



Oregon Swimming News

Oregon Swimming is organized for the purpose of fostering swimming competition for the benefit of swimmers of all ages and abilities, in accordance with the standards and rules prescribed by USA Swimming. Visit our web site: www.oregonswim.org

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Oregon Swimming newsletter is an open forum. Oregon Swimming encourages contributions to the newsletter. All content of these letters reflect the views and opinions of the author and may not reflect those of Oregon Swimming

Oregon Swimming, 1750 SW Skyline Blvd #103, Portland OR 97221

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR **JEFF GUDMAN**

Swimmers change clubs all the time for many reasons. The family may move, the interests of the swimmer have changed, the philosophy of the club is different than what the swimmer is looking for and many other reasons. Oregon Swimming has had for many years an informal custom. When a coach is approached by any swimmer or parent from another club about changing clubs the coaches first response is to ask the swimmer or parent whether or not they have spoken with the current coach about a possible change of clubs. If not, they should because the two coaches will be talking to each other. This custom has been invaluable. It recognizes that coaches and clubs have a mutual self interest in keeping changes completely above board. Recently, I was contacted about a swimmer changing clubs and the issue was raised about a possible violation of the Oregon Swimming anti-recruiting policy as listed on page 49 of the Oregon Swim Guide. The outcome of this issue is unknown at this time. However, I would urge all swimmers, coaches and parents who are considering a change to first talk to your coach. In addition, I urge all coaches to continue to tell any swimmer or parent who approaches them about changing clubs to not only make sure the swimmer has talked with their current coach but let the swimmer know the coaches will be talking to each other.

2002 Oregon Swimming Board of Directors

General Chair..... Jeff Gudman
Admin ChairSean Hutchison
Senior Chair.....Andy Carlisle
Age Group Chair Gary Leach
Coaches Rep Beth Winkowski
Sr. Athlete Rep Haley Koss
Jr. Athlete Rep..... Mason Amick
Secretary Tim Stevenson
Treasurer.....Marilyn Loitz
TPC..... Eric Camus
Registration.....Coby van Andel

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For only \$12.00 per year you will receive all the latest information, along with reminders of what is coming in the near future for All OSI members. Just complete the form, enclose \$12.00 and send to the office.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

In previous columns I have talked about the number of terrific officials in our LSC. We can always have more. It is easy to do and many people will assist in the training. If you have a question ask any of the officials you see working at a meet. The officials share the same camaraderie as the coaches. They are willing to share information and ask questions. If an official has a question they first talk among themselves. If that discussion does not generate clarity the next step is to talk to the area officials chair and so on to the LSC officials chair and finally to the national officials chair. That process works great for the sharing of knowledge about the rules of our sport.

At the May U.S.A. Swimming board meeting there were some significant issues discussed. One was a governance study with respect as to how U.S.A. Swimming should be organized to provide the best possible service to its members. A second issue discussed and approved was a change in requirement for new clubs that are formed.

A third issue was a proposed dues increase effective for the 2004 membership beginning September 1, 2003. The dues for an individual swimmer would increase from \$25 to \$40 and would increase \$1 per year thereafter for 10 years. Seasonal, individual non-athlete and non-athlete family dues would also increase. The revenue raised by the dues increase would go towards three areas:

- 1) At least 25% to incremental services for member clubs
- 2) At least 25% to incremental resources to help member clubs gain greater access to existing facilities, upgrade existing facilities and to foster the development of new facilities. (this money would NOT be used to fund brick and mortar)
- 3) At least 25% for enhanced promotion of swimming and to include more and better television coverage.

This proposed dues increase will be debated at the September USA Swimming House of Delegates meeting.

There is a lot of activity going on in the state with respect to pools. Some of it is related to keeping existing pools open and other activity is related to new pools. There are new pools opening up in Vancouver and there are efforts to create new pools in Medford, Salem Hermiston and Mollala. At any time any club in Oregon and southwest Washington needs an advocate for pools do not hesitate to contact me.

My column would be incomplete without talking about all the wonderful swimmers in Oregon and southwest Washington. Every swimmer working hard towards

achieving their goals. Good luck to all the swimmers during the long course season.

In closing I would like to refer to a comment made by Tom Dolan, a U.S.A. Swimming Swimmer of the Year. He once commented that until the clock gets to 0 you can always get faster. What a wonderful way of expressing the goal of hard work, dedication and ability combining to produce faster times.

See you at the next meet

JUNE NOTICES

2002 College Bound Swimmers. Please help recognize our graduating seniors by calling 503-297-6027, Faxing to 503-297-8498, or email swim@oregonswim.org if you have additions to this list. Good luck and congratulations to our swimmers moving on to college in the fall.

