

# USA Swimming Central Zone

Summer/Fall 2001 . . .

*Michael Lawrence and Julie Bare, Central Zone Directors*

The summer is winding down as we head for Clovis (Summer Nationals), Indianapolis, and Oakland (Central Zone Championship Meets). Three Speedo Championship Meets were held this summer and we look forward to reports on these meets in Dearborn. Remember that we agreed to review the Sectional Meet structure throughout the Zone this fall.

## **NEWS FROM THE HOMEFRONT . . .**

August 2001

Dear Central Zone Representatives,

Later this summer I will travel to Beijing, China, as Team Leader for the 2001 World University Games team. I am thrilled to have this honor and to get a first-hand look at the 2008 Olympic Games host city.

As we leave for Beijing on 19 August and will not return until 3 September, there is very little preparation time for me prior to the 2001 USAS Convention. Because this schedule is so short and I do not want any of the business of the Central Zone to go unattended, I have asked Julie to oversee all responsibilities for preparation for the convention. We will work together when I return to be sure all preparations are complete.

Please forward any questions, Zone Championship bids, or other concerns to Julie. We are told we will have e-mail access in China and I will attempt to stay in touch though the meet.

I have worked hard over the past two years as your representative to the Board of Directors and hope that you have been satisfied with the efforts of all of your Directors. This fall you will elect a Coach Director for the 2001-2003 term and I will be a candidate for that position.

Thanks in advance for your understanding.

Michael Lawrence

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## Elections . . .

This fall we will elect the positions of Zone Director, (Coach), Assistant Age Group Coordinator (Kate Chronic becomes Age Group Coordinator), and Age Group Planning (Coach Representative). Michael Lawrence has announced his intention to run for re-election as Central Zone Director. Candidates for any position should contact Julie or Michael.

## 2002 Zone Meet bids . . .

Zone Championship Meet bids for 2002 should be sent to Julie and Michael.

## The 2002 Sectional Meets . . .

The 2002 Central Zone Sectional Meets are:

### 2002 Spring

	Chicago, IL
7-10 March	University of Illinois-Chicago Contact Lake Forest Swim Club <a href="mailto:LFSC1@msn.com">LFSC1@msn.com</a>
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	Cleveland, OH
7-10 March	Host Lake Erie Silver Dolphins Contact Amanda Kiel <a href="mailto:Swimpoog12@msn.com">Swimpoog12@msn.com</a> 330/656-1285
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	Lawrence, KS
28 Feb- 3 Mar	Lawrence Aquatic Center Brian Barnes <a href="mailto:bbarnes@webserf.net">bbarnes@webserf.net</a>
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### 2002 Summer

	Indiana University, Bloomington
July 31-August 4	Contact Phil Cole <a href="mailto:Pcole@indiana.edu">Pcole@indiana.edu</a> 812/855-9793
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	Minneapolis, MN
26-29 July	University of Minnesota Kate Wizenberg <a href="mailto:winze006@umn.edu">winze006@umn.edu</a>
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24-27 July	Oklahoma City
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## *USA SWIMMING PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . .*

(This edited report has not yet been approved. The complete minutes will be presented to the Board in September for approval.)

The USA Swimming Board of Directors met in Colorado Springs on May 4-5, 2001. The meeting began with a memorial remembrance of John Munley, a senior from Michigan State. John was captain of the Michigan State Swimming Team, NCAA qualifier and a swimmer of outstanding ability and reputation.

The draft of the annual audit report prepared by Waugh & Associates was presented for approval. The management recommendations were reviewed and it was reported that all recommendations had either been implemented or were in the process of being implemented.

Funding support from the USOC for 2001 was finalized during the 1st quarter. Budget preparation for 2002 will commence in June 2001.

Dale Neuburger reported that Mark Henderson has done an outstanding job as a member of the USOC Athletes Advisory Committee in the short time that he has been USA Swimming's representative and that several USA Swimming representatives had been appointed to USOC Committees. Dale also noted that a special presentation of a black USA Olympian's jacket was made to Rick DeMont, a member of the 1972 Olympic team at the USOC Board of Director's meeting in April.

Kevin McNamee was thanked for his tremendous service on the Board of Directors, and his support of involving USA Swimming officials with the NCAA championships. Wayne Burrow will be the new Board of Directors representative for the NCAA.

Members of the Relay Team Selection Task Force are Ron Van Pool as Chair; Peter Daland, 1972 Olympic Head Coach; Don Gambriel, 1984 Olympic Head Coach; Mark Henderson, a relay gold medallist in the 1996 Olympics; Denny Pursley and Jim Wood were also involved. A policy was defined for future National Team competitions.

A Club Excellence Task Force was formed to evaluate the existing Club Grant program and perhaps revamp it or create a new program. Members of this task force are Rick Shepard, Murray Stephens, Michael Lawrence, Mark Hesse, Ed Spencer, Dave Salo, Pat Hogan, Mike Unger, two athlete representatives to be appointed by Julie Gorman. (Michael Lawrence was subsequently appointed to Chair this Task Force.) The task force will report back to the Board in September.

