

FINA Representative

Mel Goldstein

Vice Chairman, FINA Masters Committee

The COVID-19 virus pandemic changed the lives of many people and cancelled many events around the world. There will be a new normal for International Masters Aquatics as we move forward.

The FINA World Championships in Gwangju, South Korea was an outstanding success and many were looking forward to the 2021 FINA World Championships in Fukuoka, Japan, which had the potential of being the largest FINA World Championships. Preparation for this event was on schedule. Unfortunately, COVID-19 virus pandemic postponed the 2021 FINA World Championships until May 31 – June 9, 2022.

The FINA World Masters Championships will be held across the cities of Island of Kysushu. Holding the championships across three cities will allow for greater participation. Beyond work on the Championships, the committee held its first official FINA Master Coaches and Swimmers Clinic, it was held in Asuncion, Paraguay at the CONSANAT Masters Championships. Over 100 Coaches and Swimmers attended the clinic, representing 12 different federations. The success of this program in Paraguay set the stage for FINA Masters Clinics in Egypt and Senegal in 2020. However, the COVID-19 virus pandemic caused the cancelling of these clinics to date to be announced in 2021. The FINA Masters Committee will continue to pursue a curriculum on “How to develop a Master’s Program”, to bring more awareness to the healthy lifestyles through masters aquatics throughout the world.

Moving forward, there is much work to be done, but we will have to wait until there is a sense of normalcy around the world.



Liaison and Special Appointments Reports

International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Liaison

Jessica Seaton

The 2020 IGLA Championship Meet took place in February in Melbourne, Australia. 611 people registered, of which 50% were Australian, and 21% were women. Swimming, Diving, Water Polo, Synchronized Swimming, and Open Water were all offered.

At the Annual General Meeting there were the following presentations:

1. Gay Games 2022
 - a. Will take place the second week of November 2022. Local government is giving the venue free of charge. It is huge. Cathay Pacific is a strong supporter.
2. IGLA 2021
 - a. Will take place in Salt Lake City, Utah, and be run by Queer Utah Aquatics (QUAC) May 23-29.

Liaison and Special Appointments Reports

International Swimming Hall of Fame Liaison

Jack Groselle

ISHOF (International Swimming Hall of Fame)

ISHOF has developed a new program, "One in a Thousand" to help it through this difficult time. Between the COVID-19 and being under construction, it's a hard time for ISHOF. If you want to help ISHOF, just click on the link below. You can join and help out for as little as \$10 a month. I have attached the info below. Our goal is to get 1,000 aquatic people to join to get us through this pandemic. Every little bit helps!

<https://www.swimmingworldmagazine.com/news/international-swimming-hall-of-fame-asks-if-you-are-one-in-a-thousand/>

Be sure and watch the video to see what is happening at ISHOF!



Liaison and Special Appointments Reports

National Senior Games

Bill Tingley

The 2020 National Senior Games will be held November 5-16 in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. The tentative site is the newly renovated Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Center, the old International Hall of Fame pool. The renovations started in 2019 and are scheduled to be finished in the summer of 2021. <https://www.fortlauderdale.gov/home/showdocument?id=43906>

NSGA is planning that both 10 lane, 25 yard courses in the main pool will be used, with all age groups competing on the same day at the same time.

The National Senior Games are for athletes 50 years old and older. The National Senior Games are held in odd years, with the qualifying meets being held in even years at each state's local Senior Games.

Qualifying for the 2021 National Senior Games started at the state Senior Games around the country began in January of 2020. For more information about the remaining 2020 state Senior Games, contact the local game coordinators at <http://nsga.com/state-games>.

To be eligible to enter the 2021 National Senior Games, a swimmer must have placed in the top four in a state games meet in 2020. If a swimmer finishes below fourth place in a state Senior Games competition, he or she may enter that event, if the time was better than the published time standard. <https://nsga.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/2021OfficialMPSSStandards030920.pdf>, Pages 5-7.

A one-time adjustment to the qualification process for the 2021 National Senior Games has been made in response to the Coronavirus pandemic.

If a state qualifying senior games is ABLE to conduct Games in 2020, the qualification standards for the sports/events as specified in the 2021 NSGA Rulebook will determine qualifiers. In addition athletes from that state's senior games who qualified for the 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM will also qualify in the respective swimming events for the National Senior Games in 2021 (i.e., qualifiers from 2018 respective swimming events from that state's senior games).

If a state qualifying senior games is UNABLE to conduct Games in 2020, athletes from that state's senior games who qualified for the 2017 National Senior Games in Birmingham, AL and/or 2019 National Senior Games in Albuquerque, NM will qualify in the respective events for the 2021 National Senior Games (i.e., qualifiers from 2016 and/or 2018 respective swimming events from that state's senior games).

Liaison and Special Appointments Reports

The National Senior Games has been recognized by the host LMSC for the last 10 games. The New Mexico LMSC was our host LMSC in 2019 and all of the times achieved by USMS Swimmers, both national records and Top 10 swims, were reported to USMS in 2019. Some state Senior Games have applied for and received USMS recognition during 2020. NSGA will apply for a recognition, once the location of the competition is finalized.

UANA Representative

Mel Goldstein

Chairman Masters Technical Committee

UANA stands for Union Americana de Natacion. It is the Continental governing body under FINA that encompasses North American, South America, and the Caribbean nations (43 Federations). United States Aquatic Sports represents one of the Zones under the UANA banner. UANA was established in 1948. The logos shown here under the UANA Governing Body.



The UANA Pan American Masters Championships were scheduled for June in 2020, in Medellin, Colombia. Unfortunately, due to the COVID-19 virus pandemic the championships were postponed and will be held May 20-27, 2021. Swimmers who were entered were given an option to receive a refund or allow their entries to remain as entered. There were 383 entries prior to the postponement, only 56 swimmers requested refunds and these refunds have been processed. The online entry system for the championships is now open for the 2021 championships.

www.panamericano2020.com

The COVID-19 virus pandemic cancelled all meetings and all events for 2020, however prior to the pandemic UANA was able to partner with FINA to host the first FINA Masters Coaches and Swimmers Clinic in Asuncion, Paraguay. The clinic was a tremendous success with over 100 Coaches and Swimmers attending, representing 12 Federations.

With some sense of normalcy, the UANA Masters Committee will meet again in Medellin in 2021, to formulate a plan through 2023.

