

FEBRUARY 1995



WETNEAUTES

The International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics Wet Newsletter

Summary

You will find in this issue:

- a partial schedule of swim meets
- Atlantic Co-Chair Gilles Pettigrew's resignation letter and procedure for replacing him
- an IGLA 95 Championships update
- the Secretary's Corner
- a Top Ten & Records Committee position advertisement
- FOGG general meeting report
- the Membership Application or Renewal Form
- IGLA 96 Championships Site Selection Procedure
- Internet and other addresses you should know about

SECRETARY'S CORNER

Hi everybody!

This winter edition of Wet Neautes is the second of the 1994-1995 aquatic year. Once again, better late than never! It comes to you together with the IGLA Membership Application or Renewal Form. So that the 1995 directory can be up to date, please fill out the membership form completely and mail it back to IGLA Treasurer, Mark Spratt, before March 15th. Teams who mail their form after this date will be charged a 25% late registration fee. Here are some guidelines I try to follow to do my job as well as I can. Please cooperate so that all of us can benefit from Wet Neautes

Submissions (part 2): the content of Wet Neautes should encompass issues in aquatics and the role and organization of IGLA and IGLA members (our teams). I definitely want to print an up-to-date calendar of meets sponsored by IGLA teams (swimming, water-polo or diving competitions) and other important aquatic events! This issue informs you about both U.S. and the Canadian masters swimming Championships. IGLA would like to know about major meets in other countries and for other sports.

March 15th, 1995 is also the deadline for the Spring issue of Wet Neautes. I develop Wet Neautes with whatever submissions I receive by the deadline. Printed (typed) and hand written submissions cause delays in the production of Wet Neautes. I love to copy diskettes and mail them back (any format). Printed material, if any, should reach me two weeks prior to the deadline.

Suggestions: keep me aware of what's going on at your club by adding up my name to your mailing list; *please send me your newsletter!!!*; contribute to the portrait section of Wet Neautes concerning IGLA teams (I received no submission for this issue); whatever is good for your teammates to know is also good for other team members to know. *IGLA officers and committee chair people:* print your reports in Wet Neautes! Allow all members to know what's going on before the General Meeting

Infeau! Infeau!

Please forgive my French habit of writing the "o" sound as "eau" in titles. I inherited this from eAU COURANTE (meaning both "running water" and "to be aware"), the Montréal team monthly newsletter that I edited last year (and to which you can still subscribe by paying for the price of the stamps only, a good way to brush up on your French 101 and to stay informed about the IGLA 95 Championships: call Gilles Brunet at 514-844-8950) (this plug was sponsored by the IGLA 95 Organizing Committee which funded the printing of both this and the Fall Issues of Wet Neautes).

Water flows as does life (not always though!). Information should, too. And it's my job to trigger that flow within IGLA. We westerners belong to a culture of isolation in a communication era. We're flooded with unidirectional info, mainly from TV. Interaction, as it is, has not broken through yet, has it? Thanks to all teams who kept me informed of their meets.

Please do write to me: Jacques Leroux, 4064, av. Laval, Montréal (Qc), Canada, H2W 2J3. Please call me: (514) 844-3700. Please fax to me: (514) 524-5332. Please send me e-mail: r25654@er.uqam.ca. Everything you submit may benefit the whole IGLA organization: our athletes, our officials, our teams, our meets, our officers. And please read on so that I too can interact with you. Here are some topics I believe to be relevant.

Call for Archives

What is IGLA his/herstory? As a newcomer to sports and a next generation board member, I must confess I don't even know if I'm the third IGLA Secretary or more. I kind of know how many Championships IGLA have been held and where. I read our brochure and the IGLA information contained in the Gay Games IV Aquatics package, but I can't answer many questions you might ask me about IGLA of yesterday.

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My point is that some kind of IGLA Archives should be assembled and kept available to members and interested people through the Secretary (a librarian at Cornell University has already requested the IGLA 95 Committee archives for a collection on human sexuality). The Secretary should act as the Archives Librarian and transmit these to his/her successor.

