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Y SWIMMING NEWS – JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2025

Monthly highlights, updates and reminders for YMCA Swimming coaches, volunteers, and supervisors

YMCA National Meets

Welcome to short course championship season 2025! Please visit the respective meet pages regularly as updates and new information is being added weekly.

YMCA National Short Course Championships

[Travel Assistance](#) applications are now being accepted. These must be submitted by the head coach. **Deadline: March 24**

There will be an **Athlete Dinner** on Monday, March 31, following the afternoon meet session, from 6:30 to 8:00 pm in Hall B of the Special Events Center. The guest speaker will be Olympian Rhyen White. She will sign autographs after the dinner and talk. Sign up for tickets as part of your team entry process.

The Greensboro Aquatic Center is offering [Team Meals](#) immediately following Finals on Tuesday-Friday nights. Use the link for more information. **Deadline: March 4.**

Athlete volunteers are needed to [offer a Reflection or perform the National Anthem](#) prior to each session. Athletes may also sign up to carry their [State Sign](#) in the Parade of Athletes on Wednesday night.

[Senior Recognition](#) **Deadline is March 22.** Submit names, photos and future plans for your graduating seniors in the meet.

[Timers](#) are needed for the meet. Those working four or more sessions during the meet will be provided a complimentary parking pass and free admission to the spectator area when they are not working.

[Officials](#) are also needed. Interested certified YMCA or USA Swimming officials should contact [Ted Rauth](#).

Insurance Certificate submission is completed by your YMCA's CEO or MOYP administrator. They will upload the certificate directly to the Data Collection Hub (the same place they submit their annual report information).

There will be a **College Coaches Forum** on Tuesday, April 1 from 11:00 am to Noon in Hall B of the Special Events Center. Hosted by Glenn Neufeld, athletes, parents and coaches will learn about

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YMCA Swim Coaches Forum

Forums are now held every other month on the third Tuesday, 11:30 am-12:30 pm EST. Find link [HERE](#).

[February topics](#): 1) YMCA Nationals information and 2) Working with deck officials.

YMCA National Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee

The YMCA National Swimming and Diving Advisory Committee is commissioned by YMCA of the USA and its Board of Directors to advise on program development, best practices and national championship events.

The Advisory Committee is comprised of representatives of the various constituencies within YMCA Swimming. Current members include:

Bob McDowell, Chair (PA)
David Ozmore, CEO Representative (PA)
Jon Saxton, National Events (OH)

college swimming at different levels, recruiting and the search process. This is free.

Also available on the [website](#) – Eligibility Waiver Request form, Coach Authorization form, Attestation forms for CEOs/EDs, Athletes, Parents, Coaches.

YMCA National Masters Meet

May 8-11, Rosen Aquatic Center in Orlando, FL

More information on [YMCA Swimming and Diving website](#)

Entries through Club Assistant

Entry Deadline: April 24.

YMCA National Diving Championships

April 10-12

Entry Deadline: April 3.

YMCA National Long Course Swimming Championships

July 29-August 2 at Florida Swimming Aquatics & Training in Ocala, FL

Visit the [meet web page](#) for information and updates. The [hotel booking link](#) is also located there. By using this site to book your rooms, you get the best rates but you also support the Travel Assistance Program that provides funds to swimmers who would not otherwise be able to afford to travel to the meet.



Award Applications and Nominations Now Open

Several annual awards are presented at the YMCA National Short Course Swimming Championships. Applications and/or nominations for the following are now open:

YMCA Swimming Coach of the Year

This award is announced at the meet, but the recipient does NOT need to be present. Coach of the Year is given to a YMCA coach who has demonstrated lasting impact on their athletes, YMCA and community and who exemplifies the YMCA's core values in the promotion of achievement, belonging and positive relationships.

Deadline: March 14

Adolph Kiefer YMCA Youth Character Award

Presented to two YMCA swimmers who for their excellence in academic achievement and their commitment to healthy living and social responsibility through YMCA competitive swimming. The selected individuals will be granted \$2,500 each to be issued directly to their respective institutes of higher learning.

Deadline: March 4

Joseph G. Rogers Award

Jamie Bloom, Coaches at-large (NC)

Mike Leonard, Coaches Association Executive Committee (OH)

Judy Sharkey, Officials (NJ)

Alie Morgan, Regional Representatives (MO)

Karina Weiss, Regional Representatives (TX)

Eli Edmondson, Athlete (NC)

Klara Cloutier, Athlete (ME)

Evan Park, Athlete (CA)

Jim Ryan, Y-USA Technical Advisor for National Aquatic Events

Meredith Griffin, Y-USA Director, Strategy & Quality Practices – Sports

Regional Representatives

YMCA regional representatives serve YMCA swim team programs in a given geographic area. They manage team and coach registrations, meet sanction requests, communication to teams and coaches as well as promote rules and best practices for Y swimming. They are your go-to resource for Y swimming, especially in your region. Find the list of regional representatives [HERE](#), on the YMCA Swimming and Diving website.

Regional Officials Coordinators

These volunteers promote swim officials training and service in a given geographic area. They help league, state and regional Y meets find officials and advocate for training and advancement for officials in their region. Find the list of

Presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in transformational volunteer leadership in the YMCA Swimming and Diving program.

Deadline: March 30

regional officials coordinators [HERE](#), on the YMCA Swimming and Diving website along with regional representatives.