



# Oregon Swimming News

*Oregon Swimming is organized for the purpose of fostering swimming competition for the benefit of swimmers of all ages and abilities, in accordance with the standards and rules prescribed by USA Swimming.*

*Visit our web site: [www.oregonswim.org](http://www.oregonswim.org)*

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Oregon Swimming newsletter is an open forum. Oregon Swimming encourages contributions to the newsletter. All content of these letters reflect the views and opinions of the author and may not reflect those of Oregon Swimming

**Oregon Swimming, 1750 SW Skyline Blvd #103, Portland OR 97221**

## ***USAS Convention Reports***

**Stan Benson**

### **Championship Meet Evaluation Committee**

All of you should be familiar with the meet evaluation forms that are distributed at most swim meets. Hopefully *you* are not of those who routinely say things were OK, so I do not have to bother to fill one out. The return rate of these forms is very low unless something goes wrong. I have read thousands of these forms over the past 13 years and the information that comes from the checkmarks is limited. Often the best information comes from the written comments at the bottom of the second page.

At National Championship Meets there also has been an evaluation form that was distributed. Just like our evaluations, the useful information was limited. Facilities and locations are carefully screened and evaluated so complaints like the cost of parking are well known in advance.

A proposal was made, from within the committee, to abolish the committee. The reaction from the USA Swimming was that there was an important function that needed to be fulfilled and that abolishing the committee was not the answer.

A review of the results compiled from recent meets led to discussions about how to get better input in a shorter

time from the parties being interviewed, many of whom are occupied and do not have much free time available.

As a result, discussion revolved around who our customers are, and how do we get the appropriate information to them.

The net result is that, while there may still be evaluation forms available at the National Championship meets, the primary focus will be on an interview process to gather the information we need. This had been tried and seems to work quite well. The format of the interview, questions to be asked and how the summary will be written are still under development and refinement at this time, with the intention of using the new format at the US Open in December.

Different formats will be used for officials, coaches, athletes, spectators and meet management.

If you attend any of these meets please spend the few minutes needed to help make this process a success.

This summary includes a time frame that extends to more than the convention itself, but this helps put developments into perspective.

My return trip ended in Canada, instead of Portland, so I could attend my father-in-laws 90<sup>th</sup> birthday party, precluded making the deadline for the October newsletter.

You have read the other columns so my only other comment will be to say that the daily discussions over

lunch, that are a feature of the Oregon delegation, show the dedication of all of our delegates to gather the information available and discuss the issues.

## ***NOVEMBER NOTICES***

### **Athletes selected for a Camp in Colorado Springs.**

Congratulations to Kathryn Thompson, RST, Kim Jasmer, SCAT, Brittney Iverson, CAT, Jennifer Saylor, RST, Laura Fay, ECSC, Marra Erwin, TTSC, Jenni Stratton, DDSC, Ellen Bradley, TTSC, Joey Nannini, TTSC, Logan Madson, BEND, Nolan Morrell, BEND, Joe Andrews, LAC, Blaine Kisler, CAT, Logan Storie, CAT, Carl Hickerson, CAT, Elliott Bishow, CAT  
Coaches are: Andy Carlisle, Junia Calhoon and Rick Guenther.

**2003 Scholastic All America Team.** Congratulations to the following athletes who are earned a place on the Scholastic All American Team: Emily Wilson, LOSC, Kimberly Jasmer, SCAT, Jessica Embick, PAC, Haley Koss, MAC, Rebecca Alexander, TTSC, Jenni Stratton, DDSC, Jennifer Bailey, CAT, Laura Fay, ECSC, Mason Amick, VSC.

**2003 Awards Ceremony.** This year the Awards Ceremony will be held on November 16 In the LaSells Stewart Center in Corvallis. All top 5 athletes, their family and friends and coaches have received an invitation to the Ceremony.

**2004 All Star Team.** Applications for the Region XII All Star Meet in Olympia, Washington are listed in this newsletter. The applications are due December 15. All athletes 11-14 who have sectional qualifying times are encouraged to apply.

**November Board Meeting.** The November Oregon Swimming Board of Directors meeting will be held in the Eugene Hilton on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00PM. An officials meeting will be at 6:00PM.

