



Y Times

YMCA News for Coaches, Athletes and Families

Welcome to the 2007 YMCA Swimming and Diving Short Course Nationals!

Thank you for joining us in Sunny Ft. Lauderdale, Florida. We hope to see you here again next year on April 1-4, 2008!



2007 Short Course Honors and Awards

Joseph G. Rodgers – Don Leas was presented with the Joseph G. Rodgers Award for dedication, accomplishment and excellence in YMCA competitive swimming and diving. Don has been a long-time advocate and supporter of YMCA Diving.

Conrad “Connie” Carroll – Awarded to an individual who best represents the ideal of a YMCA swimming official. Mary Ellen Smolinski is this year’s recipient. She has been integral in the numerous technological advances that have improved the efficiency of the YMCA National Championship Meets.

Two Outstanding Athlete Scholarship Awards were presented to YMCA swimmers...

Kristen McMullan of the Kennett Area YMCA in Kennett Square, PA

Naomi Delphin of the Lester Sterling YMCA in Beverly, MA

And Presenting the Awards...

This year’s Nationals has featured a stellar lineup of awards presenters including:

Olympian Staciana Stitts Winfield

Olympian BJ Bedford

Tony Corbisero, former YMCA National Champion, NCAA Champion and American Record Holder

Dan Casey, Chairman of the National Board of the YMCA of the USA

Mike Eubank, YMCA of the USA Program Director for National Competitive Events

Jim Wood, President of USA Swimming

Keira Cruz, 2006 YMCA Coach of the Year

Did You Know...

That the Coach of the Year Award is given to the coach who best represents the core values of the YMCA through his/her leadership. Anyone can nominate a coach throughout the year by going to the website, www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org.

YMCA Staff News

YMCA Staff **Membership, Marketing, Health/Wellness Aquatics/SCUBA EXPO** takes place May 16-18 in Dallas. A pre-EXPO event includes *Engaging Newcomers: Accessing the Diversity of Your Community* on May 15 and 16. This event offers personal insight into the immigrant experience, comprehensive data and facts, and practical steps toward developing local response strategies.

The 2007 Diversity Champion Conference, which will take place Nov. 6-8 in Milwaukee, Wis. This year’s conference will focus on the theme: "Driven by Mission: Our Journey to Full Inclusion." Conference highlights include keynote addresses by Neil Nicoll, president and CEO of YMCA of the USA, and Jane Elliott, creator of the "Blue Eyes, Brown Eyes" exercise.

For more information, on the Conference and EXPO YMCA staff should go to the www.YMCAexchange.org webpage.

Thank You TOYOTA!

Thanks to the generosity of Toyota, a major sponsor of the YMCA National Swimming and Diving Championships. Through their participation, the Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee has also awarded three local YMCAs with mini-grants to provide swimming instruction and safety programs in diverse urban populations. The program recipients were in Houston, Texas, Dallas, Texas and New York, New York and included over 350 new YMCA Swimmers. Thank you, Toyota, for your support of the next generation of YMCA Nationals participants and YMCA Swimming!

Lost and Found

The spirit of honesty is alive and well in the YMCA! Thanks to those individuals to have turned in items. Among the items missing their owners are i-Pods, wallets, cash, cameras, sombreros and one large piñata. If you have lost an item, please check with the Help Desk, located at the announcer’s table, or ask one of the Gate Guys.

Admissions

The Gate Guys want to thank all participants who purchased the admissions wristbands and wore them all week. That made entry much easier and quicker!

International Flair

Martin Trnovec, an exchange student from Slovakia, is competing in his first and last YMCA Nationals. He is living with a Countryside YMCA family in Cincinnati, Ohio and will compete for the Slovakian National Team when he returns in June.