

FINA Representative

Mel Goldstein



Kazan, Russia



Aquatic Palace



Open Water

One year after the FINA World Masters Championships in Montreal, FINA hosted the first FINA World Masters Championship immediately after the FINA World Elite Championships in Kazan, Russia. There were 2640 Masters athletes attending the championships in Kazan for all disciplines (2002 Swimmers, 72 Divers, 35 Synchronized Swimming, 30 men / 3 women (429 Players) Water Polo, and 366 Open Water). There were 31 World Records and 75 Championship Meet Records broken. While the numbers were low this was a very fast meet with a lot of great swims, World Records from past championships Montreal, Canada 31, Riccione, Italy, 34, and 34 Gothenberg, Sweden.

The championships were very well organized, with two indoor 10 lane 50m pools for swimming and diving. There were two additional pools for Synchronized Swimming and Water Polo. The swimming meet was conducted in one pool because of low number's, therefore the other pool was used for warm up at all times. Volunteers were friendly and were there at all times to take care of your needs, and they all spoke English. For the first time in a World Masters Championship there was a formal award ceremony. Tim Shead from the US, said it best when describing the awards ceremony , in one word "Magical". The meet was managed by Microplus a company from Italy, and they did an outstanding job providing results and video.

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The Open Water event was held in the Kazanake River, the course was an out back 3zk course. There were 9 waves of approximately 50 + swimmers. Volunteers were in abundance and assisted athletes and officials...Over 10 safety boats on the water along with other safety personnel, because Safety was a priority, a first for this representative there was a Hospital boat on the water with complete hospital equipment if needed. Medical staff was at the finish to assist swimmer's if they needed assistance.

Kazan is a beautiful modern and clean city rich in History and Culture, the people of Kazan were extremely friendly. Those who did not attend the championships missed an experience of a lifetime.

The next FINA World Masters Championships will be held in Budapest, Hungary the first or second week in August 2017. Plans are being formulated for this championship, which will feature a new aquatic complex with two 10 lane 50m pools and a diving well. These new pools will bring the total to 6 pools at this aquatic facility. Start making plans "See you in Budapest !"

International Swimming Hall of Fame Liaison

Walt Reid

IMSHOF

The 2014 International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held during the USAS Convention in Jacksonville Fla. David Guthrie, Tim Shead and Jean Troy were inducted as "Honor Swimmer".

Of the six male Honor Swimmer Nominees for 2015 four are from USMS. They are David Radcliff, Jack Grosselle, Jurgen Schmidt and Hugh Wilder. Of the six female Honor Swimmer Nominees for 2015 three are from USMS. They are Anne Adams, Joann Leilich and Danielle Ogier. The USMS nomination for "Honor Contributor" is Nancy Ridout. The winners will be announced shortly and the 2015 IMSHOF Induction Ceremony will be held during the 2015 USAS Convention in Kansas City.

ISHOF

I attended the 2015 International Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony which was held in Santa Clara California. Last year the ISHOF announced it would not be part of the new Ft. Lauderdale Swimming complex. They plan to move to Santa Clara. However currently they are still in Ft. Lauderdale.

This year a USMS swimmer was inducted into ISHOF as "Honor Masters Swimmer". That swimmer was Karlyn Pipes. It has been 9 years since a Masters Swimmer (Jane Asher GBR) was inducted into ISHOF. The nominees from USMS for the 2015 ISHOF Honor Masters Swimmer were Aldo da Rosa, Burwell Jones, Frank Piemme, Betsy Jordan, Rita Simonton and Karlyn Pipes.

National Board of Review Chair

Barbara Delanois

Members:

1.	Laura Groselle	Dixie	Rules/NBR Chair (past)
2.	Meg Smath	Great Lakes	Legislation
3.	Sandi Rousseau	Northwest	Championship/Officials
4.	Sally Dillon	Northwest	Awards/Rules
5.	Sean Fitzgerald	Dixie	Legislation/Governance/BOD
6.	Ruth Giles-Ott	Great Lakes	GLBT
7.	Dan Cox	Great Lakes	Legislation/LMSC/BOD

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8.	Dick Pittman	Great Lakes	Meet director
9.	Harry Greenfield	Great Lakes	Finance
10.	Greg Weber	Southwest	Registration
11.	Molly Grover	Colonies	Brand New/Coach/Meet
12.	Laura Winslow	Southwest	Audit, Finance, BOD
13.	John King	Oceana	Officials

Introduction: 2014-2015 was year 2 for the Chair of the National Board of Review.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

NBR received two (2) grievances, both presented to the NBR under “original jurisdiction” authority because the by-laws of the LMSC at issue precluded non-LMSC registered members from submitting a grievance through the LMSC.

GRIEVANCE # NBR-2015-01: The NBR Chair appointed a hearing panel of three (3) members of the NBR hearing panel pool. After the Hearing Panel’s thorough and thoughtful review, consideration and analysis, and deliberations of the Hearing Panel in consultation with the USMS Open Water Compliance Coordinator; and communications with the Chairs of USMS Open Water and Long Distance Committees, the NBR determined the equities of the matters presented to the NBR justified the imposition of an Interim Order pending a final decision in matters presented. The NBR hearing panel convened a telephonic hearing, took evidence consistent with established procedures and issued its timely final decision which reaffirmed the Interim Order.

