

Y SWIMMING NEWS-AUGUST 2024

News and updates for YMCA swim coaches, directors and volunteers.

YMCA NATIONAL LONG COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS

Florida Aquatics Swimming and Training in Ocala, Florida was the site of the 2024 YMCA National Long Course Swimming Championships on July 30 – August 3. 694 swimmers representing 82 YMCAs from 18 states competed in the five day meet. Thank you to Meet Director, Jon Saxton, and all of the volunteers who put on an excellent meet experience.

Team Champions

The **YMCA of Greater Spartanburg** (SC) won the Men's and Combined Team championships while the **Greater Somerset County YMCA** (NJ) won the Women's competition.

National Championship Records

- Men's 100 Breaststroke – John Reese Taylor, YMCA of the Triangle Area – 1:02.35
- Men's 200 Free Relay – Ridley Area YMCA - 1:33.12 (Shane Eckler, Jonathan Hoole, Tristan Ronayne, Jake Kennedy)
- Women's 400 Free Relay – Greater Somerset County YMCA – 3:50.62 (Colleen Bull, Victoria Castro, Erica Maltsev, Emily Thompson)
- Men's 400 Free Relay – Ridley Area YMCA – 3:26.91 (Shane Eckler, Tristan Ronayne, Jonathan Hoole, Jake Kennedy)



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Coaches of the Meet

Coach Mary Korey (Greater Somerset County YMCA) and **Coach Erik Nelson** (Ridley Area YMCA) were voted by their peers as Coaches of the Meet.



Congratulations, Coach Mary Korey, on being named the Head Women's Coach of the U.S. Junior Pan Pacific Championship Team.

August Y Coaches Forum

- Topic: **YMCA Branding for Swim Teams.** *Bring your questions!*
- Tuesday, Aug. 20, 11:30 am Eastern.
- Meeting link [HERE](#)

YMCA OLYMPIANS AND PARALYMPIANS

Six swimmers with YMCA roots earned spots on the U.S. Olympic Team and three more will represent the U.S. at the Paralympic Games in Paris this month.

Jack Alexy (Greater Somerset County YMCA), **Hunter Armstrong** (Tuscarawas County YMCA), **Matt Fallon** (Greater Somerset County YMCA), **Chris Giuliano** (Pottstown YMCA), **Thomas Heilman** (Piedmont Family YMCA) and **Ryan Held** (Springfield, IL YMCA) competed in the Olympic Games. Alexy, Armstrong, Giuliano and Held won the Gold Medal in the Men's 400 Meter Freestyle Relay. Find full swimming results [HERE](#). Photo courtesy of Carol Capitani. L to R: Chris Giuliano, Matt Fallon, Jack Alexy, Thomas Heilman.

Hannah Aspden (YMCA of the Triangle), **Leanne Smith** (YMCA of the Northshore) and **Matt Torres** (Westport Weston YMCA) will represent the U.S. at the Paralympic Games on August 29 – September 7. **Coach Dave Modzelewski** (YMCA of the Northshore) will be on the U.S. Paralympic Team Coaching Staff.



2024-25 Team & Coach Registration

YMCA annual team and coach registration for the 2024-25 season begins September 1. *Please do not submit registrations prior to September 1.*

Team registration is \$50 per team. Coach registration is free until December 1. After December 1, coach registration is \$100 per coach.

YMCA team registration for the 2023-24 season yielded the following data:

- 532 teams registered
- There were a reported 56,892 Y swimmers
- There were a reported 358 Full Time coaches, 2,397 Part Time coaches and 326 Volunteer coaches in Y programs
- 55.45% of Y teams are also registered with USA Swimming

Coach Vacancies

If you have a coaching vacancy at your YMCA, you can have the posting listed on the YMCA Swimming and Diving site under the Coaches tab. Contact [Meredith Griffin](#) to post. Likewise, if you are looking for Y swim team opportunities, take a look [HERE](#).

ATHLETE REPRESENTATIVES

Each YMCA Swimming committee and subcommittee has 2-3 athlete members who serve annual terms and share the athlete's perspective and ideas. The athlete representatives collectively make up the YMCA Athlete Council, which meets monthly as a group to strengthen their development as inclusive leaders.

Applications are open for 2024-25 athlete representatives to the following committees and subcommittees. Find full information on the committees and the application on the YMCA Swimming and Diving site under [Swimmers](#).

- National Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee
- National Officials Committee
- National Championship Meet Committees (must plan to attend both the 2025 Short Course and Long Course Championship Meets)
- National Eligibility Committee

THOUGHT LEADER COHORT OPPORTUNITY

YMCA Thought Leader Cohorts (TLCs) are working groups of Y staff from across the Movement who bring a mix of expertise, innovative and strategic thinking, imagination and creative problem solving. The Sports TLC will apply the Y's Innovation approach to solving critical issues for both recreational and competitive sports (swimming and gymnastics).

TLC meetings will occur monthly, primarily by video but will include some in-person meetings. Commitment is at least one year.

If you are interested in being part of a national group of leaders from local YMCAs working to elevate leading practices in sports, including competitive swimming programs in the Y, please consider applying. See [LINK post](#) for more information and application link. Applications are being accepted until August 26. Selections will be made in early September.

Y Swim Officials Training Update

The YMCA Swim Officials courses are still being revised, with an anticipated release by the end of 2024.

- Current courses and materials, including tests, will be used until the updates are released.
- All current trainers will be notified and given the opportunity to review the new courses. Trainers will complete a trainer acknowledgement prior to teaching the new material.
- Remember that current course tests use the 2022 Rulebook and are available through LCDC.