

March 2021

Hi Everyone.

This is Beda Dondi with your March update of the Aquatic Center rebuild.

Construction at the Aquatic Center is now in two modes of construction, at least in my sense of reality. The most exciting is that the pools are looking more and more like what we are used to, that being big blue wet vessels of water. The second mode are the buildings and support structures that go with a pool. One group is recognizable, for its purpose and the other in their infancy stage.

I wanted to provide a quick look at our (swimmers) main focus and that being the training pool, closest in the picture and the competition pool further away). The training pool modifications utilizing the new gutters have been bolted down and cemented in place.

Likewise in the competition pool, the gutters are all in place. If you enlarge the image of the two different gutters on your screen, you will note that the training pool gutters drain from the sides while the competition pool gutters drain from the top. Once completed, the training pool will seem pretty much the same to you as far as the water level is concerned. Getting out of the pool will be as you are accustomed to, given the height separation of the pool deck to the water level. However, the competition pool will seem just a little bit faster to swim in and much easier to climb out of. The reason being that the water level will be right at the top of the pool edge on each side where the ladders are located and a toe ledge step along the length the start/turn ends.

Looking West



Training pool looking south (below). The exposed rebar of the drain will be incased in concrete eventually.



I would now like to address the big thing (locker room building) that is still part of the pool landscape. Yes, it is still there and no, not for much longer. The existing pool contractor Hensel Phelps will soon be demolishing the old locker room and commencing soon (I used the word “soon” twice as a form of optimistic suggestion). I look forward to showing you all a big blank space

where it once stood.



Now, a look at the bleachers that are finished poured with the form boards removed. The area between the diving well and the competition pool is also recognizably much larger than the area we are traditionally used to.



This picture also shows the competition pool gutters that I mentioned earlier. I'll show a more representative picture next month.





Have you noticed how much deeper this pool is at both ends compared to our old pool? That cat walk is about 5 feet from the top edge with another three feet below that at the pool's shallowest on the west end. It is deeper by at least two more feet on the north, south and east sides. Again, this additional depth tends to dissipate energy from adjacent swimmers and makes the pool faster.

Now, on to the diving well, I would like to show you the poured swim out stairs and toe ledge step (top of picture).



The toe ledge step is on the west/east start/turns ends which should clue us into the orientation of the swim lanes this pool will have (see below). There will be eight (8) 25-meter lanes for swimming in the dive well.



Looking to the left of this area is the massive poured foundation for the dive tower.



This view looking west. The pre-poured sections of this tower will be arriving in the near future and erected in pieces to form the 27-meter (88.58 feet) tall dive tower.

My last picture for this month is kind of a teaser, in that I am not quite sure what it is going to be myself but it will definitely be distinctive. That said.....



I will elaborate on what it will be next month so look for the April issue of the Aquatic Center Build.

That is it for this month

Thanks for reading and think “swimming”.

Beda