<u>NAME</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>HIGH SCHOOL</u>	<u>COLLEGE</u>
Lauren Clark	CAT	Crescent Valley	Dennison College
Shauna Hicks	CAT	McNary	U of N Colorado
Christina Stratton	CAT	Crescent Valley	Canyon
Tyler Storie	CAT	Corvallis	USC
Nicholas Wolfe	CAT	Crescent Valley	Stanford
Stephanie Burton	ECSC	Sheldon	Syracuse University
Oliver Burton	HRST	Hood River	Williams College
Jeremy Dam	LOSC	Lake Oswego	U of Massachusetts
Andy Peters	LOSC	Wilson	Linfield College
Meagan Mandeville	LOSC	Wilsonville	Linfield College
John Madden	LOSC	Jesuit	Maryland Univ.
Scott Stevenson	LOSC	Lake Oswego	U of Oregon
Patricia Funk	LOSC	Lake Oswego	Swathmore College
Emily Burton	MSC	McMinnville	BYU
Nathan Cook	MSC	Western Mennonite	Biola University
Jeff Hainsworth	MSC	McMinnville	OSU
Reid Kimura	MSC	McMinnville	U of Redlands
Katie Klein	MSC	McMinnville	PCC
Ethan McCoy	MSC	McMinnville	U of Virginia
Micah Muldoon	MSC	McMinnville	U of O
Michael O'Connor	MSC	McMinnville	OSU
Nick Thompson	RST	Roseburg	U of Arizona
Eric Swinn	RST	Roseburg	Willamette College
Lynsey Foree	SA	Hidden Valley	OSU
Anna Grant	VSC	Hudson Bay	U of Alabama
Joe Kelly	VSC	School of Arts	BYU
Sunny Thomas	VSC	Home Schooled	Clark College

Hello Oregon Swimming! I just wanted to say thank you very much for choosing me to be on the Oregon All-Star team and to be a part of the Oregon "Catch the Spirit Camp." It makes me feel special to know that I was chosen, out of many applicants, by you, to be in both of these programs. I truly appreciate you allowing me to participate in both of these programs. They were both fun and educational. Sincerely, Aubrey Vaughn

2001-2002 Scholastic All American Application

Form is available on the USA Swimming Web site under Programs and Services or at the Oregon Swimming Office. Athletes who participated at the 2001, 2002 Sectionals or 2002 Nationals and have a 3.50 grade point or above are eligible. The forms are due August 1, 2002.

2001 Swim-A-Thon. Andrew Aylor from Chehalem Swim Team is the top money earner within Oregon Swimming in 2001. He will receive a prize package that SPEEDO provides from USA Swimming. Congratulations Andrew.

Sanctions. Sanction applications are now emailed out to the meet directors, or the club president if the meet director does not have email address on the meet information. Therefore it is the responsibility of the meet director to ensure that the email address listed on the meet calendar on the OSI web page is correct.

A lot of the email addresses are no longer correct, or the account has been inactivated.

Athlete Membership Requirements. According to Oregon Swimming Standing Rules the Membership Requirements are: All athletes competing in an OSI sanctioned or approved competition are to be athlete members in good standing of USA Swimming or FINA affiliated organization.

Athletes competing in OSI Championships must be USA Swimming athlete members registered in OSI.

Registration forms and fees must arrive in the OSI office prior to an athlete's participation in an OSI Sanctioned or Approved meet.

Athletes competing in Region XII Senior Championships, Western Zone Championships, or any USA Swimming Championship level competition shall be full year athlete members. (i.e., not Seasonal)

Enforcement - The person signing the entry form will be required to verify that all athletes entered are members (in the appropriate category) of USA Swimming.

Penalties - per Article 302.4, USA Swimming Rules and Regulations, OSI may impose a fine of up to \$100.00 per event against the person signing the entry form.

JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Chehalem Swim Team seeks to fill the position of Assistant Swim Coach. The successful candidate should possess CPR, First Aid, and Safety Training for Swim Coaches certifications. Strong communication skills a must!

Responsibilities include the training and development of competitive swimmers of ages 7 – 18 (12 - 15 hours of instruction per week and 1 – 2 weekends per month) and basic administrative duties.

Chehalem Swim Team, located in Newberg, Oregon, is a fast-growing club of enthusiastic, disciplined swimmers.

For more information or to submit resume/references, please contact:

Rich Tobergte, Head Swim Coach (503) 521-0704
Chehalem Valley Aquatics Club
P.O. Box 1173
Newberg, Oregon 97132

Tigard Tualatin Swim Club is seeking a part-time year round coach for their team of 130+ swimmers TTSC practices at two pools, the Tigard Swim Center and Tualatin Swim Center. The coaching opportunity will primarily be at the Tualatin pool.

Job Responsibilities

Coaching beginning and intermediate level age group swimmers (practices are about 1 ½ hours M-F)

Coach one invitational or dual meet approximately every 3 weeks

Attending staff meeting once a month.

