

WETNOTES

Newsletter of International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics

Federation of Gay Games Report

by Suzanne Shriner, IGLA
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It was a cold, snowy week in Denver for the Annual Federation of Gay Games Meeting. Charlie Carson and I didn't mind the weather as we never seemed to escape the conference rooms we were stuck in. The meeting lasted six solid days but we have a number of accomplishments to show for it.

The top story is that

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swimming at Amsterdam has now been sanctioned by KNZB, the Netherlands national governing body. It was sanctioned as an international meet. IGLA is working closely with Amsterdam to ensure that they follow the more-inclusive Masters rules rather than the Olympic rules. After face-to-face meetings with the Amsterdam sports organizers, we feel confident enough with the progress to tell all swimmers to complete their Gay Games registrations in time for the December 31 deadline! We will update you with a more complete report via E-mail shortly.

Additionally, more information on water polo was released. FINA Master rules will govern the tournament. Teams will be allowed a maximum of 13 players and will play 5-minute quarters. I was told that each team will play at least 5 games. Teams may register now with a minimum of 7 players and add players to the roster up to the close of registration. However, players cannot be dropped from the roster once it is submitted.

Also, diving will now be offered as a demo sport. Please see the subsequent article.

Finally, the truly big news at the meeting was not 1998, but 2002. Five cities, Dallas, Long Beach/LA, Montreal, Sydney, and Toronto presented polished and excellent bids for the right to host the first Games of the new millennium. Sydney came away with the honor. IGLA athletes can look forward to competing in the

Olympic venue, with swimming, water polo and diving happening concurrently. Wett Ones swimmers are already talking about how to make it truly fabulous. Part of the Sydney bid package was their intent to host IGLA Championships in 2000 as a warmup meet.

To prevent issues arising on the organization of sports, the Sports Committee drafted oversight language for the 2002 contract. The Federation will retain more authority over how each sport is run. For IGLA, this means that the guidelines developed in the IGLA Championship Rules and Recommendations Booklet will be followed. Sanctioning, age groups, and an event list will be written directly into the contract.

We thank everyone who signed letters and petitions. We carried the power of all those voices to the meeting, and it helped. Both Charlie and I are available to answer any questions you may have. Please call or E-mail us:

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Diving Offered at GGV

by Suzanne Shriner, IGLA
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Stichting Amsterdam announced at the Federation of

Gay Games meeting that Diving will be offered as a full-fledged demonstration sport at Gay Games V. Competition in 1m and 3m boards, and 7m and 10m platforms will be open to all interested athletes. Divers can march in opening/closing ceremonies and will be treated as full participants. However, medals will not be awarded.

The competition is currently scheduled for August 8, 1998 at the Amersfoort pool. Registration is being done on the standard GGV registration form. There is not a sport# for diving. Therefore, write "diving" in big letters across the top of the registration form. Divers are only required to pay the athlete fee, and not the sport fee. More information will be forthcoming. Contact Stichting via the web at www.dds.nl/~gaygames/ or at their call center 31.020.427.1998.

Looking For a Bed in Amsterdam?

by **Suzanne Shriner, IGLA Alternate Delegate to FGG,**
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Heard all those rumors of over booked hotel rooms in Amsterdam? On November 30, 1997, unsold blocks of rooms reserved for tour operators will be released to market. On January 1, 1998 one- and two-star hotel rooms will be released as well. For more information call 888-267-8373 (US only), 31-70-320-2500 (other countries) or consult the GGV web site. There is still affordable housing out there, according to the Amsterdam organizers.

If you are looking for low-cost housing, (teams or

individuals), check the box on the registration forms. If you are a team, indicate whether the team wants to stay together. Like Gay Games IV in New York, Amsterdam has reserved space in school dorms for Gay Games V. However, be warned, some of the accommodations are rumored to be as rustic as a cot in a gymnasium.

San Diego Shines

by **Doug Fadel, IGLA Secretary and IGLA Feature Writer,**
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Ten years ago, San Diego hosted the first IGLA Championships. This year, IGLA returned to San Diego, and the Different Strokes Swim Team San Diego showed the world how to host an event.

The secret to San Diego's success was an innovative and unprecedented organizational system. San Diego, influenced by their unique access to a Marine environment, employed an organization hierarchy similar to that used by dolphins. Each facet of the event was delegated to a team of three, a pod. The three members of the pod shared the responsibility of leadership within the pod. Where one left off, another would take over. Where does the buck stop? With each individual. Their organizational style was the quintessential display of personal accountability, and it paid off.

The power pod, the one that ultimately brought all the other pods together, was the pod made up of Annette Bernier, Cherry Robinson, and John Farkas. Under unbelievable pressure, they remained calm and accommodating. Their hosting

skills far surpassed those of Mr. Ricardo Mantoban himself.

