



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.oregonswimming.org*

Volume 27, Number 5

September/October 2006

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

JEFF GUDMAN AT LARGE BOARD MEMBER OREGON SWIMMING

The short course season is up and rolling. There are meets being held all over our LSC every weekend. The swimmers are having best times in many of their events and also having a good time while they are swimming. One thing which becomes apparent as I go from meet to meet and talk with parents is that swimmers, regardless of age, are the best conditioned athletes around. You hear about soccer practices where after a short practice the players are tuckered out. But not those players who have been involved with swimming. Like the Everready battery they keep on going and going. That is just another example of why I believe swimming is the best sport there is.

As I have traveled through the LSC and the country these many years the question sometimes comes up as to why should a swimmer keep competing and training even if it appears they are not going to make it to the state, regional or national level by the time they finish high school or college. There are a lot of answers to the question. First, you never know when a swimmer is suddenly going to make the great improvement in time and suddenly graduate to the state, regional or national level. Time and time again I have seen swimmers who year after year keep

training and do not seem to have any significant improvement suddenly have everything fall into place and make tremendous strides in lowering their times. Besides the improvement in time there is also the benefit of continued hard work and the discipline it requires. That is a life long benefit. Further, and this one is particularly prominent at the start of a season are the friendships and camaraderie among swimmers. Lifelong friendships are being formed and just the fun a being a part of the team is a tremendous motivation for staying with the sport. Even if a swimmer chooses not to continue swimming on a competitive basis each swimmer who has been a part of the team can satisfaction in the fact they are among the best conditioned athletes in the world and they are better swimmers than almost any one else around.

This leads to the question of how do we get more swimmers into the water. We are blessed with many wonderful coaches who if they had water space could increase the size of their program. I have blessed to have had the opportunity to be involved at all levels of swimming in the United States. As I have said to many individuals I am ready, willing and able to go anywhere in our LSC and testify to the value of competitive swimming. The more pools in our LSC that can host competitions the better we are as a promoter and sponsor of the sport. The Oregon Swimming charter says Oregon Swimming is organized for

the purpose of fostering national and international amateur swimming competition for the benefits of swimmers of all ages and abilities. I am willing to speak to any group to support that goal. All I ask is a few days notice.

In closing I would like to refer to a wonderful comment made several years ago by a swimmer who achieved national prominence. The swimmer had just received an award for his achievements during the previous year. After receiving the award he 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.

Good luck to all the swimmers and volunteers during the upcoming short course season. See you at the next meet.

COMMENTS FROM THE CHAIR ***MARK RIENIETS***

The annual Oregon House of Delegates has completed for another year. For those who may be unfamiliar with this event, it is the one time each year we come together as a swimming community to hear the annual reports of the OSI Board members, elect new officers and vote on legislation changes. It is also a time to check point where we are as an organization and adopt strategies which will set the direction for our organization for the next 12 months, and in some cases, years to come.

A number of years ago a resolution was passed at the House of Delegates to split the by-laws and operating procedures so that the OSI board could amend the rules regulating the daily operational practices and procedures of OSI without having to wait until the annual meeting each year.

This year the board had reviewed and passed a number of changes to the operating procedures, but because of the magnitude of the change they will bring about, the board of directors decided to present these changes to the House of Delegates for ratification.

A brief summary of the major proposals which the House of Delegates accepted and approved from the board which will impact a number of people are:

1. Officials Travel fund

OSI has reimbursed officials who travel to National level meets for a number of years. This has been done in an unstructured way, with no real amount of

planning because the Officials Chair did not have a specific budgeted amount to use to set goals and plan with. The HoD agreed to set aside an amount calculated as a percentage of the previous years travel fund for this purpose. Officials will need to apply to the Officials Chair for approval prior to the meet, and show receipts for travel and lodging prior to receiving any reimbursement. The amount of reimbursement may also not be the full amount of the cost of attending the meet, so please check with the Officials Chair (Bruce Ludwig) prior to attending a meet you have applied for reimbursement for.

2. Tier III Travel Reimbursement

A few years ago a proposal was introduced at the HoD to allow a new level of reimbursement for our athletes who made a NSCA qualifying time during the short course season. The intention was to support our athletes when they attend larger more competitive meets during the short course season since USA Swimming had decided to remove the Junior Nationals meet from their calendar. Although well intended, this additional level of reimbursement has become a major drain on our travel fund. To address this issue while still honoring the original intent, it was agreed to reduce the Tier III funding to a payment of \$250 for swimmers who qualify, regardless of which meet they attend. There are restrictions on this reimbursement, so please read the OSI Swim Guide carefully prior to attending a meet if you are relying on receiving this reimbursement.