Job requirements

The successful candidate should possess current USA Swimming certifications (First Aid, CPR and Safety Training for Swim Coaches)

Candidates must possess a strong knowledge of competitive swimming, enthusiastic and enjoy working with young swimmers. Previous experience teaching swimming helpful

The candidate must be available early evenings and some weekend days

The salary is competitive and based upon experience and certifications. Please submit a resume and cover letter stating your experience as coach and swimmer to:

Jeanine Serrano, Head Age Group Coach
Tigard Tualatin Swim Club
PO Box 230583
Tigard OR 97281

High School Swimming

Christi McCauley

A year ago, Robyn Sharpe of OSAA asked me to consider serving as a candidate for the NFHS Swimming and Diving Rules Committee. I really did not expect I would be chosen; however, I was and I am very pleased to be on the committee. I had the pleasure of traveling to Indianapolis in early April for the first of 4 annual rules committee meetings. I came home with a new appreciation for what it takes to write rules and make them applicable for athletes in a wide range of ability while also taking into consideration that other areas of the country function differently.

There are a number of rules that many of us in Oregon feel should change; please know progress is being made. I am hopeful that swimming rules will continue to align with one another across National Governing Bodies, to the benefit of the athletes. At the suggestion of Pat Lundsford, the USA Swimming Officials Chair, several NGBs met in late April. This was a big step in the alignment process. I am hoping to receive a report from Pat detailing how that meeting went and will report any significant progress made.

As for the meeting I attended, I will attempt to briefly recap the most significant rule changes that were made. The rule change that was made last November to eliminate the use of 18" starting blocks for pools with a start end depth of less than 4 feet has upheld. Nationally there is a concern for safety, this issue is being carefully examined in order to determine what depth is safe. The catastrophic nature of the injuries that occur when athletes hit the bottom of the pool from diving into shallow water is too serious to be overlooked. Please understand that while it does make it difficult in a few venues, in Oregon and Nationally, most pools were in compliance or have been able to make accommodations.

Other changes made:

The backstroke start is now the same as in USA Swimming. No longer will athletes be allowed to curl toes or stand on the gutter to start.

It is recommended that a non-slip surface on the end wall extend to a depth of not less than .8m below the surface of the water.

The specifications for the painted lines on the bottom and end walls were broadened to allow pools designed for USA Swimming to be acceptable.

The swimmers on the host team may still swim and score in the 500 yard event provided there are at least enough lap counters for the visiting team.

Each relay card must indicate, not later than at the conclusion of the heat, the actual order of swimmers in that heat.

The entire Rule 6 was reworded to make the integration of back-up times more precise (and more in line with USA Swimming procedures.)

In Oregon this change was already adopted last year, but there was a definitive clarification that in a forward start the swimmer's foot does not need to come to the front edge of the block until the command "Take your mark."

On starts from the deck, the second, third and fourth swimmers in a relay must use the forward start with at least one foot at the edge of the deck.

The first three swimmers of a relay team must contact the finish end at the conclusion of his or her leg, the final swimmer is required to contact the finish pad (when automatic timing is used) or the finish end of the pool.

If there are any questions as to the rationale of any of these changes to the high school rules, or you need clarification of a rule, email me and I will get the answer for you. I have some wonderful resources at the national level now, and I have a much better understanding myself of the goal and purpose of the rules committee. My email address is mcc6swim@aol.com.

I will be working with Robyn Sharpe to improve the communication with the officials who run their local dual and district meets. We hope to have a workshop to educate officials on the rules and how to interpret them. There is a video and a set of transparencies available as well.

*JUNIOR ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVE
NOMINATION FORM*

Oregon Swimming Clubs will elect a new Junior Athlete Representative at the 11 & Over Age Group Championships, July 18-21, 2002, in Eugene. Haley Koss completes her term as Senior Athlete Rep. and Mason Amick will become the new Senior Rep. Ideally, candidates should be entering the 10th or 11th grades in High School in the fall of 2002. Or, for someone planning on attending college in the Portland area, this restriction need not apply. The person elected to this position is expected to attend Board meetings (every other month), most of which are in the Portland area, and attend the USA Swimming convention, held annually. This year the Convention is in Dallas, Texas, September 10-14, missing four days of school. Expenses to the convention are paid.

Athletes elected to this position serve as liaison between Oregon Swimming athletes and the Board of Directors. Athletes Reps are encouraged to bring issues or concerns to the Board, and introduce ideas or programs which improve conditions and opportunities for our athletes.

A ballot, listing all those nominated, will be circulated at the Age Group Championships. Each club in attendance has two votes.

