

USA Swimming Central Zone

Post Convention report, fall 2000 . . .

Michael Lawrence and Julie Bare, Central Zone Directors

It's back to the business of managing our teams and LSCs after a week in Orlando celebrating the outstanding performances of our Olympic Team, looking after the business of USA Swimming, and electing our leaders for the next two years. This edition of the newsletter is a recap of the week along with a few reminders for the coming year.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT . . .

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

Olympic Games Report USA Swimming National Team Director, Denny Pursley, reported that the 2000 Olympic Games will rank among the most highly successful international competitions in the history of USA Swimming. The character and commitment of the athletes, and the dedication and focus of the coaches and staff are the primary reasons for the success of these Games. Pre-trials training, the Pasadena camp, and teamwork of all those involved were also factors that contributed to this success.

USOC Report President Dale Neuburger addressed USOC CEO Norm Blake's monthly management letter. Mr. Blake's report addressed the Olympic Games and his observations, specifically athlete and staff performance, the high performance center made available to athletes, and occurrences involving drug testing, officiating and athlete conduct.

USA Swimming Past President and current USOC Vice President, Sandy Baldwin, is going forward with her candidacy for USOC Chairman. Chosen by the nominating committee was Paul George, the former NGB Counsel Chair from Figure Skating and USA Hockey. Bill Stapleton has been nominated through the nominating committee as one of the three Vice Presidential candidates. The elections will be held December 2-3, at the USOC Board of Directors meeting in Washington DC.

International Relations Committee Report The following USA Swimming members have been confirmed to various FINA Committees:

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Dale Neuburger, FINA Bureau, Vice President; Carol Zaleski, FINA Technical Swimming Committee, Chair; Sid Cassidy, FINA Technical Open Water Swimming Committee; Dr. Larry Bowers, FINA Doping Control Review Board; Gregory Eggert, FINA Press Commission; Janet Evans, FINA Athletes Commission, Chair; Peter Daland, Coaches Commission, Chair; Ross Wales, FINA Doping Panel, Chair

Jerry Olson was a great representative for USA Swimming and American interests at the FINA Congress. For World Championships, the following events were added to the program: 50 Backstroke, Breaststroke and Butterfly for men and women, 800 Freestyle for men and the 1500 Freestyle for women.

NCAA Report Kevin McNamee reported on the last meeting of his committee. Division I level schools discussed whether to continue with the short course meter format in non-Olympic years. No final decisions were made. The full body suit was viewed as a unifying issue. Numbers of swimmers involved in college swimming compared to those allowed to participate in national championships were discussed. Women's involvement continues to go up and men's numbers are decreasing.

YMCA Report Gloria Summers reported that the YMCA is going through a leadership transition. Auggie Mendoza has replaced Dick Jones and will be living in Colorado Springs.

Local Administration Report David Knochenhauer presented a report on the proposed "Learn to Swim" Insurance program.

Athletes Committee Report Jim Crampton reported that approximately 15 Olympians should be in attendance at this year's convention. They will be speaking to the athletes on Friday and Saturday. Cathy Durance and Amanda Sanchez have arranged a Saturday "Swim with Dolphins" day for the Olympians.

National Administration Report John Wilson reported that the All-America Committee needs volunteers to handle applications from the Western Zone. Joyce and Marvin Lanphere are co-chairs of this committee.

The Ad-Hoc Coaches Committee solicited input from the coaching community on the new coach education requirement. Virtually all of the coaches felt that the materials developed for the course are excellent. These include the "Foundations of Coaching"

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and the "Progressions for Athlete and Coach Development" books. There was some concern about the length of the current test. There are revisions being made by USA Swimming staff and the committee members. ASCA will offer the option to take the new test on-line and will immediately post the test results. This will be available the first of January 2001.

Program Development Report Leanne Spletzer submitted a detailed written report on the committees within Program Development. Many of the committees are holding workshops at convention. The Disability Championships were conducted in June in Indianapolis, and the meet was great. Julie Bare and Gail Dummer did an outstanding job. Gratitude was also extended to the officials who participate in these meets. The operation of the Disability Championships has been transferred to Program Operations, and the transition has been very smooth. The Paralympic Games will take place in Sydney.

