

Alia Atkinson

Review of Peru 2020

Tech committee: Athlete Rep

After gathering information from coaches and athletes, the UANA cup is overall a success. The participants felt like the event was beneficial for the time of year and that they will love to come back next year for the next UANA cup. There were a few concerns and suggestions I have collected from the participants about how to make this event better in the future.

1. Organization:

- a. Communication from federations to coaches/managers about the clinics and events for the three days were not transparent and confirmed with the respective parties.
- b. Concerns with: Quality of meals, quality of 'official' hotel, transportation issues and delays, as well warmup control- no guidance or time restraint accountability-

2. Merchandise: With concerns to rebranding, not only did we talk about marketing and advertising the UANA brand, but having merchandise for participants to have as momentos that can help bring the UANA brand further. I heard that it is up to the LOC but is there something UANA can do, whether in person or via an online shop on the website to have UANA merchandise available.

3. Suggestion for UANA meet structure, I got a lot of feedback about making the meet a heats and finals event. Keep the 11-12 as time finals, whereas the 13-14 has heats, and A/B finals (because the 13-14 age group is alot bigger and more competitive), whilst the

15-18 has heats and one 'A' final. That way the swimmers will be able to truly feel a high level competition with the buildup and race 'type' strategy like at bigger international competitions.

4. In addition to adding 'finals', a short moment to give to the medalist recognition, as well as a live interview with the winner. We found that in order to fully teach the swimmers how to properly communicate, a real life scenario should be present; in addition to helping with interview skills, anxiety when answering questions and feedback on how well they did and/or what to improve on.

5. The clinics should be shorter in time and have a more intimate setting with interaction from the athletes and the presenter. This should be something the teams sign up for at the beginning with registration. Only athletes wanting to go to the respective classes should be allowed to attend.

Thank you for allowing me to be a part of the UANA tech committee and I hope to assist and bring forth a new type of competition and atmosphere for the athletes.

Sincerely,

Alia Atkinson, CD