



We are here to support your enjoyment and development in the sport of swimming. If your questions are related to workouts, meets, events, goal setting, and other swimming related needs, please contact one of the coaches.

For all questions related to team administration, such as dues, enrolling/disenrolling safety, or policy issues, please send an email to TeamAdmin@bbaswimming.org.

Our Head Coach - Johnny Austermann



[Email](#)

Johnny Austermann has been the head coach of Atlantis Swimming since May of 2016. He has been involved with the sport of swimming since 1991, when he began swimming in the NSSL with the Huntington Woods Hurricanes. He swam two years for Berkley High School and then competed for OLY his Junior and Senior years. Johnny swam for the University of Michigan Men's Varsity Team from 2004-2008. During that time he was coached by Olympic Coaches Jon Urbanchek and Bob Bowman. He was a member of the University of Michigan's team when they won their 33rd Big Ten Team Championship and competed in the 2008 Olympic Trials (400 and 1500 FR). In 2009 while finishing a degree in Brain, Behavior and Cognitive Science he managed the Michigan team and worked with newly hired Head Coach Mike Bottom and the rest of his staff to implement a video analysis system to be used.

Johnny works mainly with the Senior group but spends time with the groups of both the North and South sites as often as possible.

Speedsters

Designed for younger children interested in learning the very basic fundamentals of water and swimming. Practice sessions are offered up to 4 times per week and athletes are encouraged to attend at least twice each week. Swimmers in this group represent Atlantis Swimming at local swimming competitions.



Colleen Rose

[Email](#)

Lead South Speedster/Bronze Coach

Coach Colleen started her swimming career at the Pleasant Ridge Swim Club at the age of six. At ten, she joined YPAC and continued with the team through the age of fifteen. She swam all four years at Ferndale High School and during her junior and senior year went to the State Finals; two of her relay records still stand at Ferndale High. She started coaching



Kelli Dewey

[Email](#)

Lead North Speedster/Lesson Coach

Kelli started swimming competitively at 5 for the Tri-Cities Y.M.C.A. in Grand Haven. She competed as a successful freestyler, swimming at Oakland University under Head Coach Peter Hoveland from 2007 to 2011. Kelli gained her Masters n Exercise Science in 2016 and has been coaching a combination of swimming fitness programs

at Ferndale High in 1999 as Head Coach of the boys' team and coached for four seasons, taking a team of twelve boys from 4th in Division III to 1st for two consecutive years. During that time, she also started coaching at Kimball High School as the Head Coach for the girls' team. In her second season at Kimball, Coach Colleen took the first relay in five years to States. She also coached YPAC from 2002-2010 as an assistant coach and then took over as Head Coach from 2010-2012. She has coached 10 seasons as the Head Coach for the Pleasant Ridge Piranhas. Coach Colleen is also a stay at home mom of 3 beautiful girls: Alyssa, Ella and Mila.

ever since. She has worked with a range of swimmers and clients in and out of the pool. Coach Kelli is also an EMT and Paramedic.

Speedster: There is no required equipment for Speedster swimmers

Continue to scroll for additional information

Bronze

Designed for children with some swimming proficiency. Practice sessions are offered up to 4 times per week. Swimmers in this group represent Atlantis Swimming at local and state-level competitions.



Colleen Rose

[Email](#)

Lead South Speedster/Bronze Coach

Coach Colleen started her swimming career at the Pleasant Ridge Swim Club at the age of six. At ten, she joined YPAC and continued with the team through the age of fifteen. She swam all four years at Ferndale High School and during her junior and senior year went to the State Finals; two of her relay records still stand at Ferndale High. She started coaching at Ferndale High in 1999 as Head Coach of the boys' team and coached for four seasons, taking a team of twelve boys from 4th in Division III to 1st for two consecutive years. During that time, she also started



Kurt Knoper

[Email](#)

Lead North Bronze Coach

Kurt started swimming as an age group swimmer in Zeeland, Michigan after being thrown into the pool to sink or swim by his loving parents. He continued swimming through high school and as a Oakland University Golden Grizzly. Coach Kurt earned both Bachelor's and Master's degrees in Education with a specialty in math. Kurt has a wide range of coaching experience including; football, volleyball, soccer and lacrosse but is happiest around the pool. Kurt has many years coaching on the pool deck, in addition to swim lessons and life

coaching at Kimball High School as the Head Coach for the girls' team. In her second season at Kimball, Coach Colleen took the first relay in five years to States. She also coached YPAC from 2002-2010 as an assistant coach and then took over as Head Coach from 2010-2012. She has coached 10 seasons as the Head Coach for the Pleasant Ridge Piranhas. Coach Colleen is also a stay at home mom of 3 beautiful girls: Alyssa, Ella and Mila.

guarding, he has coached for Lake Orion Liquid Lightning, Rochester High School and Utica High School. Kurt is excited to be joining the Atlantis team as a coach this season!

