



Central Zone 14& Under Long Course Age Group Championship Meet Post Event Report

West Fargo North Dakota

Hulbert Aquatic Center 620 7th Avenue E West Fargo ND 58078

LSCs in attendance:

Arkansas 54 258 entries

Iowa 41 athletes 221 entries

Indiana 129 athletes 532 entries

Minnesota 213 athletes 786 entries

Missouri Valley 52 athletes 271 entries

North Dakota 56 athletes 225 entries

Oklahoma 32 athletes 149 entries

South Dakota 41 athletes 243 entries

Total athletes 389 Female, 279 Male 668 Total 2607 entries and 294 relays Total 2901

Meet Referee: Phil Barnes-IA

Admin Referee: Tracy Meece-MN

Admin Referee: Kerry Barnes-IA

National Evaluator: Melissa Hellervik-Bing-FL

Championship Coordinator: Paul Thompson-OK

Site Records: Event 23 Ellery Ottem MSI-MN Girls 13-14 200 Free 2:05.83

Event 71 Ellery Ottem MSI-MN Girls 13-14 100 Free 57.83

Event 24 Youssef Bahgat AR-AR Boys 13-14 200 Free 1:57.08

Ben Vorthmann MV-MV Boys 13-14 100 Free (lead off split from 400 Free Relay) 52.97

Facility: 2016 Olympic Trials Pool. Partnership between the West Fargo School District and the philanthropic UP Aquatics group resulted in establishing one of the best aquatic centers in the Upper Midwest. School District bond initiatives provided \$18.3 million from the voters and the Up Aquatics raised \$3,250,000.

10 lane competition pool. Anti-wave lane lines, electronic timing and start system Colorado timing Gen. 7 with Hy-Tek interface. There was a system reboot during a swim and a failure of the start end for the 50's of stroke starting system to provide adequate volume for those starts. The times issue was addressed by timing adjustments for the effected heat and the speaker volume issue was addressed by

moving the timers and starting from the other end. Staff worked to address the volume issues between sessions. No further issues came up. Facility will look into getting the score board to list records and qualifying times. Start end has a depth of 7 feet and the turn end a 14-foot depth. Warm up warm down pool immediately adjacent to the competition pool. 6 lane 25 yard pool available for continuous warm up warm down use. Pool depth 3.5' and 4.5'. Glass doors separated the competition pool from the warm- up pool. 10 lanes allowed for the efficient use of the pool for prelims which was a big benefit for the timelines. Excellent water depth, water quality. Large score board located on wall behind starting blocks. Colorado Timing System, little to no timing adjustments were noticed, timing system Generation 7 showed to have a few technical issues to work out with Hytek. Starting Sound system built into the starting blocks exceptional but needs some attention with a 4-day event. Staff was very responsive in dealing with any technical issues that came up. Facility provides all necessary Timing system operators. Timing operators were knowledgeable and reliable throughout the event. Both announcers received high marks from the evaluations, professional, knowledgeable of the sport, very cordial, and easy to work with, willing to work with the admin staff on any issues that came up. Plentiful locker rooms available. Excellent separation of athletes from spectator, coach, volunteer and officials. Very good separation of athletes from general spectator contact regards seating and rest rooms/locker rooms. Separate athlete Locker rooms from public access. Expansive spectator seating upstairs on both side of the competition area. Individual seats with arm rests. Seating for 1100 upper deck. 10 handicap reserved seating areas. Elevator access to all upper deck areas. Seating extends the full length of the venue making for excellent viewing conditions for all spectators. Provides for a real championship meet setting. Air quality was generally highly reviewed in the evaluations. Excellent cooperation between facility staffing, host volunteers and CZ staff in dealing with the few issues that cropped up during the 5 days of facility use. Warm up warm down venue water temp tied directly to air handling process so there was some adjustment necessary between water temp and air temp. Wi-Fi access available complimentary to spectators in the venue. Warm Up warm down pool conveniently located in separate area off competition pool deck. Hospitality area near pool deck. Very nice seating area with excellent air conditioning provided a great space for meals, rest area off deck and social setting for coaches and officials. Hospitality was highly praised by officials and coaches throughout the meet. Hospitality received high survey evaluation scores. Well maintained, monitored continually, clean, plentiful food, snacks and seemingly unlimited beverages Serving times were adhered to throughout the meet. Concessions were available inside the center and supported by "Food Trucks" outside the venue. Parking availability and regulations on site was set by the school system. There were 250 spaces in the main lot and another 60 located behind the venue that were pay to park based. Located close (within 3 blocks) were additional public parking spaces plus on

street parking that were free to use. The facility and host organization have the potential to host many major aquatic events. This championship was one of the first major events to be held in the new aquatic center. There was noticeable cooperation between all volunteers and staff to make this just the start of the events that could be held at the Hulbert Aquatic Center.