**Lisa Champ** who has been at TCU in Texas this last two years and swam with the Canby Swim Club for 7 years, had open heart surgery on Oct 18th. I do not have all the details of where she is, but she needs everyone's thoughts to be with her. Thanks Eric Laitinen, Canby Swim Club

**Meet Evaluation forms/verification of membership**  
Please make sure when you make copies of the meet evaluation form you have the latest version and they should be mailed to Bruce Ludwig.

They are included in the sanction packet. Also send a backup of your meet as soon as you have your entries done for membership verification. There are too often athletes in the meet that are not registered. The meet is not insured when this happens!! All teams should use their Hy tek software when sending entries to a meet.

All athletes should be entered with their legal names (preferred names added in the appropriate spot) and registration number as it appears on their membership card. This way we don't have problems with membership verification and the times database.

### **Dues Increases for 2004**

The 2002 USA Swimming House of Delegates approved dues increases starting September 1 the dues will be:

Seasonal Athlete	\$25.00
Year-Round Athlete	\$45.00
Coach	\$70.00
Officials	\$50.00
Administrators	\$45.00

No increase in outreach and club membership fee.

**Safety Marshals.** Safety marshals should be highly visible on the pool deck. USA Swimming rule 102.18. USA Swimming donated 5 vests and they can be used at your meet. Contact the office for pick up if you wish to borrow them. They can also be ordered by contacting Kiefer Sports at 1-800-323-4071. The cost is \$9.50 per vest.

## ***2002-2003 SHORT COURSE AND 2003 LONG COURSE TOP 5 LIST***

The 2002/2003 short course (25 yards) and long course (50 meter) TOP 5 times from September 2002 thru August 2003 are available on the Oregon Swimming Website. If you are unable to access the website and are interested in the final list contact the Oregon Swimming Office at 503-297-6027, Fax 503-297-8498, e-mail swim@oregonswim.org. Invitations to all the athletes achieving TOP 5 times have been mailed the last week of October. The Awards Ceremony to be held on November 16, 2003 in Corvallis

## ***2004 OREGON SWIMMING BOARD OF DIRECTORS***

At the House of Delegates Meeting in Albany the 2004 OSI Board of Directors was elected.

General Chair – Tim Stevenson  
Administrative Chair – Rick Guenther  
Senior Chair – Gary Leach  
Age Group Chair – Amy Emmett  
Coaches Representative – Chris Richmond  
Technical Planning Chair – Alex Nikitin  
Treasurer – Jacki Allender  
Secretary – Valarie Koss.

## ***JOB OPPORTUNITY***

**Tigard Tualatin Swim Club** is seeking a part-time year round assistant coach for their team of 130+ swimmers.

TTSC practices at two pools – the Tigard Swim Center (25 yards, 6 lanes) and The Tualatin Swim Center (25 yards, 8 lanes).

#### Job Responsibilities:

- Coaching the beginning and intermediate level age group swimmers (practices are about 1 ½ hours M-F)
- Coach one invitational or dual meet approximately every 3 weeks
- Attending staff meeting once a month

#### Job Requirements

- The successful candidate must possess current USA swimming certifications (First Aid, CPR and Safety Training for Swim Coaches)
- Candidates must possess a strong knowledge of competitive swimming and excellent teaching skills.
- The candidate must be available early evenings and some weekend days.

The salary is competitive and based upon experience and certifications. Please submit a resume and cover letter stating your experience as coach and swimmer to:

Jeanine Serrano, Head Age Group Coach  
Tigard-Tualatin Swim Club

P.O. Box 230583  
Tigard, OR 97281

## **OFFICIALS CORNER**

### **BRUCE LUDWIG**

#### Butterfly Kick

There has been a fair amount of confusion about what constitutes an *alternating* kick in the butterfly event, and when it can be called by an official. Those confused are not alone. Gene Mielke managed to get a definitive answer while at convention. It's quite simple really – the official *must observe the ankles cross in relation to each other*. Simply observing one foot up above the surface on one kick and a different foot up above the surface on the next kick is not evidence of an alternating kick. The key is that the feet cross in relationship to each other, **and** that the official actually observe the ankles cross.