Bronze Equipment Needed:

- **Speedo Team Kickboard or other kickboard if already owned**
- **Speedo Trialon Rubber Fins**
- **Finis Junior or Regular Swimmers' Snorkel (make your best determination based on size of your swimmer and their mouth)**
- **Mesh Bag**

Continue to scroll for additional information

Silver

Designed for children to improve swimming technique, general strength and fitness, and racing skills. Practice sessions are offered up to 5 times per week. Swimmers in this group represent Atlantis Swimming at local- and state-level competitions.



Scott D Shelton

[Email](#)

Lead South Silver/Gold Coach

Coach Scott started his swimming coaching career when he broke his foot in the beginning of his senior high school season. He ended up helping manage his team with scouts and creating lineups and loved it. His first coaching job was the following summer with Mike Lane at Surf Club. He also



Theresa Donnan

[Email](#)

Lead North Silver Coach

Growing up in Southern California, Theresa became involved with aquatics in a variety of realms. As a swimmer, water polo player, synchronized swimmer and coach, she has managed to stay involved with aquatics for over 30 years. She studied physical education at Trinity International University

coached with Oak Park City Rec Team, Oakland YMCA and was a founding coach of the Berkley High School Boys team. He went on to coach at Pleasant Ridge, Red Run, Ferndale and Shrine high schools, and YPAC for 10 years. Coach Scott currently coaches Atlantis Gold South as the Lead coach, Lead Atlantis Silver South, Berkley Girls High School as the Head Coach, and Ferndale Middle School Co-ed coach. He is also a Grower/Manager at Telly's Greenhouse in Shelby Twp, and enjoys gardening & MSU sports. Coach Scott's coaching philosophy is "Each swimmer's path is unique, they're swimming for the person in the mirror. It's my job to help them along the path of swimming and life in a manner that helps them reach their goals. I hope that at the end of every practice, meet, season & career they can look back and feel that what they got out of swimming is worth what they put in." or simply put "Put your face in the water, work harder, get better."

in the suburbs of Chicago and has coached at Cranbrook Schools, Troy Schools and Utica Community Schools. She is currently a personal trainer as well as a technical specialist for AvidaSports, the pioneer in athletic telemetry technology for coaches and swimmers.

Silver Equipment Needed:

- **Speedo Team Kickboard or other kickboard if already owned**
- **Speedo Trialon Rubber Fins**
- **Finis Junior or Regular Swimmers' Snorkel (make your best determination based on size of your swimmer and their mouth)**
- **Stroke Maker Paddles (optional)**
- **Pull Buoy**
- **Mesh Bag**

Continue to scroll for additional information

Gold

Designed for middle school-aged children interested in furthering their swimming ability. Practice sessions are offered up to 6 times per week. Swimmers participating in the Gold group represent Atlantis at local, state, regional, national and international competitions.



Scott D Shelton

[Email](#)

Lead South Silver/Gold Coach

Coach Scott started his swimming coaching career when he broke his foot in the beginning of his senior high school season. He ended up helping manage his team with scouts and creating lineups and loved it. His first coaching job was the following summer with Mike Lane at Surf Club. He also coached with Oak Park City Rec Team,



Drew Edson

[Email](#)

Lead North Gold Coach

Drew has been in and around a pool since he was 4 years old. His competitive swimming career began with the old Village Athletic Club and continued at the Beachwood Recreation Association, where he also started his coaching career. Drew has been on a number of Metro Detroit area swim teams including Atlantis, the Birmingham

Oakland YMCA and was a founding coach of the Berkley High School Boys team. He went on to coach at Pleasant Ridge, Red Run, Ferndale and Shrine high schools, and YPAC for 10 years. Coach Scott currently coaches Atlantis Gold South as the Lead coach, Lead Atlantis Silver South, Berkley Girls High School as the Head Coach, and Ferndale Middle School Co-ed coach. He is also a Grower/Manager at Telly's Greenhouse in Shelby Twp, and enjoys gardening & MSU sports. Coach Scott's coaching philosophy is "Each swimmer's path is unique, they're swimming for the person in the mirror. It's my job to help them along the path of swimming and life in a manner that helps them reach their goals. I hope that at the end of every practice, meet, season & career they can look back and feel that what they got out of swimming is worth what they put in." or simply put "Put your face in the water, work harder, get better."

