

9/21/2014

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2014 Convention Report

USA Swimming Convention – Info Learned and Shared

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Kent Yoshiwara
Diversity and Inclusion Committee Chair

2014 Convention Report

USA Swimming Convention – Info Learned and Shared

Wednesday, September 17

Diversity and Inclusion - Meet and Greet

Presentations by the members of the National Diversity committee, led by Bill Kirkner. Other speakers were:

Kathy Mendez – Oklahoma Swimming – Focus on Native American swimmers. Created a swim meet to encourage Native American swimming.

Peter Malone – Virginia Swimming – One of the original National Outreach Committee members, present info on the changes from the early programs to the present

Other presentations by Bill Kickner, Nadine Johnson, Jeff Gudman, and Manny Banks

Diversity and inclusion - Round Table

Presentation by Peter Malone, on the Eastern Zone Diversity Camp

Rhonda (USA Swimming Staff) on the topic of LGBT and swimming

Kathy Mendez – Native American Swimming, and socioeconomical challenges. She also presented in on a project to reach out kids with incarcerated parents.

Bill Kirkner – Socioeconomical challenges

Angela Monty – Wisconsin Swimming, and reaching out to Native America community

Justin Corriea – Learn to swim program in Florida. Development of a free learn to swim program

Reaching out to club members by celebrating holidays. This is a good way to build the sense of TEAM. If you are not already doing this, consider a team celebration for, MLK, Black History Month, Cinco De Mayo, Chinese New Year, etc... One coach celebrate MLK Day with IM-FREE sets.

Western Zone Diversity Meeting

Held a Western Zone Diversity Meeting. Participants from CO, SI, NM, CA, OR, WZ leaders, and PC.

We discussed how best to communicate, and decided on Google Docs as the central repository for WZ Diversity info

We decided to hold Quarterly WZ Diversity conference calls

Thursday, September 18

Official Committee Meeting / Workshop

Attended the officials committee meeting. Mostly and update on the common practices used by USA Swimming Officials for things like the OTC system, how evaluations are done, etc.,'

Diversity and Inclusion - Business Meeting

Member of the National Committee – Bill Kirkner, Peter Malone, Nadine Johnson, Manny Banks, Jeff Gudman, Kathy Mendez, and Angela Monty (no athletes present, so no decisions could be made)

The committee discussed a number of topics that included:

- GLBT developments, including - Registration/Membership, Meet Operations
- Zone Diversity Camps – include socioeconomically challenged swimmers
- Annual Inclusion Award (two recipients this year)
- Convention Workshop

Great Ideas in Your LSC

Kathy Mendez – Oklahoma LSC - from the Might 25, one of the LSCs with 2,500 athletes or less. Executive Board must be in alignment with the diversity efforts. This is the first person that must be on board with any diversity effort. It is very important for the Diversity Chair to have a vote on the Board. Need to have a web page to share info, and get info out. Find a way to raise a splash fee or raise the registration fee to help fund the diversity programs.

Miriam Lynch – Potomac Valley LSC – College Knowledge event, Coaches Education Water safety events. Know where the board is spending money. Use a travel meet practice for a clinic or training opportunity for the parents. Use the income from late fees, or from monetary penalties into the Diversity Fund.

Peter Malone – Virginia LSC – Listen to others and have them help you to get to where you want to go. They have already invented the wheel, no need to re-invent it. Peter brought the LSC Treasurer to the Diversity Summit, and this insured that the LSC could find a way to help fund diversity events and programs. Virginia is also implementing an Officials Reimbursement program. (I have asked for the documentation for this program)

I gave a brief explanation of our Pacific Swimming Grant Program. (Mirary from Potomac Valley was asking about the “for profit” issue in the Pacific Swimming Grant program. We talked several times regarding this issue. Kile from South Carolina asked for more info about the Pacific Grant program, I will connect with him after the convention)

Other good ideas...Be at board meetings, to know how the board works, learn how to get funding from the board.

Educate the parents too...combine swim camps for swimmers with clinics for parents

Provide water safety the PE teachers at the school district

Disability is different from Diversity

Look at other resources like, GLAAD, Diversity in Aquatics, local Sport Authorities, Chamber of Commerce's.

Western Zone General Meeting

As the Western Zone Diversity Coordinator, I presented a report on the WZ Diversity Camp. It was well received, and there were a couple of questions.