This is a call to all organizers and athletes who could forward me with any kind of information regarding IGLA and its teams from the first year on (1987) and even before its creation. I could even publish a history section in *Wet Neautes*. Please consider this as a kind of a "Would you please share our past with new athletes so we don't all forget about it" offer.

Outreach Network on Internet

Outreach was a concern at the last IGLA General Meeting in New York City. No committee has been set but I'm working on outreach for both IGLA and IGLA 95 with Paul Boisvert in Montréal. Paul is an internet addict and he would like IGLA reps in each city to let him publish their names and phone/fax/internet numbers on the internet network so that interested people in a given city or area could contact them directly to find out about training schedules and how to join their team. Paul would also like IGLA reps to promote IGLA, its Championships and IGLA sponsored (and eventually sanctioned) meets on a regional basis. Please, IGLA reps, let me know by March 15th the name(s) of at least one person on your team who will accept to act as the IGLA Outreach contact in your area. I remind you that outreach will help you get new athletes on your team and it will help IGLA recruit new teams, thus grow in strength. By doing so, we improve our aquatic network and we definitely help a lot of people to come out in a way or another. You can play a part in changing the World.

Fee structure and IGLA reps directory

As you read on, you will find that the membership fee payment date has been postponed to March 15th, 1995. The fee structure determines the number of reps you're entitled to have. Consult and fill out the attached membership form to join IGLA or to renew your membership. Indicate clearly all names, complete addresses, phone/fax numbers (home and work if you wish) and internet addresses if applicable. Also indicate the position of your rep(s) on your team, so someone who want to get in touch with your president, for instance, can determine which rep to contact out of three listed for your team. The list of your reps will be published in the 1995 edition of the IGLA Directory. Please, please send me accurate data as soon as it is available to you. I am of course open to criticism concerning the directory.

The deadline for the spring issue is March 15th!

Jacques Leroux

Federation of Gay Games Report by

Charles Carson

The annual meeting of the Federation of Gay Games board of directors was held in Atlanta in early November. I attended as IGLA's voting delegate and water polo player/coach Suzanne Shriner of Long Beach attended as IGLA's alternate delegate. Other IGLA team members attending as observers were WH₂O's Tom Wilson (past IGLA Delegate) and Phil Hayman (co-chair of IGLA's Meet Sanction Committee). Former IGLA delegate Terry Allison of DSST is now the voting delegate for San Diego's Athletes in Motion .

In addition, IGLA officer Gilles Pettigrew attended as voting delegate for Équipe Montréal. *Gilles was elected to a two-year term as Federation Co-President*, succeeding Rick Peterson of Seattle's Orca Swim Team. Gilles, you have our congratulations and admiration (and sympathy!).

Federation board meetings entail one day of committee meetings and two days of a general session. Committees I joined were sports, public relations, archives and bylaws. (I was later named bylaws co-chair). Suzanne joined sports, bylaws and fund-raising. Other committees include site selection, cultural festival, finance, and membership. Besides discussing committee work during the general session, we heard a review of New York and a progress report by Amsterdam. Amsterdam will host the annual meeting in Fall 1995 and Sydney will host during Fall 1996. Key items affecting IGLA:

Sports Committee. If you can believe it, there were never committees governing sports and the cultural festival until this year. The new sports committee had the highest attendance among all committees. Current bylaws give the Federation little control over the conduct of sports at a Gay Games, so the committee is cautiously debating how much and what kind of guidelines to require that Host Cities follow yet will allow them flexibility depending upon available facilities, locally-contested sports, and the support of their communities. IGLA officers at the DCAC meet in October filled out a questionnaire on these topics which helped us prepare for discussions before arriving in Atlanta.

Recommendations were passed in three areas:

1. *Doping*. Doping includes the use of steroids, stimulants, blood replacement, etc. Recognizing that the cost of comprehensive testing for doping is currently beyond the Federation and Host Cities' means, delegates charged the Sports Committee to come up with sport-by-sport guidelines regarding doping.