On behalf of the IGLA Board of Directors and the entire IGLA organization, I thank Annette, Cherry, John, and the entire San Diego team for their tireless efforts and warm hospitality.

IGLA Polo Ends in Overtime

by **Doug Fadel, IGLA Secretary and IGLA Reporter,**
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Six teams competed for the International Gay and Lesbian World Championship Title this year in sunny southern California, New York, San Diego, West Hollywood, Washington DC, and two Seattle teams. The field was extremely competitive this year.

The final match between Seattle and West Hollywood went into overtime. Ultimately, the West Hollywood team lead by Mike Mere and Kelly King proved no match for the Seattle team lead by Evans Fowler. Seattle holds the 1997 world championship title and becomes the team to beat in Amsterdam. West Hollywood placed second, and San Diego placed third.

At the awards banquet held in the beautiful Hotel Del Coronado, the Waterpolo teams issued a challenge to Salt Lake City, Atlanta, San Francisco, Dallas, and Colorado. They challenged these cities to form waterpolo clubs. Salt Lake City has risen to the challenge. On November 16, 1997, Salt Lake City held its first waterpolo practice. Salt Lake hopes to field a mens team and a separate women's team for the 1999 IGLA

championships. Salt Lake City wishes to reissue the challenge to other cities to field waterpolo teams.

Rumors regarding the formation of an Atlanta waterpolo team have already surfaced. Will the trout venture beyond the still waters of the lane roped swimming pool? Time will tell.

They Swam Like Crazy

by Doug Fadel, IGLA Secretary and IGLA correspondent, douglask@sisna.com

If you looked beyond the sea of blue haired water exercisers rocking to the oldies in the foreground of the Coronado Swimming Pool, you saw some incredible swimming, an enthusiastic environment, and a lot of people having a great time.

The women's competition at this year's IGLA was unprecedentedly competitive. Lauren Goebel (DSST), Tara Robertson (DCAC), and Margaret Howell (DCAC) dominated this 19-24 division.

In the 25-29 division, Nancy North (DSST) won the 500 freestyle swimming 5:31.53; Jill Van Auken (ART) won the 200 breast with a time of 2:44.32; and Melissa Schram (GOST) won the 200 free swimming 2:08.51.

In the 30-34 division, Dianne Gleason (DSST) swam an impressive 18:22.51 in the 1650; Vicky Davidson (DSST) swam 1:03.52 in the 100 back; Dale Ann Fisher (QUAC) swam 2:28.18 in the 200 IM; and Anja Lachmann (ARIZ) swam 27.05 in the 50 free.

In the 35-39 division, Marie-Helene Charlap (TNYA) won the 1650 free swimming

19:55.74, and Andrea DeVuono (WH20) swam 1:04.87 in the 100 back.

In the 40-44 division, Lo Knapp (QUAC) swam 59.69 in the 100 free; Sharon Odell (QUAC) swim 2:44.09 in the 200 back; Cathy Philpot (QUAC) swam 5:56.56 in the 500 free; and Jessica Seaton (WH20 and Pacific Co-President) swam a lifetime best in the 100 breast, 1:22.70.

In the 45-49 division, Priscilla Kawakami (QUAC) swam 20:37.06 in the 1650. In the 50-54 division, Jan Levinrad (WH20) swam 1:11.72 in the 100 free, and Dale Barnhard (DCAC) swam 1:18.78 in the 100 IM.

Finally, in the 55-59 division, my cute mom, Janice Kramer, won all four of her events including the 50 fly.

The men's competition was no less competitive than the women's. In the 19-24 division, Christopher Palmer (WH20) swam 4:32.23 in the 400 IM, and Jaron Russon (QUAC) swam the 100 breast in 1:03.84.

In the 25-29 division, the competition was incredibly stiff, and most of the following times are certain to rank high, nationally, in their respective countries. Mark Oldham (EBSC) swam 22.56 in the 50 free, 1:48.04 in the 200 free, and 4:57.75 in the 500 free. Lorenzo Benucci (ART) swam the 100 free in 47.63, the 100 fly in 51.82, the 200 IM in 1:54.74, and the 400 IM in 4:07.61. Todd Radcliff (GOST) swam the 100 breast in 58.13 and the 200 breast in 2:08.59. Jon Pauole (ORCA) swam the 200 back in 2:00.36 and the 50 fly in 23.72. Corey Carlisle (DCAC) swam the 100 back in 55.92. Finally, Neill Williams (DCAC) swam the 100 IM in 54.49 and the 50 breast in 27.29.

The 30-34 division, the largest division in the meet was even more competitive than the 25-29. Keith Kaplan (SCAQ) swam the 50 free in 21.98. Steve Smith (USF) swam the 200 free in 1:47.19, the 200 back in 2:00.64, the 200 IM in 1:58.57, and the 400 IM in 4:17.04. Dennis Tesch (QUAC) swam the 1650 in 16:53.65. John Brown (ART and Atlantic Co-President) swam the 200 breast in 2:26.18.