3. OSI Swim Meet Calendar and Championship Site Selection

Over the past few years we have tried a number of methods to both finalize the OSI Meet Calendar and select the OSI Championship sites. We have moved from doing it at the House of Delegates each year; to a Site Selection Committee; to a Scheduling Meeting in April specifically for this purpose. All of these methods had inherent strengths and weaknesses which became apparent as we attempted to provide a fair and unbiased system for everyone within OSI. After a lengthy review and discussion by the OSI Board we will now move to a more formal submission process for the championship meets. The bidding clubs will now be required to submit details of the charges to host the meet at their site, along with details of their site. The bid information will be posted on the OSI web site, and after reviewing the bids, each club will be permitted to cast one vote electronically over the web for the site of their choice,. Robbert van Andel has done a lot of work behind the scenes to made all this available through the OSI web site, and a number of the OSI Board members have assisted with the testing. The new system will ensure that the voting is informed, fair, and limited to one vote per club. More

details on this will be available over the coming months.

On a different topic, Jeff Gudman from Oregon was one of three candidates running for election as President of USA Swimming this year. Although Jeff did not get elected as we hoped he would, he represented himself and Oregon extremely well at the national level. Hopefully when the newly elected President, Jim Wood, has completed his terms in office, we will see Jeff's name on the ballot once more.

Mt Hood bid for both the 2008 Zone meet and the 2008 Long Course Masters National Championships at the USA Swimming Convention in Dearborn recently. Both these bids were selected as the successful bid by the respective governing bodies. Adding these to the Senior Sectional meets for 2007 and 2008 which have already been awarded to Mt Hood; we will see some great competition in Oregon over the next few years. These meets will be an excellent opportunity for our swimmers to attend without having to travel out of state and experience what a larger and faster meet looks like. Hopefully a number of our swimmers will include these meets in their swimming goals.

This newsletter will be the last hardcopy OSI newsletter sent out to all our members via snail mail. It is more cost efficient and expedient to send our newsletters out electronically in the future so please visit the OSI website at www.oregonswimming.org and ensure you are enrolled to receive the new electronic version.

Yours in Swimming,
Mark Rieniets

Oregon Swimming Newsletters

Twenty-seven years ago, Oregon Swimming published its first newsletter.

Over the years the publication has gone through a couple of changes, and after this month, it will go through its third incarnation. Beginning with the January 2007 newsletter, Oregon Swimming will only be publishing the newsletter directly to the website, much like it is today, and hard copies will no longer be mailed. OSI members will have the ability to add themselves to a mailing list which will be used to notify subscribers that the newsletter is available for download. We will be posting information about how to subscribe in the near future. The list of emails will only be used for sending newsletter subscriptions.

OCTOBER NOTICES

2007 Board of Directors: The 2006 House of Delegates elected to the Oregon Swimming Board: Jody Braden (PAC) as 1st Vice President/Administrative Chair, Vicki Gordon (VSC) as 3rd Vice President/Age Group Chair, Jacki Allender as Treasurer and Mailene Leslie (CAT) as Junior Athletes Representative. Congratulations to all and thank you to Rick Guenther, Lissa Parker and Logan Storie for all your work.

The next OSI Board of Directors Meeting will be held Wednesday November 1st, 7:00PM in the Eugene Hilton. An officials meeting will start at 6:00PM.

Club Leadership and Business Management School. The next CLBMS is scheduled for April 21, 2007. Sue Anderson from USA Swimming will be hosting. Mark this date on your calendar. Details will be posted on the website as soon as they are available.

2007 Membership. Membership fees for 2007 will be raised with \$1.00. Athlete fee: \$48.00, Officials \$53.00, Coaches \$73.00. All membership info and forms have been mailed in August. All forms are available on the OSI website.

Hy-Tek Rebate. Oregon Swimming teams are eligible for a \$50 rebate when they purchase Meet Manager 2. To obtain this rebate, send a copy of the receipt from the purchase of Meet Manager 2 to the OSI office between March 1, 2006 and November 30, 2006. As funds are available a check will be sent to the team.

Receipts must be received (not postmarked) in the OSI office no later than November 30, 2006.

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 Sectional 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.