The large number of physique disqualifications in New York was very much on our minds. Even in aquatics, there has been speculation about certain swimming medalists at every Gay Games. However, many of our HIV+ athletes are on steroid or hormone medication prescribed by physicians. What penalties may be imposed on athletes or even entire sports will be debated at future meetings.

2. *Sanctioning.* IGLA has long been in favor of sanctioning the aquatic sports. The Federation has never set guidelines, and has let Host Cities decide which sports to sanction. Many other Federation members share IGLA's concerns about standard rules of fair play, insurance and credibility with the world at large.

The vocal members who have been against sanctioning continued that position. However, in the general session delegates agreed with the committee's decision that sanctioning may be positive or negative depending upon the sport. The committee will compile these reasons for both current and proposed Games sports for the next annual meeting.

I took all of the Gay Games IV aquatics questionnaires to Atlanta and Suzanne, Tom, Phil, Terry and I looked them over. Respondents were overwhelmingly in favor of sanctioning regardless of team, sport, sex, ability or country. As it turned out, I never had to wave these statistics around at the general session. We will have them ready for the next meeting, though, because we may need them.

Why? Well, the Amsterdam organizers, who admit they do not know our sports, made an offhand suggestion for '98 of a three-or-four-day "fun" swim meet with a one-day sanctioned meet so that elite athletes could try to set records. I explained that, if anything, it should be a multi-day sanctioned meet with a "fun" one-day meet for novice swimmers.

Suzanne pointed out that insurance is not to be taken lightly. Athletes who get hurt may be covered by socialized medicine in one country but then return home and not receive coverage for additional treatment by their sports governing body if the injury occurred at an unsanctioned competition. On the positive side, Amsterdam's delegates said they would rely heavily on IGLA's and New York's advice for our sports.

3. *Committee Representation.* Delegates voted to have a representative from each of the 18 sports required in the Federation's contract with Amsterdam. Diving is not on the required list (!), but the Dutch promise to have it. These sport delegates are charged with compiling the information needed to help Host Cities organize the competitions. It was during these discussions that we realized we must get a diver to attend these meetings, and that leads me to the next key item affecting IGLA.

Board Membership. There is room on the Federation board for 101 voting delegates, but there are barely 60 now. Current Federation bylaws allow only one vote per member, but I think we should have a voting delegate for each of our sports. The fact that diving — a sold-out, high profile event in New York — was allowed to be left out of the contract with Amsterdam proves the need. I will discuss ways to get a vote for each sport with Suzanne and the other IGLA officers and have proposals ready for the IGLA meeting in October. Meanwhile, we will publicize the need to get a diver to Amsterdam this fall in the divers' new Team Rainbow newsletter.

Reimbursement Travel Fund. The Federation's budget continues to grow, and with the board now traveling out of North America for meetings its costs are going to go up. A task force was set up to research a travel fund to defray costs to and from meetings. The idea is to determine the average transportation cost to the annual meeting and reimburse the difference to those who exceed it or bill those who don't reach it.

IGLA defrayed the total transportation costs to Atlanta for Suzanne (about US\$400) and me (about US\$160). We used hosted housing and paid for all food and incidental costs ourselves. Obviously even if the reimbursement travel fund goes through, IGLA's cost is going to go up for the meetings in Amsterdam and Sydney. If we add voting and/or alternate delegates for each sport, costs will be greater still. I mention this because IGLA's income has been almost exclusively derived from membership dues. Our cost of doing business is going up, and we need to begin fund-raising to cover it.

Other Items. The Federation is starting a newsletter for media and community contacts to help establish the difference between it and the Host Cities. The identity problem affects long-term Federation fund-raising needs, as most attention has been paid to the Host Cities. As for meeting those financial needs, the Federation membership will be asked to increase its fund-raising efforts because, like IGLA, much of its income has been derived from membership dues.

The food in the hotel vicinity was horrible, but the night life was fun. Atlanta continues to set the pace in creative drag shows, and Suzanne received individual attention from the hysterical, foul-mouthed Lily White. Delegates attended a reception in a landmarked house with a straight-from-Tara staircase, and gave Rick Peterson a standing ovation as a farewell thank-you at the closing night banquet. Please contact me at (212) 22-1573 or Suzanne at (310) 433-7894 if you have any comments or are interested in what's happening with the Federation of Gay Games.