In the 35-39 division, Dean Putterman (DCAC) dominated the breast with a 26.92 in the 50 and a 58.92 in the 100. Joe Reinhardt (GOST) swam 22.57 in the 50 free. Craig Mallery (ORCA) won the 100 free with a 48.19. Paul Frentsos (DCAC) swam 4:26.66 in the 400 IM. Finally, my chin hit the ground where it remains stuck to the pool deck to this day after watching Charlie Johnson (FINS) swim a 1:55.28 in the 200 fly (he also swam 51.42 in the 100 fly, 1:58.88 in the 200 IM, and 1:47.90 in the 200 free).

In the 40-44 division, Jose Cunningham (DCAC) swam 29.80 in the 50 breast and 1:05.30 in the 100 breast. James Ballard (WH20) swam 25.42 in the 50 back. Tom Reudy (WH20) swam 2:01.97 in the 200 IM and 4:27.57 in the 400 IM. Lee Mench (DSST) won the 100, 200, and 500 freestyles swimming 51.22, 1:52.45, and 5:08.20, respectively.

In the 45-49 division, Peter Prijdekker (OUT) swam 26.82 in the 50 fly and 1:02.42 in the 100 IM. Richard Peterson (ORCA) swam 23.56 in the 50 free, 51.68 in the 100 free, and 2:03.71 in the 200 free. Dana Cox (ORCA) swept the breaststroke swimming 32.36, 1:08.92, and 2:35.45.

In the **50-54** division, Julius Young (HEAT) swam 27.96 in the 50 fly and 1:04.46 in the 100 fly. David Ugarkovich (HEAT) swam 32.47 in the 50 breast, 1:11.84 in the 100 breast, and 2:36.74 in the 200 breast. Paulo Figueiredo (WH20) swam 2:33.71 in the 200 fly, 2:29.71 in the 200 IM, and 5:28.72 in the 400 IM.

In the **55-59** division, Michael Mealiffe (WH20) swam 30.54 in the 50 back, 1:06.49 in the 100 back, 26.49 in the 50 fly, and 1:05.47 in the 100 fly. Herbert Lugert (PARI) swam 36.10 in the 50 breast, 1:18.79 in the 100 breast, and 2:58.89 in the 200 breast.

In the **60-64** division, John Bleck (GALA) and Gary Vyne (DSST) dominated. In the **70-74** division, Philip Johnson (TDAC) won all four of his events.

Team Rankings in San Diego

Large Team Division

DC Aquatics	1443
West Hollywood	1240
San Diego	1066
Queer Utah Aquatics	794
Atlanta Rainbow Trout	537
San Francisco Tsunami	429
Team New York	380
FINS (Philadelphia)	330
Seattle Orca	214

Small Team Division

Colorado Whitewater	196
Greater Ohio	175
Out to Swim London	170
USF Masters	167
Sacramento HEAT	144
Different Stokes Calgary	109
Nadadores/South Beach	90
SCAC	87
Ann Arbor	67
Team Dallas	60
GALA Santa Barbara	58
Paris	49
Irvine	43

Arizona	39
Downtown Swim Club	36
English Bay	34
Wett Ones	29
Minnesota Masters	27
Suncoast Masters	26
Rideau Speedeaus	26
Portland	23
Greater Columbus	23
Havana Thermos	23
Different Strokes Boston	21
A Contre Courant	18
Team Berkeley	17
Stanford Masters	13
Prairie Masters	12
Chicago Smelts	6
Indiana Masters	4
Berlin	2

QUAC Wins Pink Flamingo

by Doug Fadel,
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Nearly one thousand spectators attended the 1997 IGLA Pink Flamingo Competition held in the courtyard swimming pool of the beautifully restored Ramada Hotel in San Diego. Ten teams competed for the Pink Flamingo title. The costumes were elaborate, and the enthusiasm of the crowd brought an electricity to the air.

The show began with San Diego welcoming the teams of IGLA with a charming rendition of Disney's "Be our Guest."

While their performance was outstanding, their performance paled in comparison to the hospitality that the San Diego team actually provided its IGLA guests.

Winning its first Pink Flamingo competition, QUAC dazzled the crowd with a precisioned synchronized swimming routine performed to the music of Peggy Lee and Doris

Day. QUAC's costume was simple, nose clips and shower caps. Nevertheless, the ducks' water rumba brought the crowd to its feet. The combined teams of New York and Ann Arbor placed second.

Finally, as an exhibition entry, the members of Out to Swim London brought silence to the crowd with their tribute to their late princess.