Blue Dolphins, and the Farmington Family Stingrays. After attending Brother Rice High School, where he was a member of the 2007 state championship team and a captain in 2009, Drew enrolled at John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio. While competing for the Blue Streak Swimming and Diving Team, Drew was a four-year letter winner, and a varsity and conference record-holder, as well. Drew graduated in 2013 with a BA in Exercise Science. On completion of his undergraduate degree, Drew returned to school and obtained his Master's Degree in Education, with a specialization in Athletic Coaching. Drew remained in Cleveland, OH, for the past 3 years where he has been a personal trainer, the Head Site Coach for the Shaker Sharks USS Team, and the assistant coach at Shaker Heights High School. Drew was also the Pool Manager and Head Coach for the Canterbury Golf Club in Beachwood, Ohio.

Drew's belief in coaching is that in order to have an athlete at any level truly care and enjoy the sport, their coach must set the example and truly care about the athlete.

Gold Equipment Needed:

- **Speedo Team Kickboard or other kickboard if already owned**
- **Speedo Trialon Rubber Fins**
- **Finis Junior or Regular Swimmers' Snorkel (make your best determination based on size of your swimmer and their mouth)**
- **Stroke Maker Paddles**

- **Pull Buoy**
- **Mesh Bag**
- **Finis Swim Parachute 12"**
- **clear plastic clipboard (9" x 12") - South ONLY**

SENIORS

Designed for all teenagers; from those interested in improving swimming technique and general fitness up to those aspiring to compete at the highest levels. The Senior Group typically represents Atlantis at local, state, regional and national-level competitions. Practices are offered up to 7-9 times per week.

Seniors Equipment Needed:

- **Speedo Team Kickboard or other kickboard if already owned**
- **Speedo Trialon Rubber Fins**
- **Finis Junior or Regular Swimmers' Snorkel (make your best determination based on the size of your swimmer and their mouth)**
- **Stroke Maker Paddles**
- **Pull Buoy**
- **Mesh Bag**
- **Finis Swim Parachute 12"**

MASTERS / College

(18+ years old - high school-graduates & older)

Designed for adults interested in improving swimming technique and general fitness. Masters are encouraged to set their personal goals and use the Atlantis program to facilitate their achievement. Practices are offered AMs

except Wednesday and Sunday. Masters swimmers must become members of USMS.

(Current college students)

College-student swimmers home for the summer can register for the College group, and their registration fee will be waived. They will be charged the seasonal rate with USA Swimming , and they will be eligible to swim in USA Swimming meets. They can practice with either the Senior or Masters groups.

Masters / College Equipment Needed:

- **Speedo Team Kickboard or other kickboard if already owned**
- **Speedo Trialon Rubber Fins**
- **Finis Junior or Regular Swimmers' Snorkel (make your best determination based on the size of your swimmer and their mouth)**
- **Stroke Maker Paddles**
- **Pull Buoy**
- **Mesh Bag**
- **Finis Swim Parachute 12"**

Continue to scroll for additional information

Meet Our Assistant Coaches



AJ Erard

[Email](#)

AJ Erard was tossed into the pool at the age of 3 by his parents and immediately grew a love for the water. He swam for DRD until the age of 10 and followed his coach to OLY shortly thereafter. After High School he accepted a scholarship at Wayne State University where he lettered all 4 years and participated at NCAA's all four years ending his career as a 12-time all American and setting several school records. Upon his graduation AJ took over the Distance program for WSU where he coached athletes to both conference and NCAA champions as well as a Women's #1 finish at the National Level. AJ joined the Atlantis staff in 2016.