IGLA '96 Championships Site Selection Procedure

The general meeting held in New York City at Gay Games IV decided that the IGLA Board will have to select a site for the IGLA '96 Championships. Teams have until April 1st, 1995 to submit a bid. The official IGLA address is that of the Secretary and only bids *received* before April 1st at this address (see below) will be considered. Remember that the IGLA address is now in Canada and that bids mailed from outside Canada will likely take longer to reach the Secretary than bids mailed from within the same country. Don't hesitate to forward a copy of your bid by fax or over the Internet, but do mail a hard copy.

No guidelines for bids were distributed at the General Meeting, but a complete dossier with a complete schedule of events in swimming and water-polo (diving and synchronized swimming would be a plus), a presentation of the facilities and of the meet format describing rules, sanction(s), housing and social activities, stands a better chance of being considered by the IGLA Board. Toronto, Ann Arbor, Ottawa and Washington (D.C.) already mentioned their interest in bidding. The IGLA '97 Championships site will be selected at the IGLA General Meeting in Montréal in October 1995. I strongly suggest that a summary of the bids for IGLA '97 be published in Wet Neautes this summer so that team reps can be prepared to vote at the General Meeting.

Jacques Leroux
4064, av. Laval
Montréal (Qc)
Canada H2W 2J3
Tel.: (514) 844-3700. Fax: (514) 524-5332. Internet: r25654@er.uqam.ca.

AQUATIC MEET CALENDAR (PARTIAL)

February 17-18-19, 1995	SWIMMERS IN HEATS V - CHILL OUT Nepean Sportsflex Ottawa, Ontario, Canada
March 11-12, 1995	PARIS SPORTSFEST Paris, France
April 14-17, 1995	EUROGAMES Frankfurt, Germany
May 18-21, 1995	USMS NATIONAL SHORT COURSE CHAMPIONSHIPS ISHOF Aquatic Complex Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA
May 19-22, 1995	CANADIAN MASTERS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS Saanich Commonwealth Place Pool Victoria, BC, Canada
September 1-4, 1995 (U.S. & Canada Labor Day Week-end)	TEAM PORTLAND SPORTSFEST Portland, Oregon, USA
September 1995	GRUPPO PESCE MILANO SPORTS TOURNAMENT Milano, Italia
October 6-7-8, 1995 (Canadian Thanksgiving & U.S. Columbus Day Week-end)	IGLA 95 Championships swimming, water-polo, diving, synchro 1976 Olympic Swimming Center Montréal, Québec, Canada

INTERNATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN AQUATICS

CLUB MEMEBERSHIP FORM

CALENDAR YEAR 1995

___ RENEWAL ___ NEW CLUB

Annual dues are as follows:

<u>Team Size</u>	<u>Votes/Reps</u>	<u>Annual Dues (US\$)</u>
1 - 5	1	\$ 25.00
6 - 24	2	\$ 50.00
25 - 49	3	\$100.00
50 +	4	\$200.00
Individual	0	\$ 15.00

Renewing clubs paying after **March 15, 1995** please add **25% late payment fee**. Clubs may join at a representation/dues level **up to and including** their team size listed above. Our fiscal year coincides with the calendar year; IGLA does not pro-rate dues through the year. Clubs can renew or join IGLA membership at any point during the year. While any interested team member or club may attend IGLA meetings, **only currently paid club's representatives may vote at IGLA meetings.**

Checks and money orders should be made to the order of I.G.L.A. in **US(\$)** funds only.

Please send a copy of this form and dues payment to:

Mark Spratt
6300 Orange Street Apt. 14
Los Angeles, CA 90048
Phone (213) 655-1878

Club Name: _____ City: _____

Circle One: Diving Water Polo SCUBA Swimming

IGLA Representative Information (person(s) to receive IGLA information):

Name: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

City/State _____ City/State _____

Telephone _____ Telephone: _____

Name: _____ Name: _____

Address: _____ Address: _____

City/State _____ City/State _____

Telephone _____ Telephone: _____

CONGRATULATIONS, GILLES !