Julia Gorman reported that Cristina Teuscher was named as the second athlete to the Steering Committee. Ryan Berube has been named to USSIC, and the Athletes Executive

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Committee approved Bryan Jones to serve as a voting member of the Board of Directors. Ryan Berube was appointed as an Ex-Officio member of the USA Swimming Board of Directors.

Mike Saltzstein delivered the Local Administration report. The Registration / Membership Committee met in early March with goals of rewriting the mission statement, looking to establish LSC best practices and reviewing current Registration / Membership rules and practices. The Education Committee will meet in June to establish the topics for its member benefit educational seminars at the USAS convention. The Survey Committee Chair, Lee Schwartz, has agreed to develop a generic committee feedback tool for use at all committee meetings. The Club Fundraising / Swim-a-thon committee meets exclusively at convention. The Safety Education Committee met in San Diego in April. The committee studied the Red Cross and course availability issues coupled with the need for course update.

John Wilson delivered the National Administration report. The All America Committee has prepared a memo to the LSC General Chairs clarifying the eligibility requirements for the Scholastic All-American award. WaterWorks Committee will be asked to develop a club marketing survey, to help us understand their needs, capabilities, and obstacles involved with marketing their clubs. The Communications Committee will be given the opportunity to develop an LSC and Zone monthly web news page with information from each LSC in the zones, with a link provided to the LSC's homepage.

Leanne Spletzer gave a thorough report on committee activities within the Program Development. A New Club Membership proposal for new, full year clubs only, was discussed. The report of the Club / LSC Grant Task Force was also discussed. A motion to authorize the Club / LSC Grant Task Force to enforce the original terms of the grant contract was approved. Proposed legislation for creation of a new membership category for a non-athlete Outreach member was briefly discussed.

Ron Van Pool reported on Program Operations matters. Wells O'Brien was approved as the referee nomination for Short Course World Championships 2002 in Moscow, and Pat Lunsford as Starter. Charly Mallery was approved as the alternate referee. Several items from the Open Water Committee were discussed including funding for an Open Water World Cup program.

Murray Stephens gave the Technical VP report. He suggested that the Sports Medicine Committee attend future National Team Coaches Seminars, along with the Sport Science staff of USA Swimming. Murray has also spent considerable time conversing with staff and his committees about current activities, and trying to facilitate for the committees.

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Chuck Wielgus submitted a written report on current events within USA Swimming. The pilot video for SPLASH! TV was viewed. The University of Michigan was approved as host of the 2002 Phillips 66 Spring National Championships, contingent on final confirmation from the University. (NOTE: The 2002 Spring Nationals were subsequently changed to Minneapolis due to scheduling conflicts at Michigan.) The Swimming Hall of Fame Pool in Fort Lauderdale, Florida as the host of the 2002 Summer National Championships, contingent on final confirmation from Stu Marvin, at the Hall of Fame pool.

Mike Unger reported on site visits 2004 Olympic Trials that had recently taken place. A recommendation will be presented to the Board of Directors in September. Dennis Pursley reported briefly on National Team events and activities.

Carol Burch gave a brief update on the Membership Task Force. The results of this evaluation will be reported to the Executive Committee in August, and recommendations will be brought to the Board of Directors, and then the House of Delegates in September. Any membership fee increase will go into effect in 2003.

Skip Gilbert is leaving USA Swimming June 1 and will be joining the Arena Football League. The Board wished him much success with his new position.

Dale Neuburger reported on some relevant information from the FINA Bureau meeting that took place in Barcelona on March 26-28, 2001.

The Board of Directors voted to sponsor legislation to the Rules and Regulations Committee that states: *"The minimum water depth for teaching and practicing racing starts during training sessions, shall be measured for a distance of 3 foot 3 to 16 foot 5, from the end wall and shall be 5 feet in depth from starting blocks of all heights and the deck."*

CENTRAL ZONE Julie Bare and Michael Lawrence There were 3 sectionals that were held in the Central Zone. The site evaluations were essentially positive from coaches and athletes. The time standards at each of the sectionals were different. There were 68 total national qualifiers from the sectionals and 1,356 total athletes participated in the 3 sectionals.

EASTERN ZONE David Carson and Kerry Ellett Eastern Zone had 2 sectionals. The long Island meet had 525 swimmers, and 710 athletes participated in the University of Virginia meet. The time standards did vary slightly. The Eastern Zone meeting is taking place next weekend, to review and set sites for next year. The meets went well and positive comments were received. The athletes were talking about how close they are to national cuts. It was nice to see national level athletes swimming along side of the younger and less experienced athletes.

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SOUTHERN ZONE Jim Kelly and Charly Mallery Four sectionals were held in the Southern Zone, one of which was long course. There were many negative comments heard before the meet, which changed to positive comments following. There were 7 or 8 national cuts at one of the meets and many new Open cuts. The swimmers are looking forward to the next level.

WESTERN ZONE Ken Ebuna and Gary Ladd There were two outdoor and two indoor sectionals held in the Western Zone. There were approximately 2,100 athletes that participated in the 4 sectionals, and 75 new national cuts were made. Positive comments have been received.

## **And Finally . . .**

As always contact us with your questions or concerns:

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