

I was able to attend the USA Swimming convention in Greensboro, NC. I went to many different meetings, such as the Registration Best Practices, SWIMS Times Module, Club Development, Make a Splash, Club LSC Financial and all the Western Zones Meeting. I learned many new things, but I am going to summarize the items from the Registration Best Practices Meeting that will affect a lot of coaches and officials in the Montana LSC.

The biggest challenge this year will be that a lot of Background check renewals will need to be completed this year. The first wave of background checks will expire in January 2013. The cost for renewing a Level 1 and Level 2 will be \$19.00. There will be a new link created for renewing background checks. People who don't use that link will pay \$39 for a Level 2 check. People who renew prior to the link being available will pay the full \$39.00 to renew their checks. Please wait until the renewal link is available. Refunds will not be an option.

The other big change which will be implemented effective January 1, 2013 is to the First year Coaches educational requirement. The details are listed below.

Effective January 1, 2013 two new phases of this requirement will be implemented.

PHASE 1

FOUNDATIONS 101:

Any coach registering as a new coach after January 1, 2013 will be required to complete and pass the on line test Foundations 101 prior to be granted coaching status. At this time we are told this will follow the business rule set up much like Athlete Protection Training. You will need to be in the membership database first to allow access to the test. The format of this test will mimic the Athlete Protection Training where you will review on line videos that will be linked to chapter questions after each video and then an overall test at the end. There will be a charge of approximately \$15.00 to complete this requirement with the payment being made on line.

PHASE 2

FOUNDATIONS 201:

Phase 2 of this coaching requirement will not be available until sometime in May 2013. This portion must also be completed for all new coaches. The format of the test will follow the same procedure as listed above with a cost of approximately \$25.00 to be paid on line. In addition this will be a two part test with the second portion directed to the Rules and Regulations of USA Swimming.

☐ Changes for first year renewal coaches after January 1, 2013.

First Year Education Requirement (Foundations of Coaching) First Year Renewal Coaches Only:

If you are a first time renewal coach after January 1, 2013. You must access the existing Foundations of coaching test and complete that requirement. This test will be available for first year renewal coaches who had an initial existing membership in 2012 until 9/1/2013.

Be on the lookout, An announcement of a change to the curriculum for the Safety Training for Swim Coaches and the First Aid requirement was made that will be in effect (9/1/2013) for the 2014 membership year. As implementation draws near we will keep all posted on these significant changes.