Name of Nominee: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Age: ____ Year in School (fall '02): _____

Club: _____ Phone: _____

E-Mail: _____

Please send this nomination form to:

Oregon Swimming, Inc.
1750 SW Skyline Blvd. Suite 103
Portland OR 97221-2545
FAX 503-297-8498
Email: swim@oregonswim.org

**Minutes – Oregon Swimming, Inc.,
Board of Directors Meeting**

Wednesday, May 1, 2002, 7:30 PM

Eugene Hilton, Eugene, Oregon

In Attendance: Jeff Gudman, Sean Hutchison, Tim Stevenson, Coby van Andel, Jacki Allender, Craig Martin, Gene Mielke, Howard Jones, Eric Camus, Stan Benson, Jim Liggett, Skip Runkle, Jess Hickerson, Helen Brown, Robert Brown, Linda Postma, Dawn Marie Woodward, Suha Tokman, Andy Carlisle, Mark Maxwell, Lissa Parker, Judy L’Roy, Marilyn Loitz, Mark Rienits

General Chair Report – Jeff Gudman. Jeff called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.

The minutes from the last meeting were approved as submitted.

Treasurer’s Report: Marilyn Loitz. Marilyn presented the Treasurer’s report, which was approved as submitted.

Administrative Report – Sean Hutchison.

Age Group: Gary Leach. Coby reported in Gary’s absence. Gary reported that the recent swim camps went well. The meet information for this year’s long course championships is being worked on and should be out by the end of May.

Senior Report – Andy Carlisle. Andy asked about housing availability for this summer’s sectionals. Some suggestions were made about where to obtain hotel information. It was suggested that when the information is obtained that it placed on the OSI web site.

Coach’s Report – Beth Winkowski. No report.

Championship Coordination – Tom Weltchek. No report.

Site Selection – Tom Weltchek. No report.

Athlete Representatives – Mason Amick and Haley Koss. No report.

Scheduling – Skip Runkle. Skip thanked everyone who participated in the scheduling meeting. The meeting was completed in record time (about 1 hour). Contributing to the success of the meeting were the clubs getting their meet scheduling requests in before the meeting and the up-front planning by Eric Camus and the Technical Planning Committee for the recommended championship format changes.

Time Standards – Andy Carlisle. Andy reported that he should be able to have the time standards done early this year.

Technical Planning – Eric Camus. Gene Mielke discussed remarks that were made in meet evaluations from this year's short course championships that recommended that fines be imposed for swimmers not showing for finals events. There was some discussion about the perceived problem. Eric volunteered to canvas the coaches to determine the general feeling about the problem and bring the information back to the board.

Safety Chair – Jeanine Serrano. No report.

Camp Coordinator – Geoff Tiffany. No report.

Officials Committee – Gene Mielke. Gene reported that mini rulebooks are available for sale. USA Swimming has created a pdf version of the rulebook. The officials committee will be sending out ballots for the officials chair election by the end of May.

Adaptive – Gene Mielke. Gene reported that the National Disability Championships would be held at Federal Way June 13–16. The meet is asking for help from local coaches to help with the athletes as many of the athletes will be coming to the meet without their coaches.

Registration – Coby van Andel. Coby reported the current registration numbers: Regular Athlete 4,392. Seasonal Athlete 32, Clubs 63, officials 314, coaches 160, others 180.

Sanctions Chair – Mark Rieniets. No report.

Awards – Lise Thom. No report.

Awards Ceremony – Marianne Gunderson. No report.

OVC Chair – Jacki Allender. No report.

Records – Marni Henrickson. No report.

All Star Team (Zone Team) - Lissa Parker/Suha Tokman. Suha discussed the success of the latest All Star meet. The meet went very well, the swimmers had a good time, and the Oregon team won the meet. The new two day meet format is much better. It was decided that the next spring All Star meet in Boise would use a 50-meter format.

Lissa reported that the zone meet planning is shaping up very well. The team will be staying at the Radisson Hotel that is essentially across the street from the meet venue. The team will be eating in the USC dining hall. The cost will not be cheap; current estimate is about \$575 per athlete.

Office Manager – Coby van Andel. Newsletter material must be in by May 15.

Old Business

High School Swimming season – Jeff Gudman. Jeff reported that the OSAA does not intend to consider

moving the swimming season from winter to fall unless a significant number of the coaches or ADs ask for the change. There is no compelling reason for the change at this time.

New Business

USA Swimming Convention – Coby asked that those planning to attend the USA Convention this year let her know as soon as possible so she can start making airline and hotel arrangements.

Athlete Representatives – Athletes who wish to be considered in the athlete representative election should get their name into the OSI office. The election will be held at the 11&Over LC Championship meet this summer.

T-Hills long course times - The board ratified the motion to accept THSC 50-meter times for OSI LC time standards as presented at the scheduling meeting.

Motion: Ratify the motion to accept THSC 50-meter times for OSI LC time standards as presented at the scheduling meeting.

Passed unanimously.

