, Bronze heats run first followed by Silver heats

Individual Event



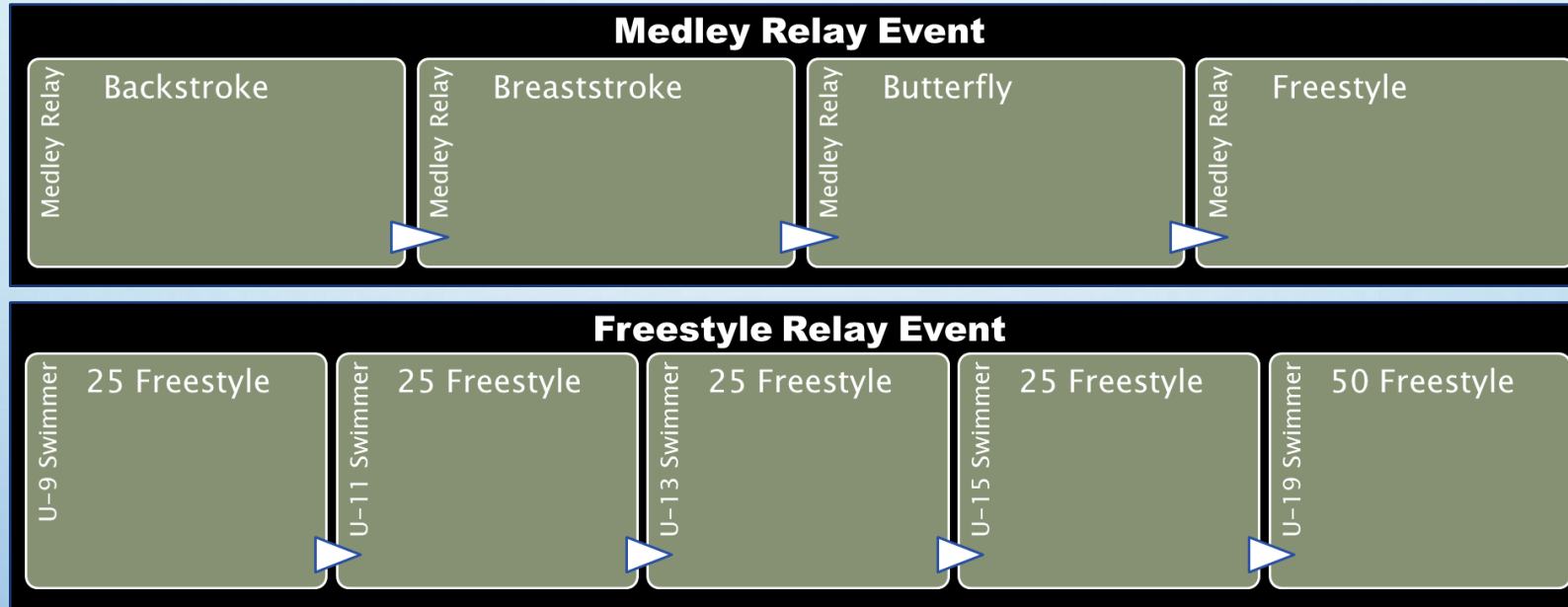
Bronze heats are scored separately from Silver heats

Bronze and Silver contestants earn separate awards

Benefit: Ribboning to 8th increases total awards from 24 to 40 in both Silver and Bronze!

GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

Relay events mix Silver and Bronze to make it easier to field relay squads



Benefit # 1: Swim the same Relay events as at Dual Meets and Gold Meet

Benefit # 2: Kids love relays: Each team may enter up to three squads per Relay event

GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

This is no more complicated to run than separate Bronze and Silver

- ☐ Meet manager software supports this capability
- ☐ The league will set up meet templates
- ☐ The meets will run just like the meets we run now
- ☐ No extra training required for anyone

GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

Both swimmers and their families benefit

Emma (9)

Julia (7)



Emma competes in Silver in Breast, and in Free and Back in Bronze. She's in a relay, too.

Julia competes in her two Bronze events, plus Freestyle in Silver. She's in a relay, because there are enough kids to fill two relays.

The whole Smith family attends one meet, on Saturday, with most of the team and most of the girls' swimming friends.

GASL FAMILY CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

Summary of advantages over separate Silver and Bronze meets

- ☐ Kids can swim any mix of Bronze and Silver events they qualify for
 - More races for each swimmer!
- ☐ Most multi-child families will attend one meet instead of two (or two versus three)
- ☐ Easier for teams to field relay squads
- ☐ Minimum of 50% more kids can participate in Relays
- ☐ More ribbons! Up to 40 total ribbons for both Silver and Bronze individual events
- ☐ Reduce instances of, "It's not worth entering the Meet to swim only one event"
- ☐ No more Wednesday 5:30pm issues: Heat, thunderstorms and work conflicts
- ☐ Easier to staff officials and other volunteers
- ☐ Allows more time between the last dual meet and the seed meeting, if desirable
- ☐ Leaves room for a makeup date for rainout of last dual meet