Paris Aquatique wants to thank all the members of its sister team, DSST, San Diego for the terrific job they did putting together a great, great, great IGLA Championship. With all our love and appreciation.

Thank You and Welcome

by Jessica Seaton, IGLA Pacific Co-President, *jseaton@aol.com*

The 10th Anniversary IGLA Championships in San Diego were a resounding success. The members of Different Strokes Swim Team provided around 750 participants a well-organized, fun, and memorable weekend. I'd like to thank the entire DSST group and all of their volunteers for a spectacular IGLA weekend. They have truly brought the IGLA Championships to a new level.

Each year at the General Meeting three to five of the eight Board members are up for election. I would like to thank our outgoing co-presidents, Jon Bauer and Roberto Mantaci, for the many contributions they have made to IGLA. They both guided IGLA along the bumpy road of becoming a well-run organization with effective leadership. Jon began this quest four years ago in Chicago. Roberto has spent the last two years tirelessly working on European outreach. While their service on the IGLA board of directors will be missed, we are fortunate that both Jon and Roberto have chosen to continue on the IGLA Executive Committee. Jon has volunteered to continue to serve as co-chair of the Policies and Procedures Committee along with Cherry Robinson of DSST, San Diego. Roberto will serve as the new co-chair of the Championship Rules Committee, along with Rex Toltschin of Dallas, Texas. I'd also like to thank the outgoing IGLA Treasurer, Brigitte Bassac, for her work over the past two years, handling our accounts from Paris.

Our new Board members are Jason Klugman from Philadelphia as the new Atlantic co-chair, Jamie Cole from Sydney, Australia as the new Pacific co-chair, and Sean Fitzgerald from Atlanta as the new Treasurer. I'm sure they will bring a lot of energy and ideas to the Board and am looking forward to working with them. Continuing on the Board along with John Brown, Atlantic co-president, are the energetic Doug Fadel of Utah as Secretary, the tireless Charlie Carson of New York as IGLA Delegate to the Federation of Gay Games, and last

but not least, Suzanne Shriner as Alternate Delegate to the Federation of Gay Games.

Looking ahead at the next year, I would like to see IGLA focus on international outreach. In particular, I would like to see us focus on improving our communication with European countries. Since Gay Games V will take place in Amsterdam, we can expect most participants to be European. IGLA is the only international gay and lesbian organization which focuses on the needs of swimmers, water polo players, and divers. We represent novice and elite, competitive and non-competitive athletes. IGLA is about inclusiveness, mutual support, and fairness for all in aquatic sports. We would like any interested aquatics club to feel welcome with us.

Communication is essential in an international organization the size of IGLA. I strongly encourage all of the IGLA representatives and anyone else interested to sign on to the IGLA@purple.com, waterpolo@purple.com, dive@purple.com, and/or swim@purple.com list. Any interested person can join these lists by sending a message to: macjordomo@purple.com. The message must contain the sentence: subscribe<name of the list><your e-mail address>.

The Year Ahead

by John Brown, IGLA Atlantic Co-President,
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I came away from IGLA X with a strange feeling. Not a surreal one, like watching the geriatric aqua-aerobicizers do their thing while 600 homosexuals did

theirs. No, it was more the strange sense one gets knowing that change is in the air. The sense of knowing that you have taken part in an event that is a turning point. Turning points, by their very nature, indicate either good change or bad change. I came away from San Diego sensing that IGLA had come to that proverbial Fork In The Road and was headed, barrelling out of control, down a path of no return. Fortunately, and for all the right reasons, the path down which we are now headed is the good one! This has not happened by chance nor by luck nor will it be an easy path. But I know that it is the right one. In my three short years of IGLA involvement, I have seen a great deal of work and effort go in to making this organization and its membership a world class amateur sports body. San Diego confirmed that. Some examples: We now have in place two very important documents that provide us a solid foundation on which to build, the Policy and Procedures Manual and newly revised Rules and Recommendations Booklet. While no one hates the tedious nature of crafting these works more than I do, it is work that has to be done. We owe a great deal of gratitude to Roberto Mantaci, Jon Bauer, Jessica Seaton, and Phil Hayman and their committees for making it happen. Additionally, we now have in place an active, level-headed women's development committee dedicated to a common sense, inclusive approach to building our female membership. Our Products and Promotions committee is chomping at the bit to leverage the value of our name and the influence of our membership to

raise much-needed funds for the organization. Water Polo and Diving are again in the spotlight with excellent competitions at the Championships. New teams on new continents have joined the roster and existing teams keep building and adding new blood to IGLA leadership. Our IGLA swimming championships were FAST! We are approaching the same level of competitiveness seen at USMS Nationals. This is a great indicator of our equality, even superiority, to our straight competitors. On the flip side of that coin, we have more and more beginners diving off the blocks for the first time, adding another dimension to what it means to swim. And most symbolically, the Championships came full-circle and returned to San Diego for a well-run, comprehensive, beautiful and FUN meet. All these examples are signs that we have done great work.

