

SAFETY  
April 21, 2007

Nationally, accidents were down slightly in 2006. The 2006 Accident Summary reported 898 incidents compared to 926 in 2005. The 11-12 age group continues to lead (22%) with 13-14 (21%) close behind. 28% of the injuries involved leg/foot and 19% were hand/arm. 62% of the accidents occurred outside the water while 38% happened in the water. 49% were during a meet.

Our LSC did not follow the national average in certain instances. 60% of our accidents involved swimmers 15 and over. The 11-12s accounted for only 6% of the incidents. Our leg/foot injuries were also at 60%. 60% of our accidents occurred outside the water and 67% were during a meet. The majority of the injuries were due to slips/trips on deck and hurt feet/heels on flip turns.

I am including 3 handouts: 1) The USA Swim Safety/Loss Control manual's article on "Fourteen-Eighteen - Adolescence - The Athlete" addresses safety issues specific to this age group. 2) "Lightning" is an excellent article from the National Weather Service as we head into the summer months. 3) The latest Report of Occurrence form - to be used for accident reporting. Thanks for getting all of your accident reports in quickly.

Cindy Smith  
SE Safety Chairman