GRIEVANCE # NBR-2015-02: Pursuant to Rule 403.6.2, the Chair of USMS National Board of Review, after reviewing, considering and analyzing the allegations of fact and issues presented by the Grievance and Response, and the United States Masters Swimming Code of Regulations and Rules of Competition, issued a summary determination and ruling that Grievance # NBR-2015-02 lacked merit and issued a notice of dismissal.

National Senior Games Liaison

Bill Tingley

The National Senior Games are held in odd years with the qualifying for the games in even years at local games held in each state. Swimming was one of 18 sports contested in this year’s Games.

To be eligible to enter the National Senior Games, a swimmer must have placed in the top three in a state game. If a swimmer finishes above third place, they may enter by bettering the published time standards for each event.

The National Senior Games has been approved by the host LMSC for the last eight games. Both National Records and Top Ten swims have been achieved and reported to USMS.

This year 626 swimmers entered the Minneapolis National Senior Games. While the total numbers of swimmers was down, the number of USMS registered swimmers increased. 392 entrants were USMS swimmers, while 234 were non-USMS registered swimmers.

Under the leadership of Tom Moore, the Chair of the Minnesota LMSC, and David Bergquist Sanction and Top Ten Chair for the Minnesota LMSC, the meet ran smoothly and efficiently at the University of Minnesota Aquatic Center. Tom was the meet director and David was the USMS observer for meeting the requirements of USMS for an approved meet. The meet ran as if it were a USMS meet due to the planning and work of the Minnesota LMSC

While there were no National Records set, a number of swims will be in the Top Ten, and have been reported to the USMS database. The next National Senior Games will be held June of 2017 in Birmingham, Alabama at the new sports facility, the Birmingham CrossPlex. Qualifying for this meet will be held in 2016 at State Senior Games

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around the country. For more information about the State game, contact the local game coordinators.
<http://www.nsga.com/state-information.aspx>

UANA Representative

Jim Miller, Member UANA Masters Technical Committee
Mel Goldstein, Chair UANA Masters Technical Committee

Introduction

UANA stands for Union Americana de Natacion. It is the regional organization under FINA that encompasses North America, 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 involved here, just so you're familiar with them, are:



The Masters Technical Committee under UANA is chaired by our own Mel Goldstein and I have sat on the committee since its inception in the early 2000's. Our committee addresses the Masters component of the 5 aquatic disciplines (swimming, diving, open water swimming, synchronized swimming and water polo).

2015

The 2015 UANA Masters Championships were held June 17-25 in Medellin, Colombia. The facility was a stunning 11-pool complex which allowed more than one discipline to be conducted at the same time. The Colombian Swimming Federation and event organizers became increasingly excited as the events unfolded. They were amazed at the performances of elite athletes of all ages but the 85 year old 3K open water swimmer (among many others) brought the crowd to their feet cheering as he received his gold medal. such an inspiration.

USMS clubs were represented by 288 participants in the swimming and open water events. Diana Triana and Richard Garza were our coaches aiding all athletes from USMS. However, these coaching positions go much farther than just on deck coaching. It goes without saying the Diana and Richard did a wonderful job but in so doing they were obvious extensions of the professionalism and opportunities that the athletes (competitive and fitness) have under USMS direction. We take so much of this for granted. Nadine Day was helping a non-US athlete in the warm-down pool, only to look up at 20 people taking it all in. Following this Championship, Medellin is proposing a Coaching/Athlete Clinic in Medellin, Colombia in 2016.

USMS is looked to as the World leader in Masters Swimming. This is magnified within the Americas when local federations see first-hand how our leaders and coaches operate. The event organizers in Medellin are very excited about this possibility, which will build a bridge between coaches, swimmers and federations in South and Central America and our membership -- and potential membership in the U.S.

Examples of actions taken by the Masters Technical Committee include:

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- Standardization of the UANA Championship entry information booklet
- Standardization of the UANA Championship on line entry format
- Creation of UANA invitational events during years that do not have a Masters UANA Championship – these will be events wherein any single aquatic discipline may open up their event to all swimmers within UANA and seek recognition as a UANA recognized event. This should enhance the draw to events regardless of where they are hosted within the 43 UANA Federations.
Enhanced format through the entry booklet to solicit judges to work UANA Masters Championships
- Approval for the next championships to be in 2018 & 2020 as well as nurturing future bidders who are interested in hosting all 5 Masters aquatic sports. The adjustment in years is secondary to the change in the FINA Masters World Championship schedule.
- Sponsorship development for UANA Masters
- Enhanced training through clinics for Masters UANA coaches, judges, referees, officials
- Enhanced development of UANA Postal events as fitness and competitive opportunities
- Annual face to face meeting of the UANA Masters Technical Committee with the first one proposed for Miami in 2016. We have found that it is difficult to effectively carry out the work of this active committee while also overseeing a Championship meet.

