## What Swimming in the NHSA Has Meant to Me

I joined my first competitive swim team at the age of 5, and have had the great experience of swimming for over 12 years, nearly 10 of those years I have been able to spend in New Hampshire. Throughout my time in New Hampshire, I have made valuable friendships and learned valuable life lessons that have brought me to where I am today. Swimming in the NHSA means many things to me. For starters, in one word, it means friendships. I often swim with or against those who I grew up racing. From beginning at small UVAC meets, to racing them at the Seniors Championship Meets, they have always been there for me. I have had amazing and encouraging teammates that push me through tough sets, as well as other competitors pushing me to get best times in meets. Not only have the other swimmers pushed me, but so have the coaches. As I move on to college next year, I will remember and cherish the memories I have made with my coaches. I will remember the drills and techniques that these coaches have taught me to improve my stroke, as well as the times in practice where I wasn't feeling my best, but my coaches were always there to push me through the set. It has been an amazing journey throughout my time here in the NHSA. I am thankful for the teammates and the competitors who have pushed me in practice and races. I am thankful for the coaches who have been there for me through times of downs and ups, and have pushed and created the person I am today. To sum things up, swimming in NHSA is more than just swimming. It's about valuable relationships that I have created along the way.