#### Timing System Error Handling

So... who handles timing system errors? Who's responsible? How is it done? I'm seeing evidence that timing system errors are being handled differently based on individual understanding and misunderstandings. The following represents a reasonable procedure for handling timing errors. This procedure is being taught at ET clinics:

1. Take the pad time if it is validated by one or both buttons.
2. If the 2 pad times validate each other, take the average of them. (adjustment is built into this average by Colorado).

3. If the pad time is not validated by a button, and the buttons do not validate each other, check the watch times. If either of the watches validate either the pad time or one of the buttons, take that electronic time. If not, and the 2 watches validate each other, write on the paperwork "use watch times plus heat adjustment in lane x." When the *person operating the Hy-Tek computer* sees this, they go into "show back-up", put in the 2 watch times, and hit the calculator button. The computer will then calculate the time plus the adjustment, the operator then clicks on "accept time".

Some key points to emphasize in this procedure are: 1) the button times are **automatically adjusted** from the Colorado Timing System; 2) the Hy-Tek operator enters watch times (**when watch times are needed, see #3 above**), and Hy-Tek **calculates** the adjustment; 3) **never** use watch times as official times unless they have been adjusted.

One bottom-line comment: the **Meet Referee** is ultimately responsible for all official times, and should be aware of any timing system adjustments. When needed, the Meet Referee should help the ET and Hy-Tek operator to make sure the proper procedures are followed.

#### Officials' Briefings

We are tending to relax on conducting mini rules briefings during pre-meet officials' meetings. We should not be relaxing in this area. Pre-meet rules briefings are **essential** to continuing excellence in our avocation. Historically we required officials to attend full blown clinics every two years in order to re-certify as S&T and Starter. That is no longer required because we require mini clinics prior to conducting swim meets. **Meet Referees: Please ensure these clinics are conducted at all meets, and that they are done in a serious attempt to increase knowledge and hone skills.**

#### Credentials

All officials must display their *current* Oregon Swimming certification credentials when working on deck. Please wear your card in a manner that is easily seen by the Meet Referee. Everyone must renew their OSI/USA Swimming *registration* each year, and their certification every two years. **Meet Referees: Make SURE all officials are currently certified. Any meets operated with uncertified officials produce meet results that are not official.** In addition to this obvious problem, meets that use uncertified deck officials may result in liability risk to meet directors, referees, and host team board of directors. Remember, the sanction given by OSI is only valid when the proper number of *certified* officials are used.

## Training Summit

As most of you know I've been advocating a process of concurrent committees to look at re-vamping our training program for officials certifying at new levels. I had asked for people to fill these committees, but did not get the response I had hoped for. In addition, I learned that a number of people who did volunteer had interests spanning more than one certification level. This has made me re-evaluate the original plan.

At this time I'm interested in using a single event to define the tasks associated with each certification level, define the standards used to rate trainees, and design the evaluation process and requirements. I would like to propose hosting a *Training Summit* where people interested in helping would all attend a weekend workshop designed to accomplish these tasks. If, at the end of the weekend there appears to be more work to be done, then committees could be formed from this group.

*The request:* Anyone interested in attending this workshop and being part of this *historic opportunity* should e-mail me to let me know. I will then try to find a suitable location and weekend to hold the summit. Some of you have already told me you would be happy to help – some have told me several times... ok... I get it! Nevertheless, so that I don't miss *anyone*, please remind me just one more time. For a location, I'm thinking Eagle Crest, but I'll need to check out costs and availability.

## Web Site

Some clubs continue to struggle with finding enough officials to conduct swim meets. I've heard some requests to have enough information on our OSI web page to enable clubs to solicit help from teams attending their meets. Specifically the request has been to post all Oregon officials names and club on our officials' page of the web site. I want to emphasize that only the official's **name** and **club** would be posted – no phone numbers or e-mails. It's thought that this would adequately protect privacy issues and yet allow meet directors to call club presidents or coaches and ask if officials will be attending the meet. An added value of the list would be that only **currently certified** officials would be listed which would allow Meet Referees to confirm officials' status. What do **you** think about this? Any objections out there? Please let me know if so.