OFFICIALS CORNER

BRUCE LUDWIG

New Area Officials Chairs have been appointed for Mid Willamette Valley and Southern Oregon. Bill Boyce is the AOC for Mid-Willamette Valley. He can be reached at 541-752-3117 (H), 2956 NW Snowberry Pl, Corvallis, OR 97330, e-mail: boycer@comcast.net. Jeanne Lansing is the AOC for Southern Oregon. She can be reached at 541-474-9731, 1864 SE Portola Dr, Grants Pass, OR 97586, e-mail: 1stjohn316@charter.net. Thank you to Kathy Clark and Mike O'Neill for all their work as the outgoing Area Officials Chairs.

Kathy Coddington is appointed the Training Coordinator for all officials. She can be reached at wandawatermelon@centurytel.net.

AGE GROUP REPORT

LISSA PARKER

I hope everyone had a good break, and are ready to dive into short course season! I found it exciting and inspiring to watch the Pan Pacific Championships on television this summer, and see how many USA swimmers achieved new world records!

In attending the annual USA Swimming Convention in Detroit last month there were several areas of focus and emphasis. One that we can all relate to was retention of our older athletes- finding ways to support those swimmers that want to stay in the sport and still find time to balance school and work. The other was to look at the long- term goals for our younger athletes- focus on all strokes and the IMX challenge events, more distance swimming (which can lead to open water events) and more emphasis on Long Course meters leading up to the next Olympics- starting as early as January for LC meters.

For rural teams another avenue for competition is to encourage more postal meets and meets that can be done with another club then compiled on paper. The Virtual Club Championship event

tracked by USAS does this and compares your team with others around the country.

Another wonderful tool now available from USA Swimming is the Parenting CD, which also has many sections for parents, clubs and coaches with resource materials that can be printed and used – tailored – to your club needs.

At the OSI Convention hosted in beautiful Bend this month, decisions were made to have the 11 & Over LC State meet managed by a full four- day format. The emphasis here was for an all team experience, and reduce costs by holding one meet instead of splitting it into two (i.e. 11-14 and a senior meet). A task force subcommittee will be looking at the options of rearranging the events and start times to make it as much of a win- win experience for everyone involved. Both Oregon Swimming Allstars meets this year will be held in Canada, so athletes will need to obtain passports if interested in attending. Costs are lower before January 2007 so you are encouraged to start this process ASAP.

Lastly coach Vickie Gordon, Vancouver Swim Club head coach, will be taking over in January 2007 as your next Age Group Chair. Vickie has had many years of experience in Oregon Swimming and we are looking forward to her expertise!

See you on deck, Lissa

ALL STAR TEAM REPORT

GREG BOSTROM

This year both all star trips will be to Canada. The first of these will be the Pacific Coast All Star meet and will be held Jan. 20-21, 2007 at the University pool. Beginning in January all travelers, including minors, will be required to have a passport to travel between the US and Canada. If you are planning on applying for either of these meets and do not yet have a passport you should begin the process of obtaining one. The process can take up to 8 weeks to complete.

Applications for the January Meet are due Monday, December 23.

See you on the deck, Greg

2006 OSI TOP 5 PROGRAM

BUD TAYLOR

The Top 5 Award Ceremony will be in Corvallis, November 19, 2006 from 2:00pm – 4:00pm. Some changes have been made in the order of events and slide shows have been added during the ceremony. A slide show representing all of Oregon Swimming will be shown during seating before the awards ceremony. Jeanine Serrano is in charge of the slide shows.

Award Ceremony Chair is Cheslah Barkdoll and Mark Bernett is the Master of Ceremony. The athlete's representatives will be assisting. Invitations to all top 5 athletes and their coaches will be mailed after October 15, the "corrections" deadline. All changes were approved at the July Oregon Swimming Board of Directors Meeting.

AWARDS PRESENTATIONS

Nominations were presented and voted on at the General Meeting of Oregon Swimming Inc.

Mark Bernett will introduce coaches who will present top 5 awards to their own athletes (Names only) with brief photo opportunity, someone will be on stage to help guide the athletes while on stage (if they are nervous they may rush off)

Outstanding Media Award

Jon Arlin Adaptive Swimming Award

Top 5 Parade of Athletes: small sized teams

7 minute zone slide show

Dick Parker Officials Award

Top 16 reportable times recognition

USA Swimming Outstanding Service Award

Top 5 Parade of Athletes: mid sized teams

Slide show National/sectionals and junior championships

James J Richardson Award

Top 5 Parade of Athletes: Large sized teams

OSI Records Recognition

Nominations were presented and voted on at the Oregon Swimming Coaches Association Meeting.

