

SAFETY
April 22, 2006

The 2005 Accident Summary is based on 926 accidents reported Nationally through 12/31/05. In the age breakdown category, the top three positions were held by 11-12(21%), 13-14(20%) and 15-18(19%). The top 3 injuries were leg/foot(25%), hand/arm(19%), and head/neck(16%). The majority of the injuries occurred outside the water(59%) during a meet/competition(49%) while 41% occurred in the water.

We had 21 accidents reported in our LSC in 2005. Our top three positions in the age breakdown were held by 15-18(24%), 13-14(19%), and 19 & over(19%). Our top 3 injuries were leg/foot(29%), knees(19%), and ENT/mouth(19%). The majority of our LSC injuries occurred during a meet/competition(52%) outside the water(62%) while 38% occurred in the pool. Our water injuries included 2 cases of asthma/flu while swimming, broken teeth & a jammed toe from jumping into the pool, and a heel and shoulder injury. Outside the pool injuries included a large number of falls, two of which were blamed on flip flops.

I am including two handouts with my report: (1) "Injuries from Falls" includes some excellent safety tips for preventing these types of accidents. "Cover Yourself" includes some important insurance requirements. Please note that the only swim-a-thon or lap-a-thon type event insured is the USA Swimming Swim-a-Thon. (2) The Report of Occurrence form has been revised. Please begin using the attached form if you have not already done so. FYI - the top section on the form is for info on the injured party. Please use their LSC code and club name in that section.

Cindy Smith
SE Safety Chairman