Host: Meet Director, Aquatic Staff and Club staff were very professional, energetic, experienced and knowledgeable with swim meet process and worked well to present a championship meet experience. The Meet Director Lisa Montplaisir worked well in coordination with the CZ Coordinator, and Meet Referee for months in advance of the competition. Assisted with lodging and transportation to attend the event. The level of cooperation, attention to detail and assistance in planning was excellent and greatly appreciated. Worked months in advance with the attending LSC coaches, entry contacts and team managers to outline meet operations and procedures, arranging arrivals, team registration, bag tags, warm up times and group photo sessions. Host staff worked well to assist the meet admin. staff on time- lines for prelims and finals session, meet publications, heat sheets, programs, timing questions, D-2 athlete procedures and the awards process for both 10& under and older athlete sessions. Excellent meet operational capability allowed for experienced computer operations, and timing system operators. Special thanks to Head Timers, Paul Lundgren and Jason Triplett. Thanks to Jenn Iverson, Kim Potter and Cheri Lund and many other volunteers who had hospitality keeping everyone well fed and happy. Thanks to Heidi Tripplett for excellent help with AO responsibilities throughout the meet. There were 2 announcers sharing sessions for the meet. Both worked well with CZ staff to coordinate award procedures for both the 10 & under and 11-14 finals sessions. Use of local talent for national anthem presentations was well received and appreciated. Announcers were successful in keeping all sessions running as close as possible to the session timelines. Both received high evaluation survey marks. Thanks to Mike and Julie Smith, Cody and Michelle Glaser and Matt and Casey Howell who all helped wherever and whenever needed months in advance and throughout the meet. They were the “go to “families. The host was very proficient with the use of email and web-based communication pre-meet and post meet, meet reports, meet publications available in hardcopy or online promptly every session. While previous experience of the host organization with the CZ meet and other championship meets was not extensive it was apparent that the host leadership team was well and prepared to present a championship meet.

Sessions: All sessions and heats were tracked. Ran smooth, on timeline each session (see actual session timeline report for complete details). Prelim sessions length 2-3 hours very well accepted, allowed for brief calm water before starting warm up for 10&under session, 10-under session ran on time each session. Extra attention to the

pace of competition of the 10& under session was addressed ahead of competition by the Meet Referee and officiating team. Time was allowed for award presentation and announcing. Awards Break between events usually consisted of 6 minutes on awards and 4-6 minutes break before start of next event. This improved every session. Presentation of awards was measured and consistent, ample awards presentation time with photo opportunities. 1-8 medals, 9-16 ribbons, relays 1-3. 1-8 medals for individual events and 1-3 relays presented on podium. Adjusted awards session from presentation by age group to presentation by stroke. This change allowed more predictable timeline management. Excellent team work between admin staff and meet operations to coordinate the awards process so that it was a good experience for athletes and spectators. Finals sessions ran well, followed projected session timeline reports. Assistance from host staff with awards presentations insured adequate time for the athlete recognition and keeping the meet running smoothly.

Summary Session Data:

Session	Start	End	Heats	Athletes
Thursday Prelims	8:40 am	11:04 am	45	394
Thursday 10 Under	1:00 pm	3:10 pm	26	181
Thursday Finals	5:00 pm	7:50 pm	32	256
Friday Prelims	8:40 am	11:00 pm	60	513
Friday 10 & Under	12:30 pm	2:50 pm	30	200
Friday Finals	5:00 pm	7:50 pm	39	289
Saturday Prelims	8:40 am	11:10 pm	47	401
Saturday 10& Under	12:30 pm	2:40 pm	25	167
Saturday Finals	5:00 pm	8:15 pm	36	285
Sunday Prelims	8:40 am	11:23 am	65	547
Sunday 1500	12:30 pm	3:15 pm	8	69
Sunday Finals	5:00 pm	7:25 pm	32	243

The Central Zone recognizes and appreciates that without the leadership of the Meet Referee, Phil Barnes-IA, Tracy Meese-MN and Kerry Barnes IA as Admin Referees, the generous support of all the officials who gave of their time, personal expense and energy to work this event this meet would not have been the success it turned out to be. Much appreciation to Melissa Hellervik-Bing for her mentorship and participation as National Evaluator.

