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## Y SWIMMING NEWS – MARCH 2024

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

*\*This month's news is all about the upcoming national events\**

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### YMCA National Short Course Swimming Championships

With entries due by March 25 and the meet starting on April 2, there are many reminders and tips for coaches as we prepare for the most fun, exciting and fastest Y meet of the year.

- **Entries Due March 25 at 9:00 pm Eastern.**
- **Athlete Dinner** - Tuesday, April 2, 6:30 to 7:30 pm in Hall B of the Special Events Center. Olympian Ashley Twichell will be the guest speaker and will be available for autographs before and after the dinner (pasta, grilled chicken, salad, bread). Get your swimmers fed, inspired and back to the hotel right after the Tuesday session. **Sign up as part of your meet entry. No option to pay at the door. Deadline March 25.**
- **Team Meals** are offered at the GAC (Hospitality Room in Special Events Center) immediately following Finals on Wednesday-Saturday nights. **Deadline March 20.**
- **Travel Assistance** - **Deadline March 25.** Submitted by the head coach.
- **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.
- **Insurance Certificate** submission process is **new this year.** Your YMCA's CEO or MOYP administrator uploads the certificate directly to the Data Collection Hub (the same place they submit their annual report) under COI Submission. **DO NOT** send to [finance@ymca.net](mailto:finance@ymca.net). Please refer to the [sample form](#) and be sure that your COI uses the exact same wording. **Tip:** If your YMCA also sends athletes to the National Diving Championship, National Masters Meet or National Gymnastics Championship, the same COI can be used for all events IF the wording follows the sample exactly and does not designate meets or dates. *The list of YMCAs that have submitted COIs is on the [meet web page](#).*
- **CEO/Executive Director Declaration Form** is available on the [website](#). **Deadline March 29.**
- **Attestation forms for Athletes, Parents, Coaches** are available on the [website](#). **Deadline March 29.**
- **Senior Recognition** **Deadline March 23.** 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](#).
- **College Coaches Forum** is Tuesday, April 2 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 college swimming at different levels, recruiting and the search process. This is free.
- **Moment of Remembrance** will be offered at the meet to honor those who have passed since the last YMCA National Championship Meet. Please contact [Bob McDowell](#).

- **Purchase Event Merchandise** in advance through [this link](#). Orders may be picked up on site at the meet. Deadline to purchase in advance is March 28.

## YMCA National Masters Meet

- **Entries Due April 25.**
- Several new hotel listings with special event rates have been posted on the [meet web page](#).
- This year's meet will feature a *Reception* on Saturday before participants go out for dinner. It will feature light hors d'oeuvres, beverages and games so that the Masters community can come together casually and build fellowship.
- Current insurance list is posted on the [meet web page](#).
- Check out the [VisitLauderdale](#) site for visitor's information.

## YMCA National Diving Championships

- **Entries Due May 1.**
- Several new hotel listings with special event rates have been posted on the [meet web page](#).
- Current insurance list is posted on the [meet web page](#).
- Check out the [VisitLauderdale](#) site for visitor's information.

## YMCA National Long Course Swimming Championships

The [hotel booking site](#) for the YMCA National Long Course Swimming Championships is open. Thank you for booking through the site, as it not only provides low hotel rates but it also enables the Travel Assistance program for YMCA Nationals swimmers in need.

Information on Ocala and Marion County, FL is also linked on the [meet web page](#).

## Award Nominations

### [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 15**

### [Joseph G. Rogers Award](#)

Presented annually to an individual who has demonstrated excellence in transformational volunteer leadership in the YMCA Swimming and Diving program. **Deadline March 31**

### [John deBarbadillo Award](#)

Presented at the YMCA National Masters Meet to an individual who has helped grow YMCA Masters Swimming and deepen its impact. **Deadline April 4.**