



Cullen Jones

**SPEEDO is proud to present
Olympic Champion
Cullen Jones
on Monday, April 4th**

Olympian to Welcome Athletes to Greensboro for YMCA Short Course National Championships

Since nearly drowning at the age of five at a Pennsylvania water park, Cullen Jones was determined to learn how to swim and break the stereotype that minorities can't, or don't swim. With his remarkable successes and achievements in the pool, he has succeed in changing this perception.

Cullen is the first African-American to break a world record as well as win a gold medal at the World University Games when he was a student at North Carolina State University. At the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, Cullen became the second African-American to win swimming Gold as a part of the world-record shattering 4x100m Freestyle relay team.

In the 2012 London Olympic Games, Cullen added to his relay Gold from Beijing with two Silver medals and a Gold medal, including an individual Silver medal in his specialty 50m Freestyle. As a member of the National Team he is currently focused on earning a spot at the Olympic Games in Rio this summer.

Outside of the pool, Cullen serves as an ambassador for USA Swimming Foundation's Make a Splash program, traveling the country to provide free swim lessons to children of all ages. The program focuses on teaching children and minorities to swim and the importance of water safety and drowning prevention.

A talented and dynamic speaker, Jones has spoken to universities, corporations, and non-profit organizations regarding his Olympic experience and overcoming adversity to achieve any goal.

Cullen will be available for autographs on Monday, April 4th beginning at 1:45 pm adjacent to the SPEEDO booth in the YMCA Athletes' Village.

Cullen will be interviewed by Rowdy Gaines, NBC's Swimming Commentator for the 2016 Rio Olympic Games at 4:30 pm in the spectator stands of the Greensboro Aquatic Center.

BRIEFLY: Cullen is the current American Record holder in the 50 meter freestyle

BRIEFLY: Cullen is the 10th fastest performer All-Time in the 50 meter freestyle

BRIEFLY: Cullen is two times US Olympian & Three times World Championships member for Team USA

BRIEFLY: Cullen will be swimming in his fourth Olympic Trials. ('04, '08, '12 & '16) hoping to qualify for the 2016 US Olympic Team.



CAREER HIGHLIGHTS:

- Two-time Olympian (2008 & 2012)
- Two-time Olympic Gold Medalist
- Four-time Olympic Medalist
- 2007 World Champion
- NCAA Champion
- Four-time ACC Champion

CULLEN'S STATS

Birthday: February 29, 1984

Hometown: New Brunswick, NJ

Residence: Charlotte, NC

High School: St. Benedict's Prep '02

College: North Carolina State University '06

Degree: English with Minor in Psychology

