



COACHING CONNECTION



Thank You, USA Swimming Summit Attendees

A big thank you to all the volunteers, coaches, LSC members, athletes, and more who attended the USA Swimming Summit in Denver, Colorado. The week was filled with numerous educational events where members connected, grew, and were inspired by one another. It finished off with five new members being appointed to the USA Swimming Board of Directors.

Here are some highlights:

- Attendees listened to a **fireside chat with USA Swimming's newest member, CEO and President Kevin Ring**. View the recording [here](#).
- **Over 600 individuals participated** in the USA Swimming Summit, USA Swimming Safe Sport Leadership Conference, and Women Coaches in Governance.
- Congratulations to **Jack Bauerle, Billy Doughty, Brent Lang, and Kate Lundsten** for being elected to the USA Swimming Board of Directors. Thank you to Frank Busch, Maya Dirado, Clark Hamond, and Ira Klein for their service. Learn more [here](#).
- There were **five separate tracks** at the USA Swimming Summit, allowing members to fully immerse themselves into their respective roles and collaborate with others in similar positions.

- The **USA Swimming Safe Sport Leadership Conference** featured three separate presenters, each focusing on **online safety, reporting, and population resiliency**. To learn more and watch these recordings, click [here](#).
- The **Women Coaches in Governance** attendees participated in **interactive in-person trainings**, where members took the next step in their local governance roles. They will continue their journey through the end of October as they continue to meet virtually each week. Learn more about the program [here](#).



Membership Reports

Last year, we distributed a series of membership reports ahead of the Summit. Following positive feedback on the 2024 reports, we are once again offering a set of [membership reports](#). Please note, you will also find the 2024 reports here.

The following reports are available on the [website](#) and linked directly below for ease of access:

[2025 Satisfaction Survey Report](#)

The study examined LSCs and USA Swimming from the following stakeholder levels:

- Coaches
- Teams
- Athletes & Families
- Local Community of Teams (LSCs only)
- LSCs (USA Swimming only)

Two versions are available: a [summary report](#) and the full [80-page report](#) for those who want more detail.

[Block Party Phase Two Report](#)

This report provides a deep dive into data and learnings from Phase Two of the Block Party Pilot, with a nod to action items for Phase Three.

[11-12 Retention Playbook](#)

This is the next edition of the best practices guides, following up on the 10 & Under Best Practices Guide from last year. These reports aggregate best practices and case studies from successful USA Swimming clubs to offer peer-led strategies to coaches and clubs.

Connect with Team Services Staff

USA Swimming's Team Services staff travels across the country to support clubs each week. Please review

the dates and locations below to schedule a meeting with your Advisor in person.

[Beth Winkowski:](#)

- October 8-11 | USA Swimming Boys National Select Camp
- October 24-26 | Southeastern club visits
- November 3-7 | Florida and Florida Gold Coast club visits

[Dana Skelton:](#)

- November 3-6 | Florida and Florida Gold Coast club visits
- November 20-24 | Women's Leadership Clinic

[Mark Hesse:](#)

- October 8-11 | USA Swimming Boys National Select Camp
- October 22-25 | USA Swimming Girls National Select Camp
- October 26-29 | North Dakota club visits

[Mike Novell:](#)

- October 8-11 | USA Swimming Boys National Select Camp
- October 22-25 | USA Swimming Girls National Select Camp
- October 30-November 2 | USA Swimming Coach Development Academy

[Nate Chessey:](#)

- October 5 | Colorado Swimming Athlete Summit
- October 14-17 | Colorado Swimming and Wyoming Swimming club visits
- November 3-7 | Utah Swimming club visits
- December 5-13 | Arizona Swimming club visits

[Terry Jones:](#)

- October 8-11 | USA Swimming Boys National Select Camp
- October 22-25 | USA Swimming Girls National Select Camp
- October 30-November 2 | USA Swimming Coach Development Academy
- November 14-16 | North Texas High Performance Camp

USA Swimming Foundation Golden Goggle Awards

The USA Swimming Foundation celebrated the 22nd annual Golden Goggle Awards on Saturday, September 27 at the Denver Art Museum. The event honored athletes, coaches, and alumni for their impact on the sport of swimming throughout the year. All proceeds went directly to benefit the USA Swimming Foundation's mission of *Saving Lives, Building Champions, and Impacting Communities*.