Evaluation summary remarks:

1-5 rating with 5 being highest.

210 evaluation participants. 28 coach, 78 athlete, 62 spectator, 19 volunteer and 23 officials

Competition Venue received 4.24 average rating with 207 responses

Aquatics Center received 4.45 average rating with 207 responses

Meet Format received 4.44 average rating with 203 responses

Overall rating of 4.34 with 207 responses

Find attached full evaluation summary report for further review.

Respectfully submitted,

Paul Thompson

CZ Championship Coordinator for the West Fargo Site

2019 Central Zones West Fargo LC Championship Evaluation

210

Responses

07:17

Average time to complete

Active

Status



Ideas

1. Describe Yourself

Coach	28
Athlete	78
Volunteer	19
Spectator	62
Official	23



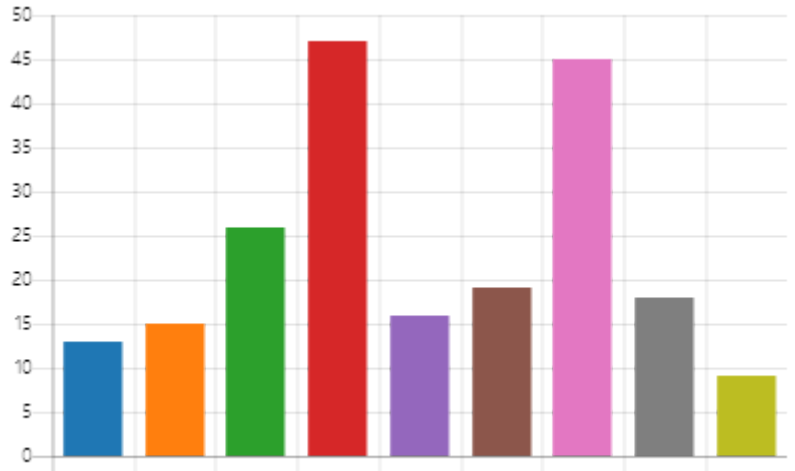
2. Please describe your involvement in the meet

10 & U Timed Finals	10
11 to 14 Prelims & Finals	133
Both	66



3. What is your LSC Affiliation

● Arkansas	13
● Iowa	15
● Indiana	26
● Minnesota	47
● Missouri Valley	16
● Midwestern	19
● North Dakota	45
● Oklahoma	18
● South Dakota	9



4. Rate the Competition Pool (air quality, water quality, deck space, etc.)

207
Responses

★★★★☆
4.24 Average Rating

5. Rate the Timing Systems (accuracy, availability on meet mobile, etc.)

205
Responses

★★★★☆
4.32 Average Rating

6. Rate the West Fargo Hulbert Aquatics Center (e.g. parking, seating, convenience, bathrooms & locker, etc.)

207
Responses

★★★★☆
4.45 Average Rating

7. Coaches & Officials Only : Rate hospitality (food/drink choices, quality, quantity, and availability)

107
Responses

★★★★☆
4.36 Average Rating

8. Rate the Pace of the Competition (too fast, too slow, just right)

● Too Fast	10
● Too Slow	28
● Just Right	171



9. Please rate the Central Zone LSC site selection process and your travel to the competition.

193
Responses

★★★★☆
3.97 Average Rating

10. Announcer (music, clarity, excitement)

207
Responses

★★★★☆
4.28 Average Rating

11. Please rate the Meet Format (e.g. 11 to 14 prelims/finals, 10&U timed finals, awards, etc.)

203
Responses

★★★★☆
4.44 Average Rating

12. Meet Format: What would you change (if anything)?

88
Responses

Latest Responses

13. Overall officiating (quality of officiating during the weekend).

200
Responses

★★★★☆
4.45 Average Rating

14. Rate quality of the Starters

205
Responses

★★★★☆
4.03 Average Rating

15. Administrative Officiating, rate the Posting of Results (e.g. accuracy & timeliness of posting results at Admin Table and Meet Mobile).

201
Responses

★★★★☆
4.34 Average Rating

16. Overall rating of the Championship Meet.

207
Responses

★★★★☆
4.34 Average Rating

17. Were your needs met during the weekend

● Yes	189
● No	19



18. Additional comments (if any).

81
Responses

Latest Responses

"A better place for everyone to see the awards presentation would be a...

"The only complaint that my swimmer had was that the water was wa...