Motion presented at scheduling meeting:

Motion: To accept THills 50 meter meet times for OSI A times. Times achieved at the THills 50 meter pool should not be used for qualification outside of OSI, for OSI records, or Top-5 awards.

Passed.

John Day meet – The scheduled date of July 27-28 conflicts with another local event. They have asked that the meet be moved to August 3-4. The request was granted.

Adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Next meeting:

Executive Committee – Wednesday, June 5, 2002, 7:30 PM via conference call

Board Meeting – Wednesday, July 10, 2002, 7:30 PM at the Multnomah Athletic Club

Officials' Meeting – Wednesday, July 10, 2002, 6:00 PM at the Multnomah Athletic Club

Next TPC Meeting – TBD

Respectfully submitted,
Tim Stevenson, Secretary

OFFICIALS CORNER

Gene Mielke

USA Swimming Rule Books: The USA Swimming mini rule books are available in the Oregon Swimming office. If you want one or more, please contact the office. For the first time USA Swimming has placed the 2002 Rule Book on the WEB in PDF format (all 176 pages). To get a copy, go to [www.http://usa-swimming.org/programs/officials/02_USASwimmingRulesReg.pdf](http://usa-swimming.org/programs/officials/02_USASwimmingRulesReg.pdf).

Oregon Swimming Officials Chairman: Three nominations for the Officials Chairman were received. They were Howard Jones, Bruce Ludwig, and myself. The Nominating Committee, consisting of the Officials Committee and the OSI General Chair, will collect bios on the individuals, and prepare the ballot to be mailed to all OSI certified officials by the end of the month. As Howard, Bruce, and I are members of the Officials Committee, we will not participate in the Committee actions. I have asked Linda Postma to serve as Chairperson of the committee.

Officiating Swimmers with Disabilities and All Swimmers: Please take a careful look at the section of Craig Martin's report that refers to a presentation by Beth Scott, a multiple Gold Medal Paralympian. Beth's comments reinforce the feeling of swimmers with disabilities that they want to be treated just the same as able-bodied swimmers. It also reinforces the importance of stroke and turn judging as part of the swimmer's learning process and for judging every swim by the same standards, and not having a different set of standards for swimmers with disabilities or because a swimmer is 8-years-old and just beginning in swimming as compared to an Olympic Champion.

Butterfly Kick: See the comments in Bob McMillan's Officials Clinic report. A swimmer can still have a dominant leg that moves in a wider arc, **but** at any time the ankles cross the kick becomes illegal.

USA Swimming 2002 Officials Clinic: Craig Martin and Bob McMillan represented OSI at the Colorado Springs clinic held May 10 – 12, 2002. Their individual reports are found elsewhere in the newsletter. The reports reiterate how professional and well trained our officials are. As good as our program is, our new training materials due out shortly will make the program better. The other prevailing themes are uniformity, consistency and fairness. Thank you Craig and Bob for your comments. We will hear about more of their experiences at upcoming meets.

High School Swimming: Elsewhere in the Newsletter you will find a report by Christi McCauley. Christi is a member of the National Federation Swimming and Diving Rules Committee. Read her report closely. A lot of changes are occurring in the high school rules. Christi will be looking for help with training high school officials. If you can help her, please do so.

Gary Wallis
OSI official and
OMS Officials Chair

Oregon Masters Swimming recognized the valuable contribution by all swimming officials by presenting OSI a special Service Award. The award was presented at the Masters annual awards ceremony held this year in Corvallis. I accepted the award on behalf of all those who have helped officiate at any of the numerous meets they hold each year. The award will be on display in the OSI offices.

The plaque acknowledges the great contribution officials have made to masters swimming and to OSI for their assistance in helping to locate officials to work the meets. If you have ever worked a masters meet, this award is for you.

Someday you might get a phone call from a masters meet director asking if you could volunteer your time and talent. If you have not yet experienced a masters meet, I would encourage you to give it a try. They have good hospitality and – get this – the swimmers actually thank you for being there.

United States Swimming 2002 Officials Clinic
United States Olympic Training Center
Colorado Springs Colorado
May 10 – 12

First of all I want to Thank Oregon Swimming for the opportunity to attend this clinic and represent the state of Oregon and all of the Officials in our organization. As with any type of clinic the weekend was filled with lots of valuable technical information that is designed to help us be better at what we do – officiating swimming. Instead of detailing the vast amount of technical information I feel that the overall theme of the clinic can be boiled down to the following key issues:

1. Be proactive
2. Be Consistent
3. Remember our purpose

In regards to being proactive, we learned that we are not alone when it comes to the issue of the need to recruit and retain our volunteer officials. While no hard data

was presented, the fact that our officiating ranks seem to be dwindling is similar to what we are seeing overall in the sport of swimming in the United States. USA Swimming is considering efforts to help promote the sport of swimming and regain the competitive edge that the United States traditionally had in the world of swimming. In short, less swimmers equal less officials. We need to proactively promote our sport at every opportunity we can to build participation. More swimmers equal more parents that can become involved in competitive swimming as officials or other support roles within the sport. As parents get involved as new officials we need to provide a positive and nurturing environment that will encourage them to learn and grow in their knowledge and abilities. More experienced officials need to take on the role of a mentor, akin to the role played by YODA and Obi Wan Kenobi in the epic star Wars series. While this may sound glib, I know that there are a lot of new officials who would appreciate the opportunity for a positive relationship with a more experienced official to help build their skills and confidence.