One minute slide show of outstanding athlete nominees

Female Swimmer of the Year

Male Swimmer of the Year

One minute slide show of age group coaches award nominees

Age Group Coach of the Year:

One minute slide show of senior coaches award nominees

Senior Coach of the Year

One minute slide show of Oregon

Swimming's Olympic 2008 Trial qualifiers

Closing Remarks: Mark Rieniets

OREGON SWIMMING INC

Regular Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2006; 7:00 p.m.
Multnomah Athletic Club, Portland, OR

The meeting of the Board of Directors of Oregon Swimming Inc. was called to order by General Chair, Mark Rieniets.

Present were: Jacki Allender, Stan Benson, Rick Guenther, Terry Johnson, Kyle Kimball, Judy L'Roy, Marilyn Loitz, Bruce Ludwig, Gene Mielke, Lissa Parker, April Robinson, Coby van Andel, Robbert van Andel.

Minutes: Minutes from July 5, 2006 were approved as presented.

Treasurer (Jacki Allender)

M/S/P Motion to accept Treasurer's written financial report for January-August 30, 2006 as submitted.

Reports -- Administrative Chair-Rick Guenther

Age Group (Lissa Parker)

Lissa thanked Mark for compiling the 11/O meet questionnaires. From the results, she has come up with the following four options to research and work on for possible presentation at the OR HOD meeting. They are: 1) Maintain the meet as is making it a four day meet and starting later on Thursday; 2) Change 10/U meet to a 12/U meet; 3) Separate meet into 11-14 and Senior state; 4) Move meet to August.

Senior Report (Kyle Kimball)

The Altitude Camp is set for this year. There is concern about continuing with this camp as only a handful of teams seem to be interested--there are only 21 applications this year. It will be recommended that we try holding it every other year—skipping 2007. Kyle will present this in his report at the coaches' meeting and see what the response is.

Coaches Report (Bud Taylor)

The Mini Expo schedule for the coaches' meeting has been received from Bud. It is posted on the website and has been sent to all coaches.

Athlete Reps (April Robinson & Logan Storie)

Names for Junior Athlete Representative (Victoria Hartman and Melissa Myers) have been forwarded to the Nominating Committee.

Scheduling (Tony Magden) No Report**Time Standards (Andy Carlisle)** No Report**Technical Planning (Alex Nikitin)** No Report**Web Site (Robbert van Andel)**

Work is progressing on Top 5. Getting the information out of SWIMS is not as easy as it was expected to be.

Safety Chair (Jeanine Serrano) No Report**Camp Coordinator (Scott Kerr/Mark Maxwell)**

Scott called Coby and reported that although the last camp was very few swimmers, over 100 in all had participated in camps. Those present said that their swimmers who had participated in camps had good experiences.

Officials Chair (Bruce Ludwig)

Clinics for Mini Expo are being organized. There will be a full range of clinics, which are listed on the website, including "Train the Trainer." Bruce thanked Robbert for the work he has done on the officials page on the website

Adapted (Gene Mielke)

The disability meet in San Antonio was successful. Erin Paulson is on the world team for Durbin, South Africa. There is a new USA Swimming program which rewards meet host clubs who have a swimmer with a disability entered in their meet with \$40 per swimmer upon application. These host clubs can also enter their idea(s) about how they attract swimmers with disabilities to their meet. The most innovative idea will receive \$1000 from USA Swimming. Detailed information can be found on the USA Swimming website.

Office Manager/Registration (Coby van Andel)

Registration for 2006 just concluded. We had 5116 regular athletes, 983 seasonal athletes; and 189 outreach for a total of 6288. The total was 250 less than 2005 which was an Olympic year. Additionally we had 395 officials, 215 coaches, 213 other, 63 year round clubs, 6 seasonal clubs, and 3 organizations

Sanctions Chair (Terry Johnson)

Information has been given to Coby for the meet directors clinic at Mini Expo.

Awards Ceremony (Cheslah Barkdoll) No Report**NTV Chair (Jacki Allender)**

High School season starts soon. District meets have increased from 14 to 17. We need to be sure to have enough officials to observe swims and handle paperwork. High school state meet is now three meets instead of two meets.

Records (Cyndi King) No Report**All Star Team (Jeanine Serrano, Mgr/Greg Bostrom, Head Coach)**

Information received from Greg was that there were some problems—the temperature was 105 and the air conditioning was not working in our athletes' hotel rooms, and some rooms had bugs. Oregon Swimming placed third. Coby reported that no complaints had been received in the office.