All of the executive positions within UANA rotate between the 4 UANA Zones (South America, Caribbean Nations, USA, and Canada). The Presidency rotates to the US this year and Dale Neuberger is the new UANA President. This is clearly the time for USMS to step forward. Keeping USMS represented internationally and in a leadership position within UANA is very important in the Americas and Caribbean countries.

Mel and I look forward to working with all of you at the 2015 USAS Aquatics Convention. Please feel free to approach either of us with your comments and questions.

I am including a research summary from the 2013 UANA Masters Championships (3 sports – pool, synchronized swimming and open water) which will help you to see the overall economic impact that a Masters Championship can have on a community. It is important to see the impact as much more than the revenues from entries and vendor sales. As delegates change from year to year, such pointed research is important for us to revisit from time to time. It is germane here in that it is anticipated that the US will be in the bidding process for future UANA Masters Aquatic Championships. The bid will go out for 2018 to any and all that are interested, realizing that we are inclined toward a bidder who is willing to host all 5 aquatic sports.

Summary of Research Findings

The study of the *2013 Pan American Masters Championship* was implemented to document the economic impact of the event. ***The total economic impact of out-of-county visitors to the Pan American Masters Championship is \$3,628,400.*** Attendance estimates provided by event organizers indicate some 2,500 people (1,700 participants and 800 spectators) attended the 2013 Pan American Masters Championship from May 31 - June 13, 2013.

The following, in short summary, are the salient findings of the research:

A. Profile of Participants/Spectators of the 2013 Pan American Masters Championship:

1. Of the 2,500 people who attended the 2013 Pan American Masters Championship, nearly four of every five (77.7%) were overnight visitors staying in commercial lodgings, while 5.8% stayed with friends or relatives. Some 14.0% were Sarasota County residents and 2.5% were day-trippers {Q1a, Q3, and Q4a}.

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2. Nearly half (49.6%) of responding participants and spectators traveled from outside of the U.S. to attend the event *{Q1a and Q1b}*.
3. The typical overnight visitor party had an average party size of 3.2 people. Of these, 2.2 were athletes and 1.0 was a spectator. This means that the event attracted an average of 0.5 spectators for every participating athlete. *{Q5a and Q5b}*.
4. Overnight visitors reported staying in the destination's commercial lodgings for an average of 8.0 nights for the event *{Q6}*.
5. Although 81.9% of commercial lodging participants stayed in the area's hotels and motels, 18.1% rented condos or vacation rentals *{Q4a}*. The Pan American Masters event generated an estimated 4,900 room nights in the Sarasota region.
6. Nearly three of every five out-of-county participants/spectators (58.7%) were visiting the Sarasota area for the first time for this event *{Q2a, q2b, and q2c}*. Some 22.1% traveled to Florida for the first time and 14.4% were visiting the U.S. for the first time.
7. According to event attendees, the other things they enjoyed in the Sarasota area included *{Q7}*:

Percent

- Beach 88.1%
- Dining Out 71.3
- Shopping 55.4
- SightSeeing 38.6
- Museums 36.6
- Relaxing 36.6
- Attractions 24.8
- Bars and Nightlife 21.8
- Art Galleries 17.8

B. The Economic Impact of the 2013 Pan American Masters Championship on the Sarasota area:

The direct expenditures of out-of-county attendees to the Pan American Masters Championship are \$1,911,900. Their total economic impact equals \$3,628,400 (*multiplier: 1.8978*).

2013 Pan American Masters Championship Economic Impact Study

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www.KlagesGroup.com

So were the 2013 Pan American Championships successful? Wildly successful and a thanks goes out to the event organizers at all locations, and in particular the Sarasota Sharks and the Sarasota Chamber of Commerce.



Conclusion for the US

UANA Pan American Championships are a very profitable event for a motivated and integrated locality that has the infrastructure and big picture approach to defining success.

USMS Liaison to International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics

Sean Fitzgerald

IGLA is the world's foremost international organization solely devoted to developing and promoting gay and lesbian swimming, water polo, diving, and synchronized swimming.

IGLA's mission is to promote participation in aquatic sports among lesbians and gay men and friends of our community, and to ensure maintenance of the highest standards for aquatic competitions and international standards for all Gay Games and IGLA Championships. The 2015 IGLA Championships were held in conjunction with the Eurogames in Stockholm Sweden, August 5 – 8. 900 swimmers competed from 22 countries. 250 of those participating were USMS members.

IGLA would also like to congratulate our 2003 IGLA gold medalist in synchronized swimming mixed duet. At the 2015 FINA World Championships in Kazan Russia, Bill May became the first man to win FINA gold in synchronized swimming.

The 2016 IGLA Championships will be hosted by Masters Swimming Canada in Edmonton, Alberta. In 2017, IGLA returns to the United States as Miami will host the event. In 2018 the IGLA Championships will be held as part of Gay Games 10 in Paris.