Words from IGLA's New Atlantic Co-Chair

by Jason Klugman, IGLA
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About Jason Klugman:

Jason was thrown in the pool at age 4 and brought to swim practice with the Fountain Valley Swim Team when he was just 5. He was first-team All-League in High School. He later joined the men's varsity team at the Johns Hopkins University in 1989. Hopkins has a powerhouse Division III team, but it wasn't very accommodating for a kid from the West Coast. He swam all four years at Hopkins, destroying his right shoulder, but reveling in the opportunity to swim at the Naval Academy against the Midshipmen every year. After college he won a research fellowship that took him on a year long tour of Australia where he had the opportunity to coach Jamie Cole and the Wett Ones for the summer of '93-'94. He worked in L.A. for a few months before

heading back to the East Coast and a job in Washington, D.C. As a member of DCAC, He competed in IGLA '95 and IGLA '96 and recorded about a dozen Master's Top Ten times.

Now, Jason is a third-year doctoral student in Education, Culture and Society at the Graduate School of Education at the University of Pennsylvania. He coaches the Philadelphia FINS and is settling into the fact that after two shoulder operations, it ain't never getting better!

So, I get elected, and the first thing I have to do is write a newsletter article! Welcome to IGLA! Actually, the first couple of things I have had to do is get a handle on just what an amazing job the current and previous IGLA boards have done to get this organization where it is today. Thank you, all of you, for your dedication, hard work and determination. I've had to reorganize my E-mail files because my E-mail que has been filled with messages regarding the Gay Games and the battle for fairness and FINA sanctioning, as well as a host of managerial questions and commentary from around the globe. I love it!

Reading John Brown's reflections on IGLA X, I know we are on the same page... though I think I had more of a surreal feeling, considering my parents were on deck seriously threatening to join the water aerobics class instead of watching me swim! Anyway, they enjoyed meeting Jessica Seaton, my new IGLA board colleague on the shuttle and, even more, they got to have dinner with my boyfriend who also swims for the FINS. That's one of the great things about gay and lesbian swimming. The fact that we can all participate, no matter what level of experience or even how good of shape we're in AND we can invite our parents to come watch and not be ashamed of

ANYTHING. My parents had a blast at the meet. I'm only sorry that they did not get to

meet the other parents in the crowd, including meet director John Farkas' parents and FINS member Dan McLeod's parents.

Though I am a little hesitant as I take over this first leadership role in IGLA, I am already reaping the benefits of involvement. Back here in Philly, I am able to convey to the FINS the importance of the ideals of fairness and continuity, especially as it involves next year's Gay Games. However, I am always taking it the next step, considering what swimmers, water polo players, and divers around the world must be going through. Addressing these concerns is a top priority if we are going to continue to build a credible and internationally recognized organization. To build this, we need to continue to outreach to new teams, help those "satellite" swimmers start their own teams, encourage teams to register with IGLA and broaden our European representation. We also should encourage Sydney, host of the 2002 Gay Games, to implement a comprehensive system for outreach and begin fostering gay and lesbian Aquatics in South America and Asia. I can imagine flying with my team and hundreds of gay and lesbian swimmers, water polo players and divers to places like Buenos Aires, Tokyo, Sydney, and Capetown for IGLA championships--if we could just get a major airline to sponsor us! Well, we have to dream so we won't be taken off guard when the reality is here.

A Voice From Down Under

by Jamie Cole, IGLA Pacific Co-Chair, amboy@geko.net.au

"... and the winner is Sydney," is becoming quite a common phrase these days. It seems the world has finally stumbled across us and discovered the magic of "the big brown mysterious land down under."

Since the recent IGLA Championships in San Diego, it feels like the sun has been shining on this little tadpole from the Southern Hemisphere. The swim meet not only provided me with a couple of personal best times (we won't mention the DQ) but also a position on the IGLA Board, as Pacific Co-Chair. To be given the opportunity to become more involved in an organization that I have a great passion and respect for has brought me great pleasure.

Suddenly, Australia and the Pacific doesn't feel so distant. The once voice in the wilderness has been given an opportunity to speak for its fellow swimmers in a region not much represented in the world of swimming. I'm sure the European members of IGLA, shared a similar sense of satisfaction when Roberto Mantaci was IGLA Atlantic Co-President, and can understand the importance for members of my region to feel that they belong. Don't fear my friends west of the Mississippi, I haven't forgotten you. I can represent you as well as reach out to Asia and the Pacific Islands, a region not only missing from IGLA but also noticeably absent from Gay Games.

