Cayman CARIFTA squad largest yet

The Cayman Islands will be represented in swimming, boxing and badminton competitions for the first time at the CARIFTA Games in Jamaica on 5 April, considerably swelling the Cayman contingent which previously comprised track and field and cycling teams only.

This year, the Cayman Islands which has been participating in the regional event since 1969, will be represented by a swimming team of about 12, four badminton players, two boxers, a track

and field team of about 12, and a number of cyclists, not including coaches and officials.

The swimming team will be selected from among the young swimmers who have been in training at the Lions Aquatic Centre and must have been resident here for at least one year.

"What we are hoping for is not so much to win but for swimmers to gain the exposure to regional competition and then prepare themselves as more formidable competitors in two years or so down the road," said Eleanor Fennie, assistant to Pool Director Gil Fennie.

Mrs. Fennie said that as the CARI-FTA Games had only recently been broadened to including swimming, with intense training the Cayman team should perform well.

"They won't have anything to be ashamed of," she said.

Prospective members of the badminton team are undergoing training once a week with the Badminton Association trainer Chris Cole said president of the association Allan Davis.

The track and field team will be selected by the Cayman Islands Amateur Athletic Association while the Boxing Association (Dalmain Ebanks, President) will choose the boxers. (GIS)



Young swimmers await the gun at the recent Lions Aquatic Centre swim meet. (Photo by Pat Ebanks)