



2017 YMCA Short Course National Championship Devotion Offered by Emily Longenecker and Chandler Amato

E: Good morning and welcome to the final day of the 2017 YMCA short course national championship. My name is Emily Longenecker and I am from the Western YMCA in Delaware. Speaking here with me today is my fellow athlete representative Chandler Amato from the Somerset Valley YMCA in New Jersey. Chandler and I would like to give a special thank you to the National Meet committee for all that they have done.

C: Both of us have spent the last few months learning the “behind the scenes” of how this meet is made possible. All members of the committee volunteer countless hours to make sure a checklist that, for at least this year, was 142 items long got finished. The first item was completed in October of 2016, with the last few items completed just before the meet. They also attend a multitude of conference calls to debate and discuss issues at hand regarding the meet.

E: All of these members represent the YMCA Core values in the utmost of fashions. Respect. Every committee member treated both Chandler and I as part of their team and accepted us with open arms in helping put this meet together. Responsibility, They have all taken on this tremendous task of planning a meet for 1420 swimmers and have made sure everything would go as smoothly as possible to have yet another spectacular national championship.

C: Caring. Every single one of these individuals has shown that they care for not only YMCA Nationals, but YMCA swimmers as a whole by volunteering their time to make sure this meet goes on without a hitch. Honesty. The committee worked and discussed possible changes to the meet such as the backstroke ledges to ensure it would be a fair and honest meet for all athletes.

E: This meet could not go on without the dedication and perseverance of the meet committee and all other volunteers and we thank you all for your time and hard work.

C: We both recommend that all swimmers consider applying for athlete representative. It is an eye opening experience that brings new respect and appreciation for the people that make YMCA swimming possible. Thank you for your time.