

2012 West Virginia State Champ Predictions

SwimWV is back again for another round of predictions for this year's WVSSAC State Swimming Championships! I have teamed up with the same former high school coach as last year to gain more perspective and analysis.

Team

Women

2011 Results: 1. Morgantown 153, Charleston Catholic 127, GW 120, Elkins 98, Winfield 90

SwimWV Predictions:

1. Morgantown
2. B-U
3. Elkins
4. Notre Dame
5. Wheeling Park

SwimWV: Back in 2002 the Fairmont Senior men won zero state titles but won the team championships thanks to their incredible depth. This year the same thing could happen to the ladies from Morgantown. Expect a great battle between Morgantown and B-U but the depth that Morgantown has might be enough to win back to back state titles. However, the ladies from B-U have some incredible swimmers and relays to stay in the team race. Elkins will be propelled by their stellar freestyle relays, similar to Charleston Catholic on the men's side. I have Notre Dame and Wheeling Park rounding out the top five as both teams bring great relays and individual performers. Keep an eye out from George Washington who could easily sneak into the top five. While the men are dominated by teams from the south; the women from the north look to battle for the team title.

Men

2011 Results: 1. GW 222, 2. Bridgeport 148, T3. Hurricane/Winfield 100, 5. Brooke 85

SwimWV Predictions:

1. George Washington
2. Bridgeport
3. Charleston Catholic
4. South Charleston
5. Hurricane

SwimWV: Despite a disqualification at regionals in the medley relay the gentleman from George Washington will once again claim a team title; their third in four years. The depth the Patriots bring in the 200 IM, 500 free and 100 breaststroke are going to propel them to the title by an overwhelming margin. Bridgeport looks to be a solid runner-up behind their relays and leader Frank Csonka. Charleston Catholic

also looks to get back to the top five this season. With standout Nate Carr and strong freestyle relays the Irish could push Bridgeport for second if they place well in preliminaries. Fourth and fifth looks to be close between South Charleston and Hurricane as I have them separated by three points. I overlooked the men from Hurricane last season and I learned my lesson this year but South Charleston comes with two strong swimmers in Green and Poe. Overall the top five could feature four teams from Region IV; a showcase of the depth coming from the Kanawha/Putnam County region.