Rob Spurgeon

[Email](#)

Rob has been swimming as long as he's been walking. His swim career started at Ypac with Coach Scott Shelton, swimming the summers at HWAC and AAU at Royal Oak Penguins. Rob was also a four-year varsity swimmer at Berkley High School as a long distance swimmer. His 500 time stands on the top six board for decades (until a certain Johnny Austerman knocked his name off the top six leaderboard!!). He swims Masters Swimming in the summers. Rob found his love of coaching in 2015 when he began as an assistant coach for the Berkley Middle School team and in 2016 as assistant coach for the Berkley High School girls' team.



Jonathan F Gruner

[Email](#)

Jonathan Gruner has been swimming since 1994, when he was entered in the Flint Olympian Games. He continued his competitive swimming career with the Flint YMCA Falcons until he was 18 years old. He also swam four years at Powers Catholic High School. Jonathan opted not to swim in college and instead was on the Crew Team at Michigan State University in 2007-2008. Jonathan has coached for various swim clubs in Genesee County, Michigan. Jonathan was also a technique coach for the Gulf Coast Swim Team in Ft. Myers, Florida. Jonathan graduated from Michigan State University in 2011 with a degree in Human Resources and Economics. Jonathan then pursued a law degree from the University of Detroit Mercy School of Law. Jonathan has been with BBA since May 2017 and primarily coaches the Gold Group.



Eric Karle Schuman

[Email](#)

Eric began his swim career swimming summers for Newburgh Swim Club and eventually Livonia Community Swim Club. He also swam all four years at Livonia Stevenson High School. After high school he attended Kalamazoo College where he was a four-year letter earner and a member of three MIAA championship teams (2010-13). Upon graduation, Eric spent a year as a volunteer assistant coach at Kalamazoo before being hired as a graduate assistant coach at John Carroll University where he earned his Master's in Education. In 2017, he helped to guide the JCU Women's team to their first championship since 2008 and the

Men's team to its first championship since 2004. During his time at Carroll, he was also a member of the Ohio Athletic Conference Men's Coaching Staff of the Year in 2017, as well as the OAC Women's Coaching Staff of the Year in both 2016 and 2017. Eric has since moved back home to the Metro Detroit Area teaching physics at the University of Detroit Jesuit High School and Academy. He is currently an assistant at UofD as well as Red Run Golf Club.



Amie Heitchue

[Email](#)

I started swimming at the age of 12 on my 8th grade swim team. I then swam for 5 years at Pleasant Ridge summer club, and 4 years at Royal Oak High School. I continued my swim career and swam for one year at Alma College. I now go to school at Madonna University, and am pursuing a bachelor degree in Gerontology and a minor in Music. I had the opportunity to coach the Pleasant Ridge swim team this past summer. I love being able to help others find their love and passion for swimming.



Armen Jacobs

[Email](#)

Armen began his swimming career when he was 7 years old. He swam on HWAC every summer from 2008 until 2019. He swam for the Berkley Middle School swim team in 7th and 8th grade and swam for the Berkley High school boys swim team for all four years of high school. Armen swam with the Atlantis senior group his junior and senior year of high school and currently swims with the masters group. He attends Wayne State university in Detroit and studies Accounting. This is Armen's first year coaching for Atlantis and he looks forward to helping kids improve their skills and further their passion for swimming.

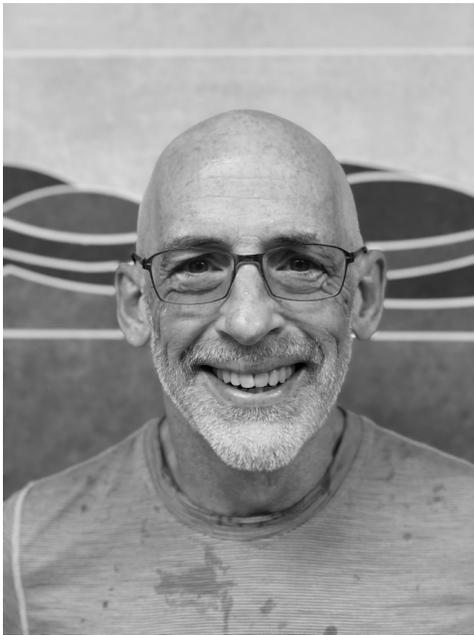


Jackie Jurgelewicz

[Email](#)

My name is Jackie. I have been with BBA since 2012. I swam throughout high school at Center Line High School, taught swim lessons for 12 years and began coaching when I was offered a Co-Head Coach Position at Shrine High School in 2010. Shortly after completion of the Shrine High School Girls Swim season, I transitioned to be an Assistant Coach with the South Oakland YMCA YPAC team. After a single season with YPAC, I made the transition to BBA as an assistant coach working primarily with Speedsters and Bronze. I have a 6-year-old son named Kamdyn, who makes a rare appearance around the pool or events! I

graduated from Wayne State University with a Bachelor's Degree in communications and now work full time for DTE Energy in Detroit as an Instructor Trainer.



