



CONVENTION ROUNDUP

SEPTEMBER 2006

Wednesday, September 13, 2006

Tomorrow's Diversity Clinic: Team USA stars Cullen Jones and Maritza Correia will arrive in Detroit tonight. The pair will host approximately 100 local children at tomorrow's Diversity Swim Clinic from 4-6 p.m. at the Adams/Butzel Recreation Complex. Correia and Jones will coach kids in and out of the water during the clinic, which is aimed at introducing a young and diverse group of kids to swimming and water safety. Since 2003, the USA Swimming Athletes Committee has hosted a diversity clinic in the city where the convention is taking place to raise awareness about swimming within the local community.

Committee Reports

Education Committee

The Education Committee welcomed almost 150 new delegates at "The Early Show" this morning. The workshop is designed as an orientation for new delegates, to help them start out their first Convention on the right foot. It was followed by the "Grassroots to Gold" workshop this afternoon. The workshop gave attendees a view of four club programs and their developmental processes. Next up for the committee is Thursday's "College Swimming: How to" for athletes, and Friday's "Not for Women Only" workshops.

Steering Committee

The Steering Committee met today and approved the USA Swimming National Team Quadrennial Plan (2006-2008) and the USA Swimming National Team Open Water Quadrennial Plan (2006-08). Among the many events on the plan are some important selection meets. The Short Course National Championships will be held in Atlanta, Ga., Nov. 29-Dec. 1, 2007, and will serve as the selection meet for the 2008 Short Course World Championships (April 9-13, 2008). The Open Water Nationals will be held May 17-21, 2007 in Fort Myers, Fla., and will serve as the selection meet for the 2007 Open Water Seville World Cup (June 4-10, 2007) and Pan American Games (July 14, 2007). Also scheduled is the Open Water 10K Olympic Selection Meet Oct. 20-21 in Bakersfield, Calif. That meet will serve to select swimmers who will represent the USA at the 2008 FINA Open Water World Championships in Seville, Spain (April 29-May 4, 2008). That meet will serve as a FINA selection meet for the 2008 Olympics in Beijing.

Officials Committee:

Members of the Officials Task Force reported on projects for the past year. Among the projects discussed were upgrading the online officials test, a survey of previously registered USA Swimming officials inquiring why they had not re-registered, an update on the National Certification program and the Starter's Video, which is anticipated to be complete by November. In addition, it was announced that the YMCA has adopted USA Swimming technical rules effective Sept. 1.

Rules and Regulations Committee:

Members of the Rules and Regulations Committee discussed proposed amendments to the 2006 Rules and Regulations. The audience was given the opportunity to ask questions and comment on each proposal.

Weather Forecast for Tomorrow (Thursday, Sept. 14)

Morning forecast calls for rain and temperatures in the low 60's ... Temperatures to hit 70 with partial sun late in the day.

Today's Swimming Trivia:

Who was the first African-American swimmer to set a world record?

Risk Management Workshop:

The Risk Management Workshop focused on two major areas; a description of USA Swimming's insurance program and optional insurance coverage available to the clubs and LSCs; and a presentation of USA Swimming's proposed background screening program. The audience had the opportunity to ask questions of the presenters.

Senior Swimming Committee

The Committee approved a 5-full day format for the summer Nationals, beginning in 2007. The format is as follows:
Day 1 - 200 Fly, 200 Breast, W 800 Free, M 1500 Free
Day 2 - 400 IM, 100 Free, 200 Back, 400 Free Relay
Day 3 - 400 Free, 100 Fly, M 800 Free Relay
Day 4 - 200 Free, 100 Breast, 100 Back, W 800 Free Relay
Day 5 - W 1500 Free, 200 IM, 50 Free, M 800 Free, 400 Medley Relay

Beginning in 2007, all relays for Summer Nationals and Junior Nationals will be timed finals and all heats will be swum at the end of the finals sessions. The Committee voted to remove the 200 Free Relay and 200 Medley Relay events from the summer Junior Nationals. Due to a focus on the Olympic Trials, the 2008 Spring Championships will not be held. The Committee also approved the event order and time standards for the 2007 Short Course National Championships. A one-day long course meters invitational will be held at the same venue on Dec. 2.

Innovations in Registration Workshop:

LSC Registration/Membership Chairs participated in a workshop that covered computer and Internet security, using Internet payment options for club registrations, and an in-depth review of how the proposed background screening process will work in the SWIMS registration database.

Communications Committee: The Communications Committee met and discussed Friday's upcoming LSC Webmasters workshops. The committee then shared ideas on USA Swimming's communications efforts, including new media, improvements to the organization's website and magazine, and ways to reach out to a new group of swimming fans.

All America Committee: The All America Committee discussed the successful 2005-06 program which saw an a record 1,111 successful applicants. Accounting for the total was a 23.3% rise in successful male applicants and an increase of 13.5% on the female side. In addition, the committee awarded two perfect scores to National Team members Kate Ziegler and Chip Peterson.



Tuesday's Trivia: Well-known musician Yanni has a significant link to competitive swimming. What is it?

Answer: New-Age artist Yanni (born Yianni Chryssomalis) was a member of the Greek National Swim Team. Shortly before his 14th birthday, Yanni broke the national record in the 50m freestyle. The win was a surprise for the teenager, who trained only in the sea near his hometown of Kalamata, Greece.

Source: *The Raleigh News & Observer*