The recent announcement that Sydney, Australia won the

right to host the 2002 Gay Games proves the International Federation of Gay Games is truly becoming a global organization. The emphasis of the Sydney bid (apart from the huge parties, sun shine, beaches and great sporting facilities) was the need to reach out to Asia and the Pacific (a great passion of Stuart Borrie, one of the presenters to the FGG). This announcement has provided great opportunities for gay and lesbian athletes in this region, opportunities that we will utilize to greater foster the presence of gays and lesbians in the wider community.

With being awarded the 2002 Gay Games, comes the opportunity for Sydney to possibly host an IGLA championships in the year 2000. We have already had a positive response from Masters Australia about such a bid and have all but secured the Sydney International Aquatic Center, the site for aquatics at the Sydney 2000 Olympics.

I have been given this opportunity to serve as IGLA Pacific Co-Chair. I step in to this position formerly held by Jon Bauer. It is a position that will no doubt be hard to fill because of the great work achieved by Jon over the past four years. Although a hard man to follow, I'm sure that if love for one's sport and respect for an organization is fodder for this role, I will be able to live up to the standards set down before me. I thank you for this acknowledgment of my desire to further serve swimming and hope to have the pleasure of meeting most of you through swimming or my many vacations over the next four years.

IGLA Treasurer's Report

by Sean Fitzgerald, IGLA Treasurer, seanfitzg@aol.com

Greetings from your new IGLA treasurer. By this time, your IGLA representative should have received your 1998 IGLA membership renewal packet. This year's packet has grown from previous years. This is because of the opportunity we have before us. As the Gay Games moves to Europe for the first time, we need to make our push to involve more European teams in IGLA. We want to be able to offer teams concrete reasons for joining IGLA. First, we'd like to provide new teams with a road map of how to become a not for profit organization. Secondly, we would like to show teams how to host meets that are affordable to everyone. We need everyone's help to achieve this.

Our first goal is to give new teams the necessary information they need to achieve non-profit status. This status provides tax benefits as well as helping to secure corporate sponsorship. Many IGLA teams already enjoy the benefits of having their non-profit status. What we would like is to get a copy of all paperwork filed. In the U.S., some teams already have their 501(c)3 (tax exempt status). We need to know the European equivalent so we can offer the same road map to new teams. Once we compile the information, we will send detailed instructions to teams that want to pursue their own 501(c)3. These instructions will then be given to all new IGLA clubs in a welcoming packet.

Our second goal is to make IGLA sponsored meets more affordable. Already hard at work is the Products and Marketing committee which is busily searching out corporate sponsors for IGLA. We'd like all IGLA teams to benefit from these contacts. We are also trying to determine the costs associated with hosting a swim meet. We can then analyze these costs and help teams produce meets at lower costs. We would like to receive detailed budgets from all treasurers and meet directors from any meet produced in the last few years. Another advantage of this process will be to give fledgling teams an idea of what is needed to run their own meet.

We have a lot of work ahead of us to make IGLA a premier worldwide swimming organization. Please give us your support over this important year. Details of the above should have already been received by your IGLA representative. Please return the information as soon as possible. 1998 membership fees are now due. Don't Delay.

Finally, in the letter that I sent each team as part of their 1998 registration packet, I indicated that "The Gay Games in Amsterdam marks the first time an IGLA Championships will be contested outside North American Waters." As a point of clarification, the Gay Games is not an IGLA Championship. Rather, IGLA plays an advisory role.

Caution: Website Construction

by Doug Fadel, IGLA Secretary,
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Watch for falling debris. The IGLA Website committee is blasting, leveling, and hauling away the old Website to bring you a brand spanking new IGLA Website with the plush interior of a 1998 with all the extras included at no extra fee. Some of the changes you can expect include: improved graphics, yearly calendar, 1998 registration forms, newsletters, rules and recommendations booklet, policies and procedures manual, IGLA team roster, top ten listing, access to individual IGLA teams, and links to other sites. Watch for sneak preview of new site in January.

IGLA Waterpolo

by Evans Fowler, IGLA
Waterpolo Chairperson,
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About Evans Fowler:

Evans was a varsity swimming letterman at U of Washington. For the past five years he has been associated with the Seattle Orca Swimming or Seattle Otters waterpolo. He has participated in each IGLA since Chicago '93. As a member of the Otters he has served as team captain and IGLA Representative. As Chairman of the waterpolo committee, he looks forward to working with others on promoting waterpolo and IGLA, and creating an enjoyable forum for lesbians/gays to competitively play waterpolo.