## New Area Official's Chair

Welcome and thanks to Kathy Clark for stepping up as the Area Officials' Chair for Mid-Willamette Valley. Jess Hickerson has stepped down citing a busy schedule and a desire to allow someone else to take on a new responsibility. Thank you Jess for your years of dedication, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on deck.

.....  
**Linfield College** in McMinnville is hosting the N.C.A.A. Northwest Invitational December 5th and 6th.

They are looking for officials to work the deck. The meet is on Friday Night at 6PM and the following day at 10 AM.

Anyone who is interested may contact Dave Emmons at PDSstowdesk@aol.com.

## *Age Group Report* *Amy Emmett*

Newport Swim Team has been awarded one of ten, \$2,000, Outreach Grants, bestowed by USA Swimming for 2004. This grant will help support up to ten financially challenged swimmers during the coming year. Swimmers must qualify for the Federal Free or Reduced School lunch Program to qualify. Over 50% of Lincoln County's school children qualify, and many are at risk.

## **ALL STAR TEAM** **Jim Bowe** **Head Coach**

I wanted to take this opportunity to thank my fellow coached for giving me the opportunity to lead the Oregon Zone and All Star Teams for the next two years. I have been fortunate to go on 4 zone trips: One as a chaperone and coach under Rob Harvey and then two more as a coach under Suha Tokman.

Speaking of Suha, I want to thank him for the incredible energy he has given to this position. There is no way I will be able to match his spirit and enthusiasm. I also want to thank Jeanne Serrano for volunteering to be the manager for this year.

Thanks again have a great year.





**ALL-STAR MEET SWIMMER APPLICATION**

Region XII All Star Meet,  
Olympia, Washington, January 24-25, 2004

Swimmer's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ M/F

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

USA Swimming# \_\_\_\_\_ Club: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Coach Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Your age (on January 24, 2004): \_\_\_\_\_

Enter best short course yards and long course meters times for **ALL** the following applicable events: (Must have a minimum of one current short Age Group Sectional time. For short course time standards, 11-12 yr. old use 12 yr. old time standards, 13-14 yr. old use 14 yr. old time standards). **The times you list below must have been achieved since June 1, 2003.**

Event	SC Y Time	LC M Time	LC M Time	Date Achieved	Meet at which this time achieved
<b>200 Free</b>					
<b>100 Fly</b>					
<b>50 Free</b>					
<b>200 IM (11-12)</b>					
<b>400 IM (13-14)</b>					
<b>100 Free</b>					
<b>100 Breast</b>					
<b>500 Free</b>					
<b>100 IM (11-12)</b>					
<b>200 IM (13-14)</b>					
<b>100 Back</b>					
* 50 Back (Relay)					
* 50 Breast (Relay)					
* 50 Fly (Relay)					

- **Please circle the events for which you have achieved a qualifying time. Please include \*50 yard times for Relays.**
- **Please Note:** Since short course times will most likely reflect your most recent performances, they will receive priority consideration in the selection process.
- **IMPORTANT:** This form must be signed by your coach in the space below. Coach's signature verifies that the times have been achieved in competition since June 1, 2003.
- Coaches, please use the space provided for comments you may wish to make regarding the swimmers events, conditioning, etc.
- **Coach's signature verifies that swimmers level of conditioning is appropriate for this competition and that to the best of your knowledge, the times listed are accurate and were achieved on the date and at the meet indicated.**

Coach's Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Coach's Comments: \_\_\_\_\_

**APPLICATION MUST BE RECEIVED BY NOON, December 15th, LATE APPLICATIONS WILL NOT BE CONSIDERED**

**FAX to Oregon Swimming at 503-297-8498 Phone 503-297-6027 to verify receipt of FAX. Or  
Mail to: Oregon Swimming, Inc. 1750 SW Skyline Blvd Suite 103 Portland OR 97221  
DO NOT SEND MONEY WITH THIS APPLICATION**

**Oregon Swimming, Inc. 1750 SW Skyline Blvd. Suite 103, Portland, OR 97221-2545**

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