



Friday, September 15, 2006

An Awarding Experience

Eleven awards were presented tonight at the House of Delegates meeting. A full list of award winners is on the back of this newsletter.

Committee Reports

Disability Committee Workshop

Jim Devine of the Missouri Valley gave a presentation of the American Disability Act (ADA) to 60 people in attendance. Devine answered questions on the obligation of our Swim Clubs and programs. He was able to address the differences in private clubs, public clubs and venues, and helped identify the reasonable response that is required of our programs, swim boards and coaches. Julie Bare, member of the Disability Committee from Lake Erie, then presented some clarification and ideas to be used with the new Incentive Program for Inclusion of Swimmers with a Disability within our competitions.

Education Committee

The Education Committee ran the "College Swimming: How To" workshop for 100 athletes and coaches on Thursday. Guest panelists representing Division I, II and III schools discussed recruiting, choosing a college and the college experience. Anyone who was not able to attend but would like to receive the handout electronically should email Kim Holmes (kholmes@usaswimming.org). The committee also ran the "Not for Women Only" panel on Friday morning, featuring coaches, officials and volunteers. Topics included multi-tasking, finding balance and encouraging future generations of women in leadership roles.

Disability Committee

The Disability Committee would like to congratulate Committee Chair, Kiko VanZandt, for a job well done. VanZandt has just completed 2 years as the Chair. The Committee will become a working group of eight members and two athletes starting in 2007. Discussion took place on creating a list of suggestions for the incoming committee, including ideas on collecting results for the internet meet, and thoughts on promoting the incentive program. Bea Hartigan reported that athletes with a disability achieved 97 American records for short course yards, 6 American records for short course meters, and 153 American records for long course meters.

Registration Forum – Open Discussion

A perennial favorite of LSC Registration/Membership Chairs, this forum gives them the opportunity to meet with their peers in other LSCs and discuss registration issues such as coach membership requirements, electronic registrations (SWIMS), out-of-LSC transfers, the 120-day rule, etc. Other hot topics this year included how to set-up/maintain an LSC Permanent Office and the use of Meet Recon (membership reconciliation prior to meets).

Weather Forecast for Tomorrow (Saturday, Sept. 16) Look for partially sunny skies and temperatures in the low 60s in the morning hours increasing to 75 degrees by 3 p.m. ... Overnight low of 61.

Today's Swimming Trivia:

Did you know Underwater Swimming was once it's own Olympic event? When, Where and who won?

LSC General Chairs

Larry Johnson, Western Zone Director, served as moderator for the LSC General Chairs meeting. General Chairs provided a list of topics that they wished to discuss. Among these topics were: 1. getting and keeping volunteers; 2. better communication between LSCs and their clubs; 3. leadership as General Chairs; 4. how to fire a volunteer; 5. financial accountability; 6. strategic planning-scheduling of meets.

Open Water Committee

This week the open water committee held two well-attended seminars for meet directors and officials. With the addition of Open Water into the Olympics these seminars are highly valued. The committee held its last meeting today and accomplished many last minute details. Among them, it put forward easy to follow one-day and a two-day open water camp formats which will be available at usaswimming.org soon. The committee also is in the process of clarifying and mapping all of the section 7 rules in the rule book

Safety Education Committee

Safety Training for Swim Coaches is being revised and should be completed by the end of this year. Eight people took CPR, first aid and/or Safety Training for Swim Coaches at this year's convention. The Safety Education Committee and audience discussed ways to increase communication with a broader audience. In a closed session, the committee members reviewed safety slogans and selected a winner.

Southern Zone Committee

The Southern Zone Committee concluded two days of meetings today, with the election of a new Non-Coach Zone Director. Richard Pockat from North Carolina was elected as the Non-Coach Zone Director. Herb Schwab and Shannon Gillespy were re-elected to their positions of Secretary/Treasurer and Zone Age Group Chair, respectively. Trey Kohlhausen, from South Texas, was elected as the Age Group Planning Representative (Coach). Geoffrey Sanders, from North Carolina, was elected as the Zone Athlete Representative. In 2007, the Southern Zone Age Group Championships will be held at the University of Houston. In 2008, the Championships will return to Georgia Tech.

In Other News...

Olympic gold medalist Brendan Hansen of Longhorn Aquatics was named the U.S. Olympic Committee's August Athlete of the Month. The U.S. men's 4x100m freestyle relay from the Mutual of Omaha Pan Pacific Championships finished second in team of the month voting, and Paralympic swimmer Jessica Long of Merritt Athletic Swimming finished third in the women's athlete of the month category.

Thursday's Trivia: What were the first goggles made of?

Answer: Divers in the 1300's made goggles from clear, polished tortoise shell. The first rubber goggles, which had heavy glass lenses, were invented in the 1930's.

**Note: Wednesday's trivia question should have included the qualifier, "long course world record." Maritza Correia holds the distinction as the first African-American world record setter in short course.*

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 15

Congratulations to all of tonight's award winners!

Female Open Water Swimmer of the Year:

Erica Rose

Male Open Water Swimmer of the Year:

Chip Peterson

Glenn S. Hummer Award:

Greg Cross

Adolf Keifer Safety Commendation Award:

Eric Fucito

Disability Swimming Service Award:

Pam Redding

Disability Swimmer of the Year Award (Trischa L. Zorn Award):

Jessica Long

Ken Pettigrew Award:

Mike Saltzstein

ASCA Coach Award:

Eddie Reese

Developmental Coach Award:

Bill Rose

Athletes' Appreciation Award:

Eric Namesnik

ConocoPhillips Performance of the Year Award:

Michael Phelps

To USA Swimming House of Delegates Members:

Recently, an industry news service raised concerns regarding the eligibility of one of our presidential candidates to serve as president of our organization. Such allegations are obviously a concern for any organization, but especially for ours, which prides itself on integrity and honor. Upon the publication of this allegation, we empowered our outside legal counsel, Holme Roberts and Owen (HRO), to determine if such allegations should preclude the candidate from the election. HRO was instructed to use the highest ethical standards and rules used by any corporation, non-profit organization or publicly-traded company overseen by the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The results of this investigation conducted by our outside counsel indicate that all three of our candidates for president are eligible to serve as our president.

Ron Van Pool
President
USA Swimming

Chuck Wielgus
Executive Director
USA Swimming