USA swimming boasts some of the best officiating in the world. I believe we can also play a big part in the effort to use this asset to produce some of the best swimmers in the world. Most importantly, this will ultimately be accomplished primarily by volunteer Officials like you and I.

As far as consistency is concerned, the importance of this attribute was even further emphasized by one of the presenters, Beth Scott. Beth is a multiple Gold Medal winner in swimming at the Paralympic events that are held after each Olympics. While Beth's primary topic dealt with officiating disabled swimmers like herself, she drove home the importance proper officiating has on the success of swimmers. Beth proudly and willingly shared one of her many gold medals she won at the Sydney event with members of the clinic. She repeatedly stated that she did not feel the gold medals she won at the event were all hers. She emphasized her feeling that the medals belongs as much to every official in USA Swimming who ever observed her swims as much as it belongs to her. Beth feels that had she not been subject to the quality officiating she has received in her career as a USA Swimmer, that her once in a lifetime opportunity in Sydney could have just as easily resulted in a disappointing disqualification instead of a gold medal. Beth was able to experience the unrepeatabe elation of winning a gold medal in a sport she loves for United States as a result of efforts of officials like you and I. Beth's presentation was excellent, and her emotional

sincerity in recognizing the importance of officiating in her success brought a lot of tears to the eyes of the crowd as she spoke. We need to remember Beth's comments the next time as an official we are faced with the sometimes-uncomfortable task of informing a coach or athlete that a swim will not be allowed as a result of a disqualification. While this may be difficult especially with younger swimmers, we need to consider it as part of contributing to the eventual success of the athlete. After all, had Beth been allowed to swim as youngster with no officiating and illegal technique, she would not have been able to proudly display her medals and allow all of us as officials, and in fact all of America to share in her success. She is an outstanding young lady, a "class act" and her accomplishments and attitude really emphasizes the importance of the work we do as officials.

Finally, we need to remember our purpose every time we put on the white or blue shirts and shorts and step onto the deck to officiate. We need to make sure that we are making every effort to allow the swimmers to compete under fair and equitable conditions of competition. Our actions should always exhibit a desire to "invite swimmers to perform to their very best and have the very best race they can" on any given day. Our efforts in officiating should always focus primarily on an attitude of including as many swimmers as possible not on an emphasis to exclude them as a result of disqualifications. Simply stated we should not be looking for reasons to disallow swimmers performances but conversely for the reasons that allow their efforts to be recognized. This point was made throughout the weekend by all of the clinicians but especially emphasized by Jeannine Dennis, Carol Zaleski and Pat Lunsford. Jeannine has the distinguished honor of being the first female ever to be a starter for the swimming events at an Olympic Games. Carol is recognized internationally for her work with FINA regarding rules development and her recent appointment as the first ever-female referee to oversee Olympic Swimming. Pat Lunsford is currently the USA Swimming Official's Chair and member of the Rules and Regulations Committee for United States Swimming. Joined by Ron Van Pool, another internationally experienced official and Peter Carney Chair of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Committee, these folks emphasized the importance of maintaining the attitude to include as many swimmers in fair competition as possible. As multiple situations regarding rules and their applications were presented and discussed, the theme of "looking into the best interests of the swimmer" was constantly reinforced. Time and time again we would hear these top officials state that

“when in doubt the benefit should go to the swimmer.” That does not mean that if an infraction occurs we do not make the call. Quite the opposite is true when you keep in mind the comments of Beth and what she attributes as a great part of her success – competent and fair officiating. What it means is that we need to keep in perspective the responsibility and importance we have as USA Swimming Officials. We need to approach our involvement in this sport as professionals, and make sure that we are clear that our sole purpose for doing what we do is for the benefit of the athletes we observe.

In closing we need to live by the following creed that was presented at the clinic when it comes to our involvement as swim officials:

Learn it – We need to always strive to improve our knowledge and experience to the benefit of the sport and the athletes we observe. Seek and engage in activities to improve our ability to apply the rules to all athletes regardless of age and/or ability fairly and equitably.

Love it – We need to always enjoy what we do and be motivated for proper reasons to give of the time and resources we do for the benefit and advancement of swimming.

