



## Toronto 2015 Pan American Games

### Open Water Swimming

#### Report

**Hotel:** The host hotel for UANA Open Water Technical Committee members, NTO's and ITO's was the Toronto Chelsea Hotel. The hotel was adequate and a limited breakfast was served each day. A nominal meal allowance was provided by the organizing committee. The hotel was 20 minutes to the competition site.

**Transportation:** Problems with transportation started on day one and continued through the Open Water Competition. Problems included having no bus, late bus, drop offs and pickups at the wrong location. No transportation for athletes after drug testing. No transportation for the UANA OW committee liaison. It seemed for every problem corrected another problem occurred.

**Sport Organizing Committee:** One year out from competition Open Water had a change in the Sport Manager. This caused some delays as the new manager came on board. I also feel the original manager had a better understanding of our sport. Other members of the committee included a National Team coach (Linda Kiefer) and a FINA official (Nicole Normandin ) from Canada. Both were extremely helpful and a real pleasure to work with. The majority of the success of the event is from their involvement. Most communication prior to the competition was

done through emails and phone calls. I made two site visits in April of 2014 and 2015.

**Facilities:** Ontario Place was the competition site and was an outstanding venue. Located in downtown Toronto and with Lake Ontario in the background it provided an outstanding competition site and we hope to see future Open Water competitions held there. Tents and trailers were used to provide for all the necessary areas. It worked fine. Wifi was available. Two swimming pools were provided for training. There were problems with the training schedule for the pools. One of the aquatic events was left off the original schedule and a new schedule was put in place. This then gave coaches two completely different practice schedules. Needless to say it created some problems.

**Technical Equipment:** Course markings, feeding pontoon and starting/finish dock were excellent. The main problem was construction was going on until race day. This meant for athletes and coaches the course was a little bit different each practice day. The timing system was not ready until race day. Altos provided the timing system and created some major problems. They put out unofficial results without marking them as unofficial. Websites other than Toronto 2015 would then post the results as official. This provided for a protest that went all the way to the UANA and PASO boards as well to the President of FINA. The protest was handled correctly by the UANA Executive Committee. On the positive side Altos had excellent software to observe the finish of each race. The computer allowed for syncing of three different cameras with the ability to see each together frame by frame. This allowed the chief referee and me to make sure the results were correct.

**Accreditation:** Toronto 2015 intended the accreditation documents as entrance and invitation to the Canada. It was to act as a visa for those countries that were required visa to enter. The distribution of these documents was a problem from

the start. We were told they were going to be shipped to UANA and in turn UANA was to absorb the cost of sending to each person's home address. I know Zone 2 received theirs at a competition. The problem was several Federations did not attend the competition but had people needing the accreditation to enter Canada. The cards traveled across the Caribbean and many received theirs the day before they got on a plane to Canada. I received mine two days prior to departure.

**Technical Officials:** Toronto 2015 allotted ten spots for NTO's and ten spots for ITO's. My committee members counted as ITO's. My committee is made up of ten members (including athlete and liaison). Not all committee members attended and it allowed us to have six ITO's. We had 21 applications from Federations plus four nominations from Federations that were received late. The committee voted on the six plus two alternates. The six did an outstanding job and all were on a current FINA list. The six NTO's from Canada were also extremely qualified and most were on a current FINA list. Having two races on different days allowed us to place the officials in different positions for each race. Toronto 2015 provided different uniforms for the NTO's and ITO's. We would have preferred them to be the same. The uniforms consisted of two shirts, a hat, backpack, and a tie. The sizing was excellent.

**Team Leaders Meeting:** The team leaders meeting was held the day before the first race. Since we also did a draw for starting positions athletes were also present. The sport manager started off and went on to explain each of the sports that was occurring at Ontario Place. This included descriptions and dates of Triathlon, Wake Board, Water Ski, Race Walking, and Marathon. This was very time consuming and unnecessary. Most events happened after we left the games. The Chief Referees were introduced. Tomas Haces from Cuba was Chief Referee for the women and Rick Walker from USA was Chief Referee for the men. The technical side of the meeting went well and an officials meeting followed the team leaders meeting.