The zone is looking at Santa Barbara for the next camp in 2016. This is very tentative for now. More discussion to follow.

Friday, September 19

Officials Burning Issues

This session ended early. It was a Q & A session with most questions coming from cards collected from the audience.

The topics were varied, from kinesio tape to submerge prior to the finish, to a missed backstroke turn.

Some LSCs don't use DQ sips for some lower level meets.

Don't talk about infractions during a stroke briefing. Only talk about the right form, and what the correct form is.

Deck changing is a violation, but the penalty is up to the referee.

Gender change is being addressed by a new committee. More info and discussion on gender change is coming.

LSC and Zone Camps

Moderator – Nadine Johnson

Miriam – Background and history behind the zone camps. She gave a detailed description of the process and also backed up her presentation with timelines and schedule info. She also included camp agendas, and budget info. This was the most detailed Diversity session so far, and provided more of a step by step process.

Angela – Gave a report on the most recent Central Zone Camp, held in Wisconsin. They included the use of social media during the camp. They also included an open water session too.

Suzanne – Gave a report on the North Texas/South Texas LSCs camp. This was held at UT Arlington. It was a one day camp. It was based on the Catch a Spirit Camp. They had a volunteer professional photographer that resulted in some great camp photos.

Justin Corriea – Gave some background on the National Diversity Camp that is held at the OTC.

One thought for many camps is for some of the older kids to come back as camp councilors after they are too old for the camp.

Western Zone Diversity Meeting

Held a Western Zone Diversity Meeting. Participants from UT, HI, NM, and PC.

We discussed how best to communicate, and confirmed on Google Docs as the central repository for WZ Diversity info

We also discuss the best use of social media to communicate

We also decided to use email as the main tool for communicating information.

Diversity and Inclusion - Workshop

Presentation from Rhonda (USA Staff) on Sigma Gamma Rho on how they might be a good partner for assistance with diversity efforts, as they are a service organization.

Presentation from Justin Correia on the swim lesson program in Florida.

Then we discussed a number of different situations that have potential violations with USA Swimming rule 304.3, in the Code of Conduct.

Zone Diversity Coordinators

After the Workshop, met with other Zone Diversity Coordinators (Eastern Zone, and Southern Zone) to discuss camp formats and camp schedules. And revised the standard template to capture lessons learned.

US Masters

Meet with some US Masters swimmers to discuss diversity issues, affecting US Masters swimmers of color. Extensive discussions carried over through dinner. There appears to be little or no focus on diversity in the US Masters organization.

House of Delegates meeting

Mostly presentation of awards and reports

Continued diversity discussions with US Masters

Saturday, September 20

House of Delegates meeting

Reports from various committees

Election of President and Vice presidents

Rule and regulations changes. Adoption of new legislations. Too numerous to list in this report. Refer to USA Swimming web site for all new legislation.

US Masters

Final meeting with a couple of members from US Masters, including an executive board member, and the President of US Masters (Nadine Day). I presented info on the effort and work of USA Swimming on the topic of diversity, explaining the overall organization.

Return flight on Saturday afternoon.

Western Zone Diversity Camp

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY EAST BAY (HAYWARD)

JUNE 26-29, 2014

KENT YOSHIWARA



California State University East Bay

Hayward, California



California State University East Bay

Hayward, California



Camp Staff

Head Coach - Jason Calanog – Boles School

Amy Monroe – SwimMAC Carolina

Miriam Lynch – Nations Capital Swim Club

Guest Speaker - Sabir Muhammad

Camp Director – Veronica Hernandez

Assistant – Kent Yoshiwara



USA Swimming

Manny Banks

Bill Krumm

Diversity Camp

Arizona Swimming

Southern California Swimming

Hawaiian Swimming

Inland Empire Swimming

New Mexico Swimming

Pacific Swimming

Pacific Northwest Swimming

San Diego Imperial Swimming

Sierra Nevada Swimming

Snake River Swimming

Utah Swimming

Diversity Summit

Southern California Swimming

Hawaiian Swimming

Inland Empire Swimming

New Mexico Swimming

Pacific Swimming

Pacific Northwest Swimming

Sierra Nevada Swimming

Utah Swimming



Diversity Camp

















Diversity Summit