Leave it – Finally, if we cannot consistently do the above or when our involvement in the sport becomes “drudgery” then it is time to walk away with all of the fond memories and allowing others to step into our slots and fill the void.

It is my hopes that each and every person in Oregon involved with competitive swimming will always stay committed and focused on the learning and loving elements of our commitment to the sport. This will truly pay back benefits to our athletes, our officials and our sport far beyond our expectations. I hope to be able to share some of the technical aspects of the clinic in future articles and or discussions on deck.

Again thank you for the opportunity to represent our State and Locals Swimming Committee (LSC) in Colorado Springs.

Swimcerely, Craig Martin, Sweet Home Swim Club
2002 National Clinic Attendee

*United States Swimming 2002 Officials Clinic
United States Olympic Training Center
Colorado Springs Colorado
May 10 – 12*

I recently had the opportunity, along with Craig Martin from Sweet Home, to attend the USA Swimming National Official’s Clinic in Colorado Springs,

Colorado. The clinic started at 6:00 PM Friday night and we had a full schedule through Sunday morning when we left for our flight home.

Presenters at the clinic included Pat Lundsford, Chair of the USA Official’s Committee; Ron Van Pool, Program Operations Vice President; Carol Zaleski, Rules and Regulations Committee member and FINA Technical Committee Chair; Jeannine Dennis, Starter in both 1996 and 2000 Olympic Games; Pete Carney, Rules and Regulations Chair; and Beth Scott, Official’s Committee member and winner of ten Para Olympic Gold Medals. Presentations covered the Referee, the Administrative Referee, the Starter, Stroke and Turn Judging, Open Water Swimming, FINA Rules and Regulations, and officiating disabilities.

The reoccurring theme I heard from every speaker was the same as I’ve heard over many years in officiating: Our role as officials is to provide a venue for fair competition, to judge by the written rule and to do everything within our power to get our swimmers into the water. At both the start and in the water, the swimmers should be given any benefit of doubt. This attitude of compassion and caring for the swimmers was prevalent throughout the weekend and comforting to hear.

The most outstanding fact I noted is how professional and well trained our LSC officials are compared to many others. We clearly have leading edge training program, a strong recertification program and ongoing training for all officials. Many LSCs are not so fortunate. One attendee told me that when a person volunteers to officiate in their area the first thing they are asked is “Do you want to Judge Stroke and Turn, Start, or do you want to Referee?” I am thankful to OSI for the training I have been given and for the system and structure we have in place.

There was one specific area that was clarified during the clinic that I would like to share with all officials. During the Stroke and Turn briefing I asked a burning question which has been on my mind since January when a number of OSI referees discussed the butterfly kick. The question was specifically this: If a swimmer has a butterfly kick in which one dominant leg passes by a lesser leg on both the down and up stroke would it be a legal stroke? Its like two pendulums are side by side, however one has a greater arc than the other so it swings further in each direction, sometimes referred to as the Mark Spitz kick. Would this be a legal butterfly kick? The answer I received from Pat Lundsford and Pete Carney was resounding and immediate: at the point the ankles cross it would be an alternating kick and the

swimmer should be disqualified. The question was posed at a large meet in January and again at the High School State meet and discussion led to an incorrect resolution by OSI officials that the kick would be legal. I hope the determination by the USA Swimming officials clarifies our interpretation of the rule regarding the butterfly kick.

Overall this clinic was a nice opportunity to meet with officials from around the country to discuss our sport and our role in ensuring fair competition for all swimmers. I left this clinic with the same feeling I have when I leave swim meets – there are so many great people involved in swimming. I'm glad to be a part of it.

See you on deck! Bob McMillan

ADAPTIVE SWIMMING

Gene Mielke

USA Swimming Disability Championships: Just a reminder that PNS will host the **2002 USA Swimming Disability Championships June 13-15, 2002** at WKCAC in Federal Way. This event will draw the very best swimmers with a disability in the US and other FINA member delegations to the Pacific Northwest. They are still in need of volunteers to assist with the meet, especially coaches to assist swimmers who don't have a coach with them. If you can help, contact the meet directors Mary Coddington : mlcoddington@attbi.com, Kiko VanZandt: cvanzan@attbi.com, or 206-524-2417. A volunteer form is available on the PNS website at the end of the front page article.

2002 WESTERN ZONES

Lissa Parker

We are still in need of chaperones for the 2002 Western Zones. Please contact the office at 503-297-6027 if you are interested in serving as a chaperone. All expenses are paid.

Qualifications are: Current CPR and First Aid, valid driver's license and automobile insurance. Enjoy working with age group athletes. Oregon Swimming parent or coach. Knowledgeable of the sport. Organized, adaptable, flexible, not easily stressed.

Applications are due by June 15th.

