

Disability Swimming Report October 1, 2005

National Championships for swimmers with a disability were held in Portland, Oregon in July. Five swimmers and three officials from Southeastern swimming attended. The swimmers were Carly Haynie, Aimee Bruder, Carrie Willoughby, Ivy Garrison and Daniel Kamber. The officials were Peter and Rayleen Soderstrom and Stephanie Brandon.

US Paralympic swimming named Carly Haynie to the US Elite team and Aimee Bruder and Carrie Willoughby to the US National team for 2005.

US Paralympics will conduct an open championship meet for swimmers with a disability December 8-10, 2005 in Minneapolis, MN. Blaze Sports will conduct a training weekend in conjunction with a meet January 21-22, 2006 in Atlanta. For more information contact Julie O'Neil at US Paralympics.

The National Disability Committee met during convention in Greensboro. At the request of the committee, please change the word "adapted" to "disability" for all LSC chairs. Each LSC is requested to complete the process of developing and adopting a policy of inclusion for the LSC. The National Championship meet will be sanctioned by USP at this time and LSC's are requested to treat it the same for purposes of travel funding as if it were a USA sanctioned meet. This meet is also recognized for All-American status for athletes with a disability for 2005 and has been requested as a permanently qualifying meet. A "Virtual" meet is in the development stages for age-group athletes with a disability and classification will not be needed.

The Zone meet was attended by 7 athletes with a disability. Four of the athletes were from Georgia swimming and one each from three other LSC's. Southeastern swimming did not send any athletes with a disability to the Zone meet. Georgia swimming's zone team manager challenged all the LSC's to send the six athletes with a disability allowed to the 2006 zone meet in Georgia.

Submitted by:
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