This year the waterpolo committee is focusing on several issues which will help foster and develop a larger family of waterpolo teams and participants. Specifically, the committee, which is made up of approximately 12

members, will be working on rewriting several Championship Rules so as to promote more teams to participate at IGLA and to clarify issues which have created protests in the tournament's past. We also intend to create more visibility for waterpolo, so that we can be identified and approached by new players/ teams who might otherwise not have been aware of our presence. This outreach effort is vital to the perpetuation and further development of quality IGLA tournaments. Whereas swimming continues to gain new competitor's each year, waterpolo's team participation continues to vacillate. We intend to to promote waterpolo through web pages, clinics, advisory newsletters, and word of mouth. Waterpolo is also working to nurture participation by more women. One approach is by working to establish a Women's Division play; we have begun efforts to ensure a women's division competition at Gay Games V.

All aquatic participants are aware of the difficulties surrounding Amsterdam, and waterpolo is no exception. Despite the lack of information and structure, we are strongly working to promote as many teams from IGLA as possible to participate in Amsterdam, thus guaranteeing a topnotch tournament in August '98 -and some IGLA butt-kicking!

If any of you would like information regarding waterpolo, or would like assistance in creating a team, please don't hesitate to ask, that's is what our committee is here for! Thank you, and I look forward to all your E-mails this year!

Join an IGLA Committee

by Roberto Mantaci

The IGLA Championships Rules and Recommendations, the IGLA Policies and Procedures and the IGLA Fundraising, Products and promotion committees welcome all interested water lovers to join a committee. There is a lot to do, and everyone's input is welcome. If you wish to join one of these committees, please contact one of the co-chairs at the following e-mails :

CHAMPIONSHIPS RULES AND RECOMMENDATIONS COMMITTEE:

Roberto Mantaci, mantaci@litp.ibp.fr
Rex Toltschin, toltschin@aol.com

POLICIES AND PROCEDURES COMMITTEE:

Jon Bauer, hwcoyote@aol.com
Cherry Robinson, cherry@qspec.com

FUNDRAISING, PRODUCTS AND PROMOTIONS COMMITTEE:

Robert Haas, roberthaas@aol.com

If you do not have e-mail, please write or call Doug Fadel, the IGLA secretary, 1155 N. 850 E., Bountiful, Utah 84010, USA; 801-232-7961

Secretary's Note:

The IGLA roster accompanying this newsletter was compiled using the 1997 registration information. A new roster with the 1998 information will be sent to all teams with the next newsletter.

1998 IGLA Swimming Meets

Seattle Snow Ball Swim Meet, January 16-18, 1998

by Bill Garrison, Meet Director

The Seattle ORCAS would like to welcome you to our Winter Snow Ball Swim Meet! It will be held during the Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday weekend, January 16th, 17th, and 18th in the ever so wet Seattle, Washington (aren't you glad you'll be swimming?)

Plan to arrive by Friday.

The festivities will commence Friday evening with an invitation to attend an ORCA pod practice followed by pasta dinner hosted by the those charming ORCA swimmers. After demonstrating your fine social graces feel free to spend an evening out on the town. Disco to your hearts content because you are sure to have a whale of a good time in Seattle. Besides, if you shake your dorsal fin all night the ORCAS will have a better opportunity to place!

The swim meet will begin Saturday morning (not too early) and end Saturday afternoon. It will be held at the Helene Madison Pool in North Seattle which is a six-lane 25 yard pool with additional warm-up area.

During the meet, we will be hosting the ORIGINAL PINK FLAMINGO relay during one of our breaks. We'll have the supplies, you just bring a team to compete in the relay.

After the meet, visit Seattle's: Pike Place Market or its many museums, take an underground historical tour, or

just hang out with your friends on Capitol Hill, Seattle's friendliest neighborhood!

Saturday night we will have a post-meet potluck party hosted by the ORCAS. A great opportunity to join the pod and members from other teams for social chatter and frothy libations.

If flopping your tail and shaking your fin doesn't do anything for you just hold your sea horses.... we have other activities in the works - a visit to the Seattle Aquarium and Omnimax theater and possibly inner tubing down some icy mountain slopes on Sunday! Skiing and Snowboarding are also available 1-2 hours from the city but our snow is generally heavier than our Utah and

Colorado friends care for. Finish the weekend off at the ever-popular Sunday Disco Tea Dance at the Timberline and maybe even a beer at the Cuff or The Easy.

Monday is a holiday and you are on your own. ORCAS will be glad to give you suggestions on things to do on your final day.

Hosted housing is available and we will be glad to assist in coordinating local hotel accommodations. Plan soon because the early bird gets the whale (and the cheaper airfare)! If you have any questions please contact one of the ORCAS below. We look forward to seeing you soon. Best wishes!

Bill Garrison (Meet Director) at (206) 323-2256.

Nick Smith (Meet Social Coordinator) at (206) 547-2681

E-mail Inquiries to **Jim Lasersohn** (Treasurer) at JLasersoCo@aol.com

Come Love a Cold Duck QUAC SKI and SWIM February 13-16, 1998

by **Doug Fadel, Meet Director**
douglask@sisna.com

Come enjoy the cold in the company of the warmest hearts! The 1998 QUAC Ski and Swim Weekend will be held February 13-16, 1998 in beautiful Salt Lake City, Utah.

