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## Y SWIMMING NEWS – SEPTEMBER 2023

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

Link [Question of the Month](#): How do you kick off the new season with your team and families? Join the conversation and share your ideas!

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### 2023-24 Team and Coach Registration Now Open

- [Annual registration](#) is for ALL YMCA teams and coaches.
- Register your team first and then all coaches.
- Check that your team's information and contacts are up-to-date.
- The team information provides important data on the size and scope of YMCA competitive swimming in the U.S.
- The contact information entered during registration enables communication with coaches, officials coordinators and aquatic directors throughout the year.



### Updated Coach Certification Requirements for Registration Document is Posted

- Refer to [this document](#) for all accepted providers and courses. If it is not on this document, it will not be accepted.
- There are updates to course names, links and providers in 2023-24.

### Late Coach Registration Fee is Now \$100 Per Coach

- All coaches should be current in all required certifications before coaching a practice or meet.
- The deadline for submission of coach registrations is December 1. Registrations are free until December 1. Registrations submitted after December 1 will be charged \$100 to the coach's YMCA. If a coach is hired after December 1, contact your regional representative and complete registration as soon as possible.
- Coach registration provides local YMCAs and meet directors a way to verify that coaches are certified.
- Coach registration also provides contact information so that all coaches receive regular communication about YMCA swimming throughout the year.

### YMCA Swimming Rules and FAQs

- The Rules That Govern YMCA Competitive Sports apply to all competitive sports in the YMCA.
- The [Swimming Addendum](#) to the Rules That Govern YMCA Sports expands on the Rules That Govern, specifically for Y competitive swimming. It is updated annually and is now posted for 2023-24.
- Webinar on **Wednesday, October 4, Noon-1:00 pm EST** to highlight the most commonly referenced rules and frequently asked questions. Bring your questions, or submit them ahead of time, as this will be recorded and posted.

## Submit YMCA Sanction Requests

- The [Sanction Rules](#) have been updated for 2023-24 and *include expanded responsibilities for the Meet Director*. Please read them carefully and ensure that your meet director completes all requirements.
- The [Declaration Form](#) (required for all sanctioned YMCA meets) has also been updated.
- Use the Sanction Rules document as a checklist to ensure that all requirements are met.
- Submit sanction requests **no later than 60 days prior** to the first day of the meet.



## YMCA Swim Coaches Forum

- Third Tuesday of each month, 11:30 am – 12:30 pm Eastern.
- Find link plus recordings on the [Coaches tab](#) of the Swimming and Diving website.
- All coaches and aquatic directors are welcome.
- Send topic suggestions and questions to [Mike Gobrecht](#) or [Meredith Griffin](#).
- September 19 topic is *Season Kickoff* with guests from USA Swimming and SwimCloud plus plenty of Q&A time.

## Annual Tom Warrick Virtual Invitational

- This unique competition is an opportunity for swimmers and teams to participate and compete with others around the country. It is the only virtual meet recognized as a valid YMCA inter-association meet.
- Meet Information and event file [HERE](#).
- Local meets may be held between October 6 and November 5\*.  
\*Teams in states where Y meet participation is restricted during the high school season may hold meets between December 1 and December 10.
- Follow the meet information carefully and do not change the event file or event numbers.

## Athlete Representatives – Applications Open Through October 10

- Athlete representatives serve on each YMCA swimming committee and come together monthly as an Athlete Council.
- Serving as an athlete representative is not only a way to impact Y swimming policy, initiatives and planning. It is also an opportunity to develop leadership and hone communication skills.
- Applicants are high school juniors or seniors and should already demonstrate strong organization, time management, communication and willingness to share thoughtfully with others.
- Information and application [posted](#) on Swimmers tab of YMCA National Swimming and Diving website.



## Y Swim Officials Course Updates

- The YMCA Swim Officials courses are being updated to include electronic tests as part of each course.
- *Anticipated* activation of the updated courses, trainer guides, course codes and tests is early October.
- All trainers will receive notification and will have to complete a trainer acknowledgement in order to teach once the updates are released.

## 2024 YMCA National Meets

- YMCA National Short Course Championships – April 2-6 in Greensboro, NC
  - Time standards are [posted](#).
  - Please use the hotel booking system, which enables the Travel Assistance Program to provide financial assistance for athletes who would not be able to participate otherwise.
- YMCA National Diving Championships – Announcement coming soon.
- YMCA National Masters Meet – Announcement coming soon.
- YMCA National Long Course Championships – Announcement coming soon.
  - Time standards are [posted](#).



## Congratulations to 3 YMCA Swimmers at World Junior Championships

- **Anna Moesch** (Greater Somerset County YMCA-NJ, coached by Mary Korey), **Leah Shackley** (Blair Regional YMCA-PA, coached by Tom Grassadonia) and **Daniel Diehl** (Cumberland YMCA-MD, coached by Brian Dowling) competed at the World Junior Swimming Championships in Netanya, Israel on Sept. 4-9, 2023 as members of the USA Team.
- Shackley won the Women's 50 M Butterfly, placed second in the 100 M Butterfly and swam Butterfly on the winning Mixed 400 Medley Relay team.
- Diehl was part of three winning relay teams - Men's 800 Free Relay, Men's 400 Medley Relay and the Men's 400 Free Relay that set a new World Junior Record. He also finished second in Men's 200 M Backstroke and 200 M Individual Medley and was fifth in Men's 100 M Backstroke.
- Moesch was a member of two second place relay teams - Women's 400 Free Relay and Mixed 400 Free Relay. She finished third in the Women's 100 M Free.