Program Operations Report Ron Van Pool reported on various Open Water Championships. More emphasis on officiating is being placed on the Open Water and Disability Championships. Officials have a booth this year at convention for the first time. Denny Ryther has been appointed Open Water coordinator. The Open Water World Championship team has been chosen. The Resident Team evaluation results will be presented at the January 2001 Board meeting. The OVC workshop will roll out the software that will demonstrate the internet base that will automate the OVC process and eliminate a significant amount of the paperwork.

Executive Director's Report The FINA World Cup will be on November 14 - 15, at the University of Maryland, in College Park. Wanting to capitalize on this year's Olympic success, there has been an invitation extended to sports organizations in various cities to attend a "Olympic Swimming Trials 2004" meeting on November 15 to coincide with the World Cup Championships. Approximately 25 - 30 sports organizations have responded and expressed interest in attending this meeting. The intent is to have a process that leads to selection of the site for the 2004 Trials at the September Board meeting.

Our Phillips sponsorship has been renewed for four years. A SPEEDO contract has been renewed and signed. Our relationship with Cadillac is good through 2004. The successful performance of our athletes at the Olympic Games has certainly helped our sponsor relationships.

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ESPN 2 will be televising the World Cup Championships and the Open Water Championships will be shown on the Outdoor Life network. Turner Broadcasting is very interested in a working relationship with USA Swimming. In the works is a 5-year multi package deal for 2001 - 2005 for domestic and international events, as well as live coverage for the short course World Championships. A lifestyle/magazine type program is being developed, called "SPLASH TV". This would be a 13 week, 30 minute program, that would run from Memorial Day through Labor Day and our broadcast partner would be the Outdoor Life network. USA Swimming would retain the video rights to the broadcasts, and would offer a minimal fee, video subscription program, to anyone who would like to subscribe.

Legal Counsel Report Rich Young reports that all is quiet on the legal front. Questions were raised concerning the East German doping situation, and the USA swimmers chances of obtaining gold medals. The official legal statute of limitations to file an appeal was last week.

Central Zone Report Michael Lawrence and Bob Staab gave an update on the sectional championship meets for the Central Zone. Three sections have been identified. Each section has different formats and will supply their own time standards, short course and long course, and each section will pick their own sites.

Questions were raised in the Central Zone meeting concerning an evaluation process for the Sectional meets. There is not a regulated evaluation process and we are dependent upon the eight zone directors for feedback concerning the sectionals. The zone directors need to give advice on whether others need to be added to the group of eight zone directors to evaluate the sectionals.

Eastern Zone Report David Carson and Murray Stephens reported that the Eastern Zone has been divided into two sections for the championships. The New England states and New York are the first section, and Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia are the second section. The hosts have been determined for next March's short course championship, and long course hosts for the summer still need to be identified.

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Southern Zone Report Jim Kelly and Charly Mallery stated that the Southern Zone has identified and secured four sites and have appointed a chairman for each section.

Western Zone Report Gary Ladd and David Salo reported that the Western Zone has four sections, and sites have been set. Time standards and meet formats still need to be determined. The Western Zone had a very successful zone championship this year.

Task Force Reports Gregory Eggert gave a final report on the Olympic Hospitality task force. Many people worked long hours to ensure that our athletes and families had a great Olympic experience, regarding travel, accommodations, etc. and due to the dedicated people working on this, it was truly a success.

Tampa Center Of Excellence Presentation Joe Smith, Project Facilitator for Hillsborough Community College, presented the concept of the "Inaugural Center of Excellence". Hillsborough Community College, the City of Tampa, and the Tampa Sports Authority are working together to construct this educational and athletic facility. Chuck Wielgus, David Salo, Carol Zaleski, and Murray Stephens will work together and come back to the Board in January 2001 with recommendations on partnership criteria and the nature of our relationship.

2001 Budget Review On August 16-17 in Indianapolis, the Executive Committee reviewed Game Plan 2004 and after making some adjustments, approved the budget for 2001. The Executive Committee identified the following programming areas that are to be reviewed more closely:

Athlete Assistance (Athlete Assistance will be changed to read Athlete Services.); Support Funding for Open Water Athletes; Coach Incentive and Reward Program; Million Dollar Distance Challenge; Membership Dues (There is no increase in membership dues for 2001, but do feel this is something that needs to be addressed in the future.)