You are lucky because the fun begins Friday the 13th of February with intimate dinner parties hosted by the social elite of Salt Lake City followed by a registration party held in your honor. If your luck isn't the best on Friday, never fear because love is in the air in abundance on Saturday, Valentines Day, and who needs luck when you're in love. The meet will begin first thing Saturday morning.

Following the meet, gather at the beautiful Galivan Center in downtown Salt Lake City and skate with your sweetheart (or someone you kind of like, or someone who you don't like but doesn't bug you, or someone who bugs you but is kind of cute, or someone really annoying, ugly, and pathetic)--but skate dammit, skate. If skating doesn't quench your thirst for romance, you might take a carriage ride, stroll the streets of Salt Lake City, or roast chestnuts by an open fire. On Saturday night, come enjoy Salt Lake City's subtle night life.

After you have had all the love you can handle, come enjoy Sunday Brunch where we will present awards for the weekend. Following the Brunch on Sunday, you can cross country ski, snow board or ski. We will provide a guided cross-country skiing tour.

We will also have our moonlight snowshoe adventure (this year there will be a beginning adventure, and intermediate adventure, and a kick ass extreme athlete adventure). Following snowshoeing, we will say our goodbyes at our goodbye dessert party.

What about skiing? We will provide you with all the information regarding the resorts and best deals. It will be up to you to discover why Salt Lake City is said to have the "Greatest Snow on Earth."

Hosted housing and discounted hotel rates are available. Registration forms and post cards (featuring me wearing practically nothing) are available. Contact **Dave Ferguson:** *quacquac@aol.com*, 801-582-3552. Start looking for great airfares now. This is an event you do not want to miss.

Swim Fest 1998 May 1-3, 1998

by **Jason Klugman,**
jasonrk@dolphin.upenn.edu

The Philadelphia Fins invites IGLA swimmers from around the world to spend a weekend in historic Philadelphia, May 1-3, 1998. We will be hosting our 3rd annual swim meet to coincide with the Nationally focused PrideFest celebration here in the city of brotherly love. The swim meet will be held on Saturday, May 2, 1998 at Drexel University Pool, just across the Schuylkill River from Center City Philadelphia. Events include a Friday evening reception at a historic downtown home, a Sunday brunch on the top floor of the Bell Atlantic Tower in Center

City (featuring a spectacular panoramic view of Philadelphia), Sunday's OUTFEST street festival, and more. Hosted housing will be available for our out of town visitors. Check out <http://www.purple.com/fins> soon for more information.

Atlanta Rainbow Trout To Host Freedom Swim June 20, 1998

by **John Brown,**
john.brown@sales.turner.com

Mark your calendars for June 20, 1998. That's when Atlanta Rainbow Trout will host Freedom Swim '98 at the Georgia Tech Aquatic Center, site of the 1996 Centennial Olympics. Last year's meet was a huge success and the Trout are looking to make this into one of the premier long course meets in the Southeast. A full weekend of festivities will be scheduled, including hosted housing for our out of town guests.

Look for more information in the early spring, either via snail mail or at our website:
www.mindspring.com/~atltrout/

1998 Calendar

ORCA Winter Snow Ball Meet
Seattle
January 16-18, 1998
Jim Lasersohn
JLasersoCo@aol.com

Rafael Montijo Relay Meet
West Hollywood
February 7, 1998

QUAC Ski and Swim
Salt Lake City, Utah
February 13-16, 1998
Dave Ferguson
quacquac@aol.com

Swimmers in Heats
Ottawa, Ontario
February 14, 1998

Wett Ones Swimming Meet
Sydney, Australia
February 21, 1998
mtate@ozemail.com.au

4th Trophee Paris Aquatique
Paris, France
March 14-15, 1998
mantaci@litp.liafa.jussieu.fr

Swim Fest 1998
FINS Aquatics Club
Philadelphia, PA
May 2, 1998
<http://www.purple.com/fins>

Queen's Birthday
Ann Arbor, MI
May 15-17, 1998

Freedom Swim
Atlanta, GA
June 20, 1998
www.mindspring.com/~atltrout/

Gay Pride Weekend
Toronto, Ontario
June 27, 1998

Gay Games V
Amsterdam
August 1-8, 1998

Annual Columbus Day Classic
Washington, DC
October 10-11, 1998

1998 Polo Tournaments

Seattle Otter International Open
January 24-25, 1998
Jason Eppel, jeppel@fhcrc.org

Cherry Jubilee Tournament
Washington, DC
April, 1998 (tentative)
John Peller, jpeller@apwa.org