Jeffrey Mallett

[Email](#)

Just a regular masters swimmer willing to get some training to help out and give back and keep a good program going.



Kelsy Murphy

[Email](#)

Kelsy began swimming at 8 years old and continued for 10 years as a Distance swimmer. She swam for HWAC for 10 years as well as Poseidon, BBA and Berkley High School. She taught swim lessons for 5 years at Goldfish Swim School in both Birmingham and Grand Rapids. Kelsy loves the water and helping young swimmers achieve their goals.



Taylor Stensen

[Email](#)

Taylor started swimming when she was 6, with Grand Ledge Swim Club which became Mid Michigan Aquatics. Taylor swam and played water polo for Grand Ledge High School for four years. After high school, she went to Michigan State University where she played club water polo for four years. While at Michigan State, Taylor coached at Mid Michigan Aquatics and the Grand Ledge Girl's varsity swim team. Taylor graduated from Michigan State with a mechanical engineering degree and moved to the metro Detroit area to work for General Motors.



Noah Zielinski

[Email](#)

Noah began his swimming career at the age of 13 at Red Run Country Club. He has also swam for BBD, BBA and for UofD Jesuit in the duration of his high school career. He swam for Olivet Nazarene University for his first year of college. Currently still in college Noah is going to major in business. This is his first year as a coach for BBA and he is super excited to help the kids fall in love with swimming just like he did. Noah is very glad to be back with BBA and is ready to get to work



Claire S LaSota

[Email](#)

Claire began swimming competitively at age 9 for Woodside Athletic Club in the Northwest Suburban Swim League (NSSL). She continued to swim through high school, swimming for BBA, Berkshire Middle School, and Groves High School. During her college years, Claire began coaching as an assistant coach for Beverly Hills Athletic Club swim team from 2013 – 2019 and also coaches girls water polo at Groves High School. Claire is a 2016 graduate of Michigan State University and is a History teacher at Plymouth Canton High School. Claire is excited for her second year as an Atlantis coach.



Agustin "Tre" Arbulu

[Email](#)

Agustin Arbulu swam for summer clubs such as Village Athletic Club (VAC) and Beverly Hills Athletic Club (BHAC). Agustin Arbulu started swimming at BBA at 13 years old. Agustin swam for Seaholm High School in which he was a varsity swimmer and a state qualifier. Agustin continued his career and swam for Notre Dame College and specialized in freestyle. Throughout his college career, his events included the 200, 500 and the 1650. He graduated from Notre Dame College with a Bachelors of Arts (B.A.) in Psychology. Agustin continued his education and received his Masters of Social Work (M.S.W.) from Wayne State University. Currently, he is a school social worker in Sterling Heights and teaches swim lessons at SafeSplash Swim School. Agustin has categorical experience. For example,

Agustin has experience working with children with special needs. Agustin has taught swim lessons to different ages and ability levels.

Agustin is very passionate about working with children. He is determined in making a difference and helping each individual reach their full potential.

Fun fact, typically people refer to him as, "Tre".



Jonathan Lessard

[Email](#)

Coach Jon began coaching for Atlantis Swimming during the 2013-14 season. Jon swam competitively beginning at 7 years of age. Growing up he swam for Macomb Y Marlins and was a member of several YMCA Nationals Teams. Jon graduated from Brother Rice High School where he earned All-American Swimming awards. Jon earned his degree in Supply Chain Management from Michigan State University. While at MSU, he was a member of the Varsity Swim Team. Jon began his coaching career at Grand Ledge, where he coached the Middle School and Club team for three years. While not at the pool, Jon works at General Motors. Aside from his day job and evening coaching, he attends Wayne State University, focusing on an MBA in International Business.