AGE GROUP REPORT

Gary Leach

It's that time again- school's almost out, high school graduation and summer. To those high school graduates congratulations. If you are continuing on with your swimming career in college, regardless of the level or division, the best part of your life lies ahead of you and the most fun. Take all of it in and learn. Often times what you learn in class will get you through college. What you learn outside of class will get you through life. For those of you retiring from the sport of swimming because of college for whatever reason, I hope your experiences in swimming were enjoyable and memorable. Swimming fast is only one side benefit to competitive swimming. Other important effects include time management skills, dedication, goal setting. The list goes on and on. Congratulations to all and have a successful future.

Summer- long course season- as always with a shortage of pools for competition, a short season, teams become inventive on hosting-entering-and running meets. With no short term fix to the problem, coaches must be organized and creative. Swimmers make every swim count for that 'A' time, zone standard or sectional cut.

Best of luck to all athletes, coaches, teams in the upcoming summer season. Swim fast.

"One today is worth two tomorrows."

2002 WESTERN ZONES

Suha Tokman

When filling out your **Western Zone 2002 applications for USC**, please be very careful to make sure that you –

- 1) Are very accurate
 - 2) Write clearly and legibly
 - 3) Circle the PRIORITY TIMES
 - 4) Have your coach sign it and write some comments about you
 - 5) Include your USA swimming ID number
 - 6) Fill in ALL the event times, even if you do not have Q times for them
 - 7) Proof read it several times before you turn it in
- Remember, **applications not filled out properly will be returned.**

I really appreciate your cooperation on this issue,
Suha Tokman

Your Western Zone Head Coach

**2002 WESTERN ZONE CHAMPIONSHIPS at University of Southern California
in Los Angeles, California, August 6-10th**

ATHLETE APPLICATION

This application must be received by the end of finals at Oregon Swimming 11 & Over Age Group Championships, Sunday July 21, 2002. A deposit of \$400.00 must accompany this application; checks will be held until the after the team has been selected. Swimmers not chosen will have their checks returned. The balance will be due upon receipt of the acceptance letter from OSI. The exact cost will be published ASAP. Projected swimmer out of pocket costs will be approximately \$600.00. Acceptance/regrets notices will be mailed after the 11 & Over Championships. Athletes must be full year members of USA Swimming to participate in this competition. The team will travel to Los Angeles on Monday August 5th, and return on Sunday August 11th.

Name: _____ USA Swimming #: _____ M / F Age (as of 8-6 02): _____

Mailing Address: _____ City, State, Zip: _____

Phone: (____) _____ Athlete's E-mail : _____ Athlete Cell phone (if applies): _____

Parent Contact: _____ Parent E-mail: _____ Reach at or Cell: _____

T- Shirt Size (circle one): S M L XL Suit size (Speedo AquaBlade): _____ Short Size (circle one): S M L XL and / or Men's
Waist Size 24 26 28 30 32 Effort will be made to accommodate sizes. Clothing has been pre-ordered and sizes may have to be adjusted.

Your Club Name: _____ Coach's Name: _____ Coach's Phone: (____) _____

Coach's Comments: _____

Coach's Signature: _____

FILL IN ALL LCM TIMES IN THE BOXES BELOW! TIMES WILL ALSO BE USED FOR RELAY SELECTION.

1500 Free		400 Free		200 Fly	
100 Back		100 Fly		50 Breast	
200 Back		50 Fly		50 Back	
100 Breast		200 Free		100 Free	
200 Breast		200 I.M.		800 Free	
50 Free		400 I.M.			

The times, which you list below, must have been achieved in sanctioned competition since April 2002. List events in order of preference. The events you swim at the meet will be determined by the coaching staff, based on the needs of the team. Indicate whether the times are long course or short course.

Western Zone <u>Priority Times</u> Achieved				Western Zone <u>Standard Times</u> Achieved			
Event	Time	SCY, SCM, LCM	Date Achieved	Event	Time	SCY, SCM, LCM	Date Achieved

Applications must be received by the end of finals on Sunday, July 21, 2002

IF YOU WILL NOT BE RETURNING TO OREGON WITH THE TEAM, PLEASE CHECK HERE []

Note: **No Refunds** will be made for those not returning with the team.

Extra swim caps and T-shirts may be ordered for trading purposes. Extra Zone dinners on Sat. August 10, @ \$20.00 are available. Cost of additional caps, shirts, and tickets must be included with deposit.

Number of additional shirts (Max.2) _____ X \$15.00= \$ _____
 Number of additional swim caps _____ X \$4.00= \$ _____
 Additional tickets to the Zone Dinner (Sat. Aug. 10th) _____ X \$15.00= \$ _____
 Total Additional Cost (include with deposit) \$ _____

Return to: Oregon Swimming • 1750 SW Skyline Blvd. Ste.103 • Portland, OR 97221-2545

APPLICATIONS NOT FULLY FILLED OUT AND SIGNED BY COACH WILL BE RETURNED!!

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