December 4, 1994

IGLA Board Members,
IGLA Members,
Dear friends,

I would like to announce that I am resigning as IGLA'S Atlantic Basin Co-Chair. It is particularly difficult to write this letter. On one hand I am filled with pride but on the other hand I feel that I am letting you down.

Last November 6th, I was elected Co-President of the Federation of Gay Games. It is quite a challenge and an enormous task. At this point, I feel that holding a position on the IGLA Board and not performing my duties as efficiently and thoroughly as I should because of the work load at the Federation would not be fair to IGLA members.

My decision of running in the Federation's election was not taken lightly. Coming back from the Federation's annual general meeting in Washington in November 1993, I started to think about the possibility of doing so. My plans were to run after IGLA '95 in Montréal. However, last summer when Rick Peterson announced that he would not run again, I talked to one of the founders of the Gay Games in San Francisco. His advice was to wait for this year's annual meeting in Atlanta. As it happens, support for my candidacy was very strong and I felt that not only I owed the people that asked me to run the courtesy of doing so, but also I felt that I contribute something significant and constructive to the Federation.

IGLA is at a point where many important decisions must be made. Sanctioning, board structure, representation from diving, water polo and possibilities from synchronized swimming, outreach and the crucial questions of women's and European participation, are just a few of the important issues that must be dealt with before Montréal. This is why I feel very uncomfortable leaving now.

However, I am not saying good-bye to IGLA. I will be available anytime you need me and I will make sure that I am at as many swim meets as possible and, of course, I will see you all in Montréal next year.

Thank you for your confidence and your support.

Sincerely,
Gilles Pettigrew

N.B. According to IGLA By-laws, section IV.A.2, "If any elected officer resigns before the end of her/his term, the remaining officers may appoint a replacement to serve until the next election." The IGLA Board will consider Gilles' replacement as Atlantic Co-chair at an upcoming meeting, likely to be held after April 1st, deadline for the IGLA '96 Championships bids (to be selected by the Board). Interested candidates should contact an IGLA officer as soon as possible.

.....
Subject: IGLA reference on WWW (Internet)

Here is the address of the IGLA file on the WWW:

The URL for the current page is:
<http://www.hookup.net/~lpatten/lgb-sports/umbrella/igla.html>

For an index of lgb-sports resources on WWW, see:
<http://www.hookup.net/~lpatten/lgb-sports/index.html>

Lindsay Patten
CyberVision Technologies
email: lindsay@cybervision.com
phone: (519) 745-8367

Paul Boisvert, IGLA representative on Internet: r25654@er.uqam.ca

Subject: Gay Games 5 in Amsterdam

Date: Sun, 30 Oct., 1994, 17:17:54 -0500

From: "by way of joeclark@hookup.net (Joe Clark)" <jelich@xs4all.nl>

Hi everybody,

Thanks to Joe Clark we have this wonderful mailing list. Let me introduce me first: I am Joed Elich, board member of the Foundation Gay & Lesbian Games Amsterdam 1998. We are in the process of setting up an electronic mail system for the Games. We will keep you informed about the plans for 1998 through this mailing list. A (printed) quarterly newsletter in English about the Games will start in January 1995. If you are interested, please leave me a note (jelich@xs4all.nl).

In the meantime, we will give you short news about the planning of this biggest gay and lesbian event ever. Here is our first contribution.

GAY GAMES 5 OPENS OFFICE IN AMSTERDAM

The Foundation Gay & Lesbian Games Amsterdam 1998 has opened its office in Amsterdam. It is located near the Central Railway Station in the building of the Dutch National Gay & Lesbian Organization COC. The office is "womanned" by Myrto Muller from Monday through Friday from 9 am to 5 pm (local time, that is 3 am to 11 am New York time). The phones and computers have been installed: the number is (31) (20) 620 1998. Other equipment such as a fax will come soon. The postal address is PO BOX 2837, NL 1000 CV Amsterdam. The Foundation is planning to open an office in New York as well.