Congratulations to the following 2025 USA Swimming Golden Goggle Award Winners:

- Female Athlete of the Year, presented by Omega: **Katie Ledecky**
- Male Athlete of the Year, presented by Omega: **Luca Urlando**

- Coach of the Year, presented by Omega: **Todd DeSorbo**
- Fran Crippen Open Water Athlete of the Year: **Ivan Puskovich**
- Relay of the Year, presented by Toyota: **Women's 4x100m Medley Relay - Regan Smith, Kate Douglass, Gretchen Walsh, and Torri Huske**
- Alumni of the Year: **Elizabeth Beisel**
- Foundation Impact Award: **David and Maya Shackley**

Read more [here](#).

Last Chance - Women's Leadership Clinic

Are you or someone you work with looking for an opportunity to build leadership skills and network with fellow female members of USA Swimming? Sign up for the Women's Leadership Clinic before applications close!

The clinic focuses on leadership development for female coaches with varying levels of experience. It costs \$300 and includes three virtual meetings and one in-person opportunity, to be hosted at the La Foret Conference and Retreat Center in Black Forest, Colorado.

Sign up now before the first virtual session at the end of the month. Learn more [here](#).

Grant Applications

The 2026 grants are now open through November 15, 2025.

With over one million dollars provided to local clubs and swim lesson providers nationwide in 2025, this is your opportunity to receive funds for the 2026 calendar year.



Youth and Adult Learn-to-Swim Grants

[Apply for Youth LTS](#) | [Apply for Adult LTS](#)

[Youth FAQ](#) | [Adult FAQ](#)

[Learn more about Youth LTS](#) | [Learn more about Adult LTS](#)



Community Impact Grants

[Apply here](#) | [Community Impact Grant FAQ](#) | [Learn more](#)

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Financial



Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU) Grants

[Apply here](#) | [HBCU FAQ](#) | [Learn more](#)



UNIVERSITY

Virtual Educational Opportunities Supported by the USA Swimming University

- Bullying Prevention Month: Brush up on your **anti-bullying training for October's Bullying Prevention Month** [here](#). The free virtual training, led by USA Swimming's Safe Sport team, focuses on the topic of bullying - what it is, how to spot it, and how to intervene.
- Safe Sport
 - For Parents:
 - October 21 | 8 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - November 4 | 8 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - December 9 | 8 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - For Athletes:
 - October 23 | 8 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - November 6 | 8 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - December 11 | 8 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
- 10&U Network: Olympian Hunter Armstrong
 - October 14 | 1 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - Learn from **Olympian, Hunter Armstrong, on the lessons he believes can help 10&U coaches**. The webinar will focus on what roles coaches played in his journey, what skills he believes 10&U swimmers should focus on, and how his parents impacted his journey.
- 10&U Network: Defining Your Own Success
 - October 21 | 1 p.m. ET | [Register](#)

Join a **collaboration between USA Swimming and the ASCA Women's Initiative**, where MacKenzie Novell (ASCA) and Dana Skelton (USA Swimming) will work with attendees on how to define success, what factors can impact your success, and how to take ownership of your success.

- TrueSport Talks: Mental Wellness & Sport Systems
 - November 4 | 10:30 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - Join TrueSport and USADA for a free event exploring the importance of **sport systems that prioritize mental health**. This is an all day event consisting of six sessions. View more information, including session descriptions, [here](#).
- Senior Network: College Recruiting
 - November 5 | noon ET | [Register](#)
 - Join guest speaker Sam Barany, Executive Director of the College Swimming & Diving Coaches Association of America, as she discusses **what club coaches need to know about the current landscape of college swimming** and what the recruiting process looks like.
- Club Business Network | Block Party
 - November 5 | 12:30 p.m. ET | [Register](#)
 - Join guest speakers Mike Ashmore (Santa Maria Swim Club), Tom Walsh (Rochester Swim Club), John Bradley (Minnetonka Swim Club), and Erin Schwab (Ohio Swimming) as these leaders demonstrate **how Block Party can be successfully used and how it positively impacted their growth, retention, and performance** in their local areas.
- [Legacy Coach course](#)
 - Learn from 8-time NCAA Coach of the Year Coach Eddie Reese as he shares how a culture of caring, trust, and communication motivated his athletes to succeed.
 - Reminder: This is a free course for all logged in USA Swimming members.
- [Connection-Based Coaching](#)
 - Free on the USA Swimming University for member coaches, this course focuses on storytelling from Team USA athletes.