Future Meet Sites For 2002 After a complete review process, the following sites have been approved for USA Swimming events in 2002:

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Disability Championships June 21-23, 2002 Federal Way, Washington

U.S. Open December 5-7, 2002 Minneapolis, Minnesota

IT Update Mike Saltzstein introduced Kathleen Flynn to the Board. Kathleen is USA Swimming's Media Coordinator, and is the single staff member monitoring and updating the web site. The new site has offered a few challenges for users however the problems should soon be worked out.

Fina Technical Swimming Committee Report Carol Zaleski reported that the 2000 Olympic Games were the best games she has been involved with. She took two trips to Australia and worked very closely with the organizing committee. Carol has been reappointed Chairman of the Technical Committee and this committee has four new members.

The Board will not meet in November due to the late date of this year's convention. The next meeting of the Board will be January 2001.

NEWS FROM HOME . . .

Congratulations to our newly elected Zone Director, Julie Bare (Lake Erie). Contact Julie or Michael with questions, concerns, etc.

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Elections and appointments . . .

Kate Chronic (Illinois) was elected Assistant Age Group Coordinator . . . Arlene McDonald (Indiana) was elected to the Age Group Planning Committee . . . Helen Kelly (Illinois) was re-elected Zone Secretary/Treasurer . . .

Joe Ogilvie (Missouri Valley) has been re-appointed Officials Chair . . . Lucy Duncan (Indiana) has been appointed Assistant Officials Chair . . . Betty Kooy (Midwestern) has been appointed Central Zone Records Chair . . .

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Dale Neuberger was re-elected President of USA Swimming . . .

Zone Meet hosts and LSC assignments:

Indy Dolphins (host)
@ IUPUI,
Indianapolis, IN

Oakland Aquatic Club (host)
@ Oakland University,
Oakland, MI

9-12 August 2001
(Open Water, Thursday)

10-13 August 2001
(Open Water, Monday)

Indiana, Missouri Valley,
Midwestern, Oklahoma,
Arkansas, Ozark, Iowa,
Illinois

Michigan, Ohio, Lake Erie,
South Dakota, North Dakota,
Wisconsin, Minnesota

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

The 2001 Sectional Meets . . . USA Swimming is compiling information about each Sectional Meet for posting on the website. Check regularly for this posting if you are interested in what is going on around the country.

The 2001 Central Zone Sectional Meets are:

2001 Spring

15-18 March	Oxford, OH
8-11 March	Minneapolis, MN
1-4 March	Fayetteville, AR

2001 Summer

25-29 July	Cleveland, OH
26-29 July	Minneapolis, MN
25-28 July	Oklahoma City, OK

Please remember to work with Joe Ogilvie, Lucy Duncan, and Pat Lunsford (Ohio Swimming), National Officials Committee Chair, if you would like your Sectional Meet to be eligible for National Championship certification.

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Wells O'Brien, Secretary/General Counsel, sent this important notice to each Zone Director:

To follow up on the question of whether the Zone or a Section decides if a Sectional meet is open or closed competition, I offer you this opinion.

The Zones have met prior to and at the Convention to discuss this issue. I assume also that any Zone decision on this issue involved the participation of the members of the Sections. Article 204.9.6 of the USA Swimming Rules and Regulations Book provides that "the meet format shall be determined by the Section".

Based on these assumptions and the provisions of Article 204.9.6:

- 1. if the Zone has made a decision concerning whether the Sectional meets are open or closed, then that decision governs the issue until the Zone's decision expires by its own terms or is changed,*
- 2. however, if the Zone has made no decision on this issue, then pursuant to the provisions of Article 204.9.6 the Section can make its own determination whether the meet will be open or closed.*

Dates to remember . . .

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| December 1, 2000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Each LSC must submit mailing list info to Helen Kellyo Updates to the Zone Manual are due to Colorado Springs (Bryon Angerman) |
| December 15, 2000 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Helen will mail LSC mailing labels to the Zone meet hosts |
| January 1, 2001 | <ul style="list-style-type: none">o Zone meet host must submit design and plan for the medal to Colorado Springs and to Bryon |