So much for now, all questions can be addressed to me,

Joed Elich
Friendship '98,
Gay Games Amsterdam 1998

PLEASE NOTE THESE NUMBERS AND ADDRESSES!

IGLA
4064, av. Laval
Montréal (Qc)
Canada
H2W 2J3
Tel.: (514) 844-3700
Fax: (514) 524-5332
Internet: r25654@er.uqam.ca

IGLA 95 Championships
P.O. BOX 68, Station C
Montréal (Qc)
Canada
H2L 4J7
Tel. (514) 844-IGLA or
(514) 844-4452
Fax: (514) 524-5332
Internet: ds@ganymede.com

OPEN POSITION: Top 10 and Records Committee

The Top Ten and Records Committee has no chair! Tasks include:

- getting results from all meets sanctioned by IGLA teams (including official Gay Games IV official results)
- keeping track of all meets sanctioned by IGLA teams
- being responsible for the IGLA performance history
- hooking up with the IGLA Secretary for these matters
- recording the IGLA results and records
- publishing the IGLA results and records.

The candidate must be statistic and PC literate (text files and data files in D-base format).

A detailed outline of the IGLA Records and Top Times Recognition Policy is available upon request. The IGLA Board will fill this position at an upcoming meeting, likely to be held after April 1st, deadline for the IGLA '96 Championships bids (to be selected by the Board). For more information and candidacy, please contact Jacques Leroux (see Secretary's Corner for information).

U.S. Masters Swimming Short Course Yards Championships, May 18-21

Let's get lots of IGLA swimmers to Ft. Lauderdale! The meet is being held at the International Swimming Hall of Fame pool, and there's no better site to get the word out that we exist.

Non-U.S. swimmers are welcome! Contact Charlie Carson at (212) 226-1573 immediately for a copy of the meet entry form and hotel/transportation information. They must be received in Ft. Lauderdale by April 13. You must enclose a copy of your 1995 masters registration card or international travel permit from your masters association. There is also a 3.5 mile open water swim on Monday, May 22 for those who are interested.

There are a number of ways we can get some mileage of attending the meet at the Hall of Fame. We could set up an IGLA hospitality site in someone's hotel room and sponsor a reception. We could pass out information on the Montréal IGLA Championships. IGLA could present results from all the IGLA Championships and at least the past two Gay Games to the ISHOF archives. We could perhaps sponsor a brick on the Walk of Fame. New York will take the Gay Games banner that everyone signed for creative photo opportunities. Please contact an IGLA officer with other suggestions.

Our new IGLA group from Florida Gold Coast Masters is still growing and hosted housing will probably be limited. Contact Marty Hendrick at (305) 525-7150 only if you would absolutely need hosted housing in order to attend. (Note that the phone number for Gerald Homer on the IGLA roster is not correct, and the person who answers it is very rude...) Marty has spoken with DCAC's Jack Markey about having a special IGLA party or club outing one night.

Charlie Carson

IGLA 95 CHAMPIONSHIPS UPDATE

IGLA 95 will be IGLA's 7th Championships. The 1995 Championships will take place October 6-7-8, 1995 at the 1976 Olympics Sports Center in Montréal (Qc), Canada. Athletes will compete in three sports: swimming, water polo and diving. Synchronized swimming will be presented as a demonstration sport for the first time at IGLA Championships.

As of February 5th, 1995, here are the main items developed by the IGLA '95 Committee.

A pre-invitation brochure will be mailed in February to all IGLA teams, Quebec swimming, water polo, diving and synchronized swimming masters teams, to all Canadian provincial federations and to all national federations of these 4 sports. All IGLA teams will then receive the official entry form and information package in May 1995. Non-IGLA athletes interested in this package can request a copy by contacting the IGLA 95 Committee (P.O. Box 68, Station C, Montréal (Qc), Canada, H2L 4J7).