OLD BUSINESS

M/S/P Motion to amend as submitted by Mark Rieniets as follows:

ARTICLE V – OREGON SWIMMING, INC. TRAVEL FUND**Section V – OSI Officials Travel**

- a. Purpose – to fund reimbursement for and pay travel and lodging expenses for selected officials who to attend and officiate at selected meets and officiating clinics outside the boundaries of OSI.
- b. Allocation of Funds - Officials must apply through the OSI Officials Chair prior to the meet. Conditions of eligibility will ~~are to~~ be determined and periodically reviewed by the OSI Officials Chair, ~~with concurrence of the Treasurer,~~ subject to budget constraints. ~~Allocation of funds will conform to Article V, Section III, b. Allocation and Distribution of Funds, 2. Distribution.~~

Reimbursement will be paid to approved officials upon submission of receipts to the OSI Officials Chair. Total allocation of funds available for OSI officials travel in the current financial period will not exceed the amount represented by 10% of the total funds distributed from the Travel Fund (excluding any amounts distributed to Officials under this Section) in the period from September to August in the prior year.

Additional funding for travel and lodging expenses for the OSI Officials Chair to officiate at one USA Swimming sanctioned meet of their choice each year outside of OSI in order to educate and promote OSI within USA Swimming will also be provided, but will not be included in the above 10% limitation.

c. Eligibility for Reimbursement

1. Officials must have been certified for at least 3 years

2. Must make application to the Officials Chair and receive approval for reimbursement prior to attending the meet
3. Must ~~have served~~ be currently registered as an OSI official ~~within OSI~~ and submit proof of having worked a minimum of 40 hours (10 hours at BC meets) within Oregon in the last year.
4. Must present proof of payment for travel and/or lodging, up to the authorized amount, prior to reimbursement being paid by OSI.
- d. **Reimbursement Amount** – The Officials Chair will determine the maximum amount of reimbursement to be authorized for each official prior to them attending the meet, based upon the following criteria:
- Swim meet to be attended,
 - Officials current level of certification,
 - Proof of official being accepted to a position which will help retain or advance their current level of certification,
 - Training and certification needs of OSI
 - Amount of funds available.
- The actual amount reimbursed to an official will be at the discretion of the Officials Chair and may vary from a one time payment of a specified amount through to full reimbursement of travel and lodging costs incurred.
- e. **Oversight** – The Officials Chair will report the officials names, meets attended, and the level of reimbursement approved for each official to the subsequent OSI Board of Directors' meeting.

Appendix A – Financial Impact Analysis

	<u>Total</u>	<u>Proposed</u>
	<u>\$ spent</u>	<u>10% Limit</u>
<u>2001</u>	<u>12,540</u>	<u>1,254</u>
<u>2002</u>	<u>30,450</u>	<u>3,045</u>
<u>2003</u>	<u>35,700</u>	<u>3,570</u>
<u>2004</u>	<u>46,100</u>	<u>4,610</u>
<u>2005</u>	<u>65,404</u>	<u>6,540</u>

NEW BUSINESS

Based on a request received about notifying swimmers who have not been selected for an All-Star or Zone team in writing, the practice was reviewed. It is a formal application process, and we will continue the practice of written notification.

The issue of team recruiting has been raised. OSI has no jurisdiction over this. If someone has an issue, a written complaint must be filed and it can go to the Review Committee.

The complete packet for the Lebanon Community Swim Club (LSC) has been sent to USA Swimming.

The nominating committee has at least one person for each position up for election.

The Husky Invite is still on the schedule. A Senior Oregon Open will be held December 16 and 17.

To date, no nominations have been received for any of the awards.

Jacki reviewed the 2007 proposed budget.

There will be one more mailing of the newsletter before we start posting it on the website instead of mailing it.

M/S/P Motion to eliminate Sectional meets from Tier 3 funding. This will be taken to the HOD.

One of the USA Swimming proposals is that Marshalls don't need to be members of USA Swimming. The insurance company doesn't have a problem with this. If passed it would mean that we could better utilize life guards, pool staff, etc.

The next Board Meeting is at 7:00 p.m. on November 1, 2006 at the Hilton in Eugene

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 pm

Respectfully Submitted

Marilyn Loitz,
Secretary

Oregon Swimming News

Published Monthly

Oregon Swimming, Inc.
1750 SW Skyline Blvd. Suite 103
Portland, OR 97221

Volume 27 Number 5

Subscriptions \$12.00/12 issues
Send \$12 to the Office for subscription

**NON-PROFIT
ORGANIZATION**

**US POSTAGE PAID
PORTLAND OR
PERMIT NUMBER 1910**