

Liaison and Special Appointment Reports

FINA Representative

Mel Goldstein

Kazan, Russia was the first city to host the FINA Masters World Championships in conjunction with the FINA Elite World Championships. The Kazan championships were outstanding and the championships in 2017 in Budapest, Hungary will be also be equally outstanding. Budapest is a beautiful city.



Preparations in Budapest for the championships are ahead of schedule. The FINA Masters Technical Committee is working with the Budapest Organizing Committee to make the championships a very memorable experience for swimmers who attend. Budapest has 3 ten lane, 50 meter pools with more than adequate warm up and warm down areas for each pool. This will allow for reasonable days of competition throughout the championships. I would suggest those planning on attending the FINA World Championships in Budapest they enter early and book their hotel accommodations.

The FINA Bureau approved the recommendation of the FINA Masters Technical Committee to develop a marketing plan to promote Masters Swimming throughout the world. This marketing plan includes a video promoting Masters aquatics in all disciplines, and presence of Masters at all major FINA activities like FINA World Aquatics Convention. This is the first step for FINA going beyond competition in that Masters Aquatics is truly “Swimming for Life”.

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International Swimming Hall of Fame Liaison

Walt Reid

IMSHOF (International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame)

The 2015 International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony was held during the USAS Convention in Kansas City. David Radcliff and Jack Groselle were inducted as “Honor Swimmers”. Nancy Ridout was inducted as “Honor Contributor”.

Of the six 2016 male Honor Swimmer nominees, three are from USMS. They are Thomas Maine, Jurgen Schmidt, and Hugh Wilder. Of the six female Honor Swimmer nominees for 2016, three are from USMS. They are Anne Adams, Joann Leilich, and Danielle Ogier. The USMS nominee for “Honor Contributor” is Tom Boak. The winners will be announced shortly, and the 2016 IMSHOF Induction Ceremony will be held during the 2016 USAS Convention in Atlanta.

ISHOF (International Swimming Hall of Fame)

Based on a point system, each year the top 6 male and the top 6 female swimmers are submitted as nominees for the ISHOF “Honor Masters Swimmer” category. The male nominees from USMS for 2016 were Aldo da Rosa, Burwell Jones, Frank Piemme, Robert Strand, and Jim McConica. The USMS women were Betsy Jordan, Rita Simonton, and Lois Kivi Nochman. The ISHOF final ballot for 2016 listed Burwell Jones and Frank Piemme as nominees for “Honor Masters Swimmer” and Phillip Whitten as nominee for “Honor Contributor”. No Masters were selected for the 2016 induction.

The 2016 International Swimming Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony is scheduled for Oct 28-30 in Santa Clara California.

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National Board of Review Chair

Barbara Delanois

Members:

- | | |
|--------------------|-------------|
| 1. Laura Groselle | Dixie |
| 2. Meg Smath | Great Lakes |
| 3. Sandi Rousseau | Northwest |
| 4. Sally Dillon | Northwest |
| 5. Sean Fitzgerald | Dixie |
| 6. Tracy Lord | Great Lakes |
| 7. Mary Pohlmann | Breadbasket |
| 8. Dick Pittman | Great Lakes |
| 9. Glenda Carroll | Pacific |
| 10. Greg Weber | Southwest |
| 11. Mollie Grover | Colonies |
| 12. Billy Cordero | Great Lakes |

Introduction: 2015-2016 was year 3 for the Chair of the National Board of Review.

Discussions and Projects Since Last Convention:

NBR received one (1) grievance under “original jurisdiction” authority because the dispute concerned allegations of unsporting conduct involving parties from different LMSCs. The NBR Chair appointed a three (3) member hearing panel selected from the NBR hearing panel pool. The parties waived their right to a hearing and consented to the Hearing Panel’s review, consideration and analysis of the factual statements and argument of all parties based only upon the documents presented. The NBR hearing panel issued a reprimand and imposed a sanction against the Respondents.

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National Senior Games Liaison

Bill Tingley

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. In 2015 swimming was one of 18 sports contested in the National Senior Games.

To be eligible to enter the National Senior Games, a swimmer must have placed in the top three in a state Senior Games meet. If a swimmer finishes above third place in a state Senior Games competition they may enter that event if they bettered the published time standard for the event.

The National Senior Games has been recognized by the host LMSC for the last eight games. Both national records and top ten swims have been achieved and reported to USMS. Some state Senior Games have applied for and received USMS Recognition.

Following the 2015 National Senior Games some changes have been made to the list of events. Based on swimmer feedback received by the National Senior Games Association (NSGA) national office the 2017 Senior Games will now include the 400 yard individual medley and 200 yard butterfly. The addition of these events will change the order of events from the 2015 and 2013 games.

The next National Senior Games will be held June 2nd through 15th, 2017 in Birmingham, Alabama. Swimming events will take place at Birmingham CrossPlex, which is a new sports facility. Qualifying for this meet has already begun this year at State Senior Games around the country. For more information about the remaining 2016 State games contact the local game coordinators. <http://www.nsga.com/state-information.aspx>.

In July the NSGA announced that the 2019 National Senior Games will be held in Albuquerque, New Mexico. The exact dates for The 2019 National Senior Games will be finalized and announced later this year.

UANA Representative

Mel Goldstein

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 UANA Masters Technical Committee was very active over this past year. Bids for 2018-2020 were accepted, recommended, and approved by the UANA Executive Committee. The 2018 championships will be in Orlando, Florida (US) and the 2020 championships will be in Medellin, Colombia (COM). Dates for both championships will be announced at a later date.

With no scheduled UANA Pan American Masters Championships in 2016, the UANA Masters Technical Committee continues to standardize the UANA Championship entry information and the on line entry format. The committee is in the process of producing a brand essence video to promote Masters Aquatics in all disciplines in the Americas. A sub-committee has been formed to develop a process and program to hold two clinics in the Americas in 2017, for coaches, swimmers and definitive leaders to promote and educate them on the benefits from Masters aquatics.

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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 2016 IGLA Championships were held in Edmonton Alberta, Canada, August 9 – 14. 250 swimmers competed, most coming from the United States.

The Large Team Award was won by West Hollywood Aquatics. The Medium Team Award was won by DC Aquatics Club. The Small Team Award was won by Uganda Kuchus Aquatic Team. The Uganda Kuchus Aquatic Team (UKAT) was founded in 2016 as an effort to increase opportunities for LGBT athletes in Kampala and provide a safe space where anyone can learn how to swim competitively regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. A complete biography of the Uganda Team can be found at <http://www.igla.org/2016/07/out-and-proud-swimmers-in-uganda/>. Their participation in IGLA 2016 truly inspired all in attendance.

IGLA 2016 also included open water swims of 1K and 4K. The winners of the 4K open water swim were Lucas Fisher of Canada and Nele Vanbuel-Goffin of Belgium. In the 1K swim the winners were Laurence Fry of San Francisco Tsunami and Beth Alexakos of Seattle Orca.

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.