There will be a 3-day swim meet with long-distance events (800 m and 1500 m) on Friday night. Diving and synchronized swimming will also take place over 3 days, water polo over 2. FINA masters rules will be applied except for the age of admissibility which has been set at a minimum of 20 years for all sports. The championships will be sanctioned under Québec governing bodies affiliated with FINA (Fédération de natation du Québec, Fédération de water-polo du Québec, Fédération de plongeon amateur du Québec and Fédération de nage synchronisée du Québec).

Registration will go on until July 1st, 1995. Late registrations will be accepted until August 1st, 1995 with a 13 \$ CAN (10 \$ US) penalty fee. Participation fees are as follows: 40 \$ CAN (30 \$ US) for swimming, diving or water polo; 260 \$ CAN (200 \$ US) for water polo teams; 20 \$ CAN (15 \$ US) for a second sport. Hosted housing will be guaranteed to those travelling from outside North America and remaining places will be offered on a first-come-first-served basis to those who request it. 3 more-than-reasonably priced hotels have been booked with rooms ranging from 70 \$ CAN for single, triple or quadruple occupancy.

For further information, call the IGLA 95 line at (514) 844-IGLA or (514) 844-4452 or over the Internet: ds@ganymede.com.

Jacques Leroux

PRESS RELEASE

By the time Wet Neutes goes to press, the West Hollywood Rafael Montijo Relay Meet will be over. Still, for the records and also in order to inspire team organizers in their publicity task, I reproduce the WH₂O press release for this meet here as a reference. You can get in touch with WH₂O's contact person for more information on this meet. Wet Neutes is open to all IGLA teams who would like to advertise their meets and special events.

WH₂O

October 1, 1994
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
CONTACT PERSON: AMY DANTZLER
(213) 931-0688

WEST HOLLYWOOD AQUATICS TO HOST THIRD ANNUAL RELAY MEET

West Hollywood, CA -- West Hollywood Aquatics ("WH₂O") will be hosting the Rafael Montijo Relay Meet next February 4th in Long Beach, California at Belmont Plaza Olympic Pool. For the third year in a row, this popular meet promises to be fun for all. Swimming in this meet is an opportunity not to be missed for its once a year opportunity to swim *only* relays.

Events include standard relays such as the 200 yard medley and the 400 yard freestyle as well as events like a 200 yard backstroke relay, a 4 X 100 I.M. relay, and a 500 yard freestyle ladder, where each swimmer swims a different distance for a total of 500 yards (50, 100, 150, 200 yard freestyle). With eight different relay combination, there's an event for everyone!

Teams can also compete in a special 4 X 4 event. A participating team is defined as four swimmers competing in four predetermined relays for the lowest cumulative time. The four selected relays are the 200 yard medley, the 500 yard freestyle ladder, the 400 yard freestyle and the 4 X 100 I.M. The same four swimmers will swim all four events and, when the time is added up, the team with the lowest time wins. Medals will be awarded to the first through third place finishers in the 4 X 4 event. Additionally, high point team trophies will be awarded to the first and second place finishers in the large and small club categories.

The relay meet is named in honor of Rafael Montijo, who, together with a handful of others, founded WH₂O in 1982 following the very first Gay Games competition, which took place in San Francisco. Rafael's energy and dedication played a major role in making WH₂O a successful USMS team that now boasts a roster of over 120 swimmers and water polo players. In March, 1993, at the age of 43, Rafael died of AIDS. It is in memory of Rafael's spirit and love of swimming that WH₂O presents the third annual Rafael Montijo Relay Meet.

Each year this well-run relay meet had gotten more popular. Last year over 150 men and women participated in the meet and more are expected this year. For information, or entering, or volunteering, call the WH₂O Hotline at (310) 288-6555.

WEST HOLLYWOOD AQUATICS -- P.O. Box 691651 -- West Hollywood, CA 90069

**THE NEXT ISSUE OF WET NEUTES IS SCHEDULED TO BE PUBLISHED IN THE SPRING.
SUBMIT YOUR TEXTS BEFORE MARCH 15th, 1995!!!**

P.S. Divers interested in being on the newly created Rainbow Divers' newsletter mailing list, please contact:

Jim Whalen
10 Dunn St.
Laguna Niguel, CA
USA 92677 - 5703