**Entries:** Entries were submitted to Toronto 2015 by individual Federations based on each of the Zone qualification competition. We had two drop out on the last day entries were due and between Toronto 2015, UANA and my committee we were able to get the two alternates entered in time.

### Results: Women

1	 <a href="#">FABIAN Eva</a>	2:03:17.0	
2	 <a href="#">PEREZ SIERRA Paola</a>	2:03:17.0	0.0
3	 <a href="#">AREVALO SALINAS ..</a>	2:03:17.1	0.1
4	 <a href="#">BRUNEMANN Emily</a>	2:03:17.5	0.5
5	 <a href="#">KÖBRICH Kristel</a>	2:03:25.8	8.8
6	 <a href="#">CARDENAS Zaira</a>	2:03:28.3	11.3
7	 <a href="#">DUSABLON Jade</a>	2:04:36.7	1:19.7
8	 <a href="#">HARDING Samantha</a>	2:04:37.7	1:20.7
9	 <a href="#">BIAGIOLI Cecilia</a>	2:04:37.8	1:20.8
10	 <a href="#">BILICH Carolina</a>	2:04:40.3	1:23.3
11	 <a href="#">ORTUÑO Monserrat</a>	2:06:28.2	3:11.1
12	 <a href="#">ARINO Julia</a>	2:07:54.1	4:37.0
13	 <a href="#">HERNANDEZ VERA L..</a>	2:09:19.6	6:02.6
14	 <a href="#">FLORES GUZMAN Fa..</a>	2:14:15.0	10:58.0
15	 <a href="#">TOSCANO MERIDA C..</a>	2:14:45.6	11:28.6

16	 <a href="#">ASTORGA PEREZ Ma..</a>	2:21:40.8	18:23.8
17	 <a href="#">ARCHILA SALAZAR ..</a>	2:26:55.0	23:37.9
18	 <a href="#">QUINTANILLA LIZA..</a>	2:27:08.4	23:51.4

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## MEN

1	 <a href="#">PETERSON Chip</a>	1:54:03.6	
2	 <a href="#">HERON David</a>	1:54:07.4	3.7
3	 <a href="#">ENDERICA SALGADO..</a>	1:54:09.2	5.5
4	 <a href="#">WEINBERGER Richard</a>	1:54:09.3	5.6
5	 <a href="#">LIMA ARAPIRACA L..</a>	1:55:12.7	1:09.0
6	 <a href="#">CARREÑO MENDOZA ..</a>	1:56:05.2	2:01.5
7	 <a href="#">VERA DELGADO Diego</a>	1:56:26.3	2:22.6
8	 <a href="#">BERTOLA Guillermo</a>	1:57:38.1	3:34.4
9	 <a href="#">HEDLIN Eric</a>	1:59:59.5	5:55.8
10	 <a href="#">DELGADILLO Daniel</a>	2:00:07.4	6:03.8
11	 <a href="#">PEREZ VERTI Arturo</a>	2:00:55.2	6:51.6
12	 <a href="#">VILLAGOIZ Gabriel</a>	2:01:40.6	7:36.9
13	 <a href="#">MARSDEN Christian</a>	2:07:53.5	13:49.8
14	 <a href="#">LANUZA SEGURA Cr..</a>	2:11:42.5	17:38.9
15	 <a href="#">SANCHEZ PEREZ Ro..</a>	2:13:47.5	19:43.9

16	 <a href="#">AVILA SUM EMILIO</a>	2:19:14.7	25:11.0
17	 <a href="#">DUARTE GARCIA YI..</a>	2:20:30.2	26:26.5
	 <a href="#">MENEGON DE BONA ..</a>	DNF	

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**Competitions:** Both the women's and men's races were excellent and exciting. Both resulted in close finishes for the top three spots. The Chief Referee and I went to the computers to look at the results through the cameras and ensure the results were correct. On the men's race I also had Tomas Haces accompany Rick and myself since we were both from the USA. The women's race had a protest from the USA and the men's race had a protest from Canada. Both Chief Referees handled their protest professionally and replied according to FINA rules. Neither protest was appealed.

Respectably submitted:

Dennis Ryther

Technical Delegate Open Water 2015 Pan American Games

Chair of UANA Open Water Technical Committee