Visit the University channel on the [USA Swimming Network](#) or [USA Swimming University](#) to explore special recordings and additional educational content.

College Club Swimming

Your swimmers don't have to stop swimming after high school. College Club Swimming (CCS) has become one of the fastest-growing parts of our sport, with nearly 10,000 swimmers on 220 campuses.

By sharing CCS with your seniors, you're helping them:

- Stay connected to the sport in college if varsity isn't the right fit,
- Support your club when they're home on breaks, and
- Stay in the sport for life with a transition to Masters Swimming after college.

Thank you for mentioning CCS to your graduating seniors. Your encouragement will keep them in the sport for life.

Learn more [here](#).

Upcoming Events

- [Open Water World Cup](#)

October 10-11, 2025

- [World Aquatics World Cup \(Carmel\)](#)
 - October 10-12, 2025 | SCM
- [World Aquatics World Cup \(Westmont\)](#)
 - October 17-19, 2025 | SCM
- [World Aquatics World Cup \(Toronto\)](#)
 - October 23-25, 2025 | SCM
- [Toyota U.S. Open](#)
 - December 3-6, 2025 | LCM
- [Speedo Winter Junior Championships](#)
 - December 10-13, 2025 | SCY
- [TYR Pro Swim Series \(Austin, Texas\)](#)
 - January 14-17, 2026 | LCM
- [TYR Pro Swim Series \(Westmont, Ill.\)](#)
 - March 4-7, 2026 | LCM
- [Open Water National and Junior National Championships \(Sarasota, Fla.\)](#)
 - April 2-4, 2026
- [TYR Pro Swim Series \(Sacramento, Calif.\)](#)
 - May 20-23, 2026 | LCM
- [TYR Pro Swim Series \(Indianapolis, Ind.\)](#)
 - June 17-20, 2026 | LCM
- [Toyota National Championships \(Irvine, Calif.\)](#)
 - July 28-August 1, 2026 | LCM
- [TYR Futures Championships](#)
 - July 29-August 1, 2026 | LCM
 - Multi-site
- [Speedo Junior National Championships](#)
 - August 3-7, 2026 | LCM
- [Pan Pacific Swimming Championships \(Irvine, Calif.\)](#)
 - August 12-15, 2026 | LCM
 - *Date and location of OW competition are TBD*

View all events [here](#).

From Our Partners



Bag Tags, Inc.

Durable, personalized, and professional - the perfect way to showcase your swimmers and keep every meet organized. Learn more, customize, and purchase [here](#).

Mack's



Keep water out of your ears and help prevent swimmer's ear infections with Mack's® Earplugs, USA's #1 selling and #1 doctor-recommended earplug brand.

Get off the bench and back into the water with Mack's® waterproof swimming earplugs. When it comes to ear health, trust Mack's®, the brand ear doctors trust.

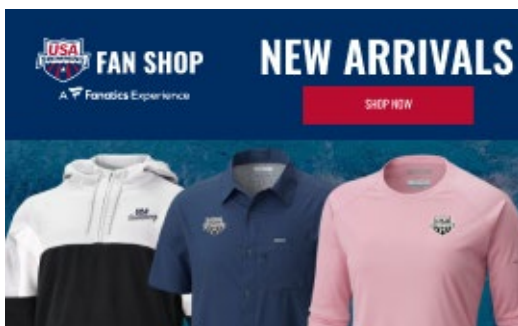
Mack's® is the Official Ear Care Supplier of USA Swimming. Learn more and purchase [here](#).



OneAmerica Financial

Financial security is the foundation of a confident future. There are many ways to safeguard yourself and your loved ones in the years ahead by following simple financial wellness tips.

The companies of OneAmerica Financial have been advancing financial security for almost 150 years, supporting millions of customers with solutions and guidance across life insurance, retirement, employee benefits, and long-term care. Click [here](#) to explore some helpful financial wellness tips.



USA Swimming Fan Shop

The Official USA Swimming Shop has everything you need to show your USA Swimming pride in style. Browse an unbeatable selection of officially licensed USA Swimming apparel and merchandise, such as hats, shirts, accessories, and more to add to your wardrobe. Click [here](#) to access.



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