
WETNOTES

The Official Newsletter of International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics

November 1998

Where Do We Go From Here?

Atlantic Region Update: Jason Klugman, Co-President

I was sick for 3 days in Copenhagen following the Gay Games and I still can't figure out why. Was it just exhaustion from an intense week of swimming and politics in Amersfoort? Was it something in the water? Was it something I ate? Considering that the night before I got really sick, I cooked dinner and my generous host, Lars Vestergard, Coach of Team Mermaid from Copenhagen, was just fine, I ruled out that bit of food. At the end of it, I returned to Philadelphia after a jaunt through Scandinavia and Russia (I got to swim in both the 1952 Olympic pool in Helsinki and, by the magic of a local, the 1980 Olympic pool in Moscow!). I came back minus 10 pounds... not a bad way to start a new school year!

Meanwhile, gay and lesbian aquatics moves boldly forward. Amersfoort saw the emergence of European teams from parts of the Continent that many North Americans haven't visited, let alone locate on a map. But we're getting there. SC Janus from Cologne put together relays that shocked perennial IGLA Champion District of Columbia Aquatics. Meanwhile, Out to Swim London brought more than 80 athletes in the finest matching track suits, t-shirts, suits and bags. And there I was in my powder blue and gold Team Philly get-up! While the first "in-pool" stage was erected for performances in the hothouse diving well for the Pink Flamingo, Frankfurt's men's

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Beyond Amsterdam and Movement in the South

Pacific Region Update: Jamie Cole, Co-President

Amsterdam has come and gone and I'm sure we are all a little better for it. The Gay Games swim meet provided us with an opportunity to establish more IGLA friendships, as well as meet coaches and new teams not yet associated with IGLA. After all the excitement and drama of the Gay Games, where to next? A new board and committee chairs have been elected. New teams are being formed and the Southern Hemisphere prepares for opportunity to host the Gay Games.

At the IGLA General Meeting, the Board and membership were eager to reach out to more European teams. With the successful bid of Paris to host the IGLA Championships in 2000 and the work of our new Membership and Services team headed up by Lou Theunissen, I'm positive this enthusiasm will lead to stronger European membership.

But what's doing in the in the Southern Hemisphere?

While in Amsterdam, I met swimmers from other parts of Australia. Communication began on starting a new team in Brisbane. This communication continued once back in OZ and we are confident that we will be announcing another gay and lesbian swim team very shortly. Brisbane will host the Australian Gaymes in April 1999, with a sanctioned swim meet, and this should confirm everything. This will mean Wett Ones Sydney will no longer stand alone as the gay and lesbian team from Australia. Hooray!

The Sports Director of Sydney 2002, Stuart Borrie, has targeted Asia and the Pacific for outreach for the next Gay Games. This region is the least represented in gay games and most gays and lesbian in this region suffer from constant persecution or discrimination. While in Amsterdam, Stuart discussed his goals to create new teams in this region with a very excited Pacific Co-Chair, Kevin Brauer.

A small team made up of members of Wett Ones came together to form the Aquatics Committee for Sydney 2002. Headed by Andrew Leese, we have already assured sanctioning with Masters Swimming Australia and have made it an objective to work closely with IGLA in pre-

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synchronized swimming crew showed us that they are ready for Olympic consideration.

One of my favorite moments from the Games was actually during the IGLA meeting where Paris Aquatique adopted Team Mermaid and offered to pay their first year membership dues. At the meeting, for the first time, the IGLA membership had two competing bids for the IGLA Championships... and neither was from North America! Back in the pool, the scope of countries represented was astounding - from Israel to South Africa; the Czech Republic to New Zealand. This was the most impressive international gay and lesbian competition I had ever seen, even if the pool had no deck space and we had to start from the side of pool -16 across - for the 400 and 800 meter freestyles!

On Friday, while most were sweating it out watching the Pink Flamingo, I had a great conversation with an official, Cor, from the Dutch Swimming Federation who actually ran the day-to-day operations of the meet. I expressed IGLA's appreciation for her hard work and the excellent efforts put forth by the gracious volunteers in Amersfoort. After all of our battles with Games organizers, it was pleasant to talk swimming and diplomacy with the folks who really made it happen on a daily basis at the pool.

Following the Games, rather than taking any kind of significant break, this year's IGLA board has started into a number of important activities. John Peller, our new secretary, is working diligently to produce a new and improved IGLA website. Tara Robertson (Out to Swim London) moved back to Canada, but didn't miss a beat in stirring up IGLA's Women's Committee with a new email listserve and a renewed effort to share ideas and provide support to lesbian swimmers, water polo players and divers worldwide. Our Committee on Products and Promotions, led by Dan MacGregor (Calgary) and Lou Thuenissen (Havana Thermos/individual member), is busy developing a comprehensive plan to streamline IGLA outreach, product development and fundraising initiatives. In Policy and Procedures, Ralph Doore (SF Tsunami) has taken on the huge project of getting IGLA's history as concise and complete as possible in order for our products to be available via our new website. All the while, Rex Toltschin (Team Dallas) and Robert Stofferson (DCAC) are beginning to revisit the heaps of lessons learned from Amersfoort in order to create the most complete Championship Rules Document possible for future Gay Games and IGLA Championships. I applaud the amazing dedication and hard work of all of these volunteers.

As for me, well, I'm officially out of the water for nine months, praying that my shoulder decides to start healing. Oh, and the weight I lost... it's all back. I'm taking a break from coaching the FINS here in Philly as well, but I was

on hand Columbus Day weekend to take splits, encourage swimmers, and organize relays that led to the FINS winning our third IGLA invitational this year! Once again, DCAC put on an excellent meet featuring over 225 athletes, including large contingents from Ohio and San Diego who used this meet as a "mini-IGLA championships." Bravo!

Finally, I am truly grateful for the opportunity to be so intimately involved with gay and lesbian swimming and swimmers around the world. When I returned to Philly, I started to receive regular updates from Gary Coetzee in Johannesburg, South Africa about the development and expansion of TOGS. Over the past week, I've been corresponding with a swimmer in Kansas City, MO, as he tries to establish a team in this Midwestern US city. If anyone wishes to communicate trials and successes, frustrations and questions, well, that's what we're here for... my email address is <jasonrk@dolphin.upenn.edu>. I check it all too regularly! Oh, and remember, don't breathe off your turns!

Get Ready for Atlanta '99!

Our 1999 IGLA championships are only 6 months away, so it's time to block the dates on your calendar: June 18-20, at the Georgia Tech aquatics center. The organizers are working hard to plan a fantastic meet, great polo and diving, and fun social events. Anyone who has ever been to the Rainbow Trout's annual June meet knows how much fun it is. And then there's the drama: Will Jack Markey's boys and girls in DC hold onto the IGLA Championship for one more year? Or will Atlanta get the hometown advantage? All we know is that DCAC has started booking tickets already. So everyone else, start making plans! See <http://www.igla99.org> for more information. Pack those bags!

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paring for the games. Wett Ones' history with IGLA will ensure a friendly and constructive relationship needed in hosting such an event. Wett Ones hosts a sanctioned swim meet in February each year as part of the Mardi Gras Team Sydney Sports Festival, which has enabled them to establish a support network and a healthy relationship with Master Swimming NSW, which will no doubt assist greatly for 2002.

At the IGLA general meeting we said farewell to out-going Pacific Co-President, Jessica Seaton. Thanks, Jessica, for the great work you have put into IGLA to help it to grow and

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James Ridout (Wash., D.C.): jridout@ix.netcom.com

IGLA Records & Top Ten Chair

Rick Windes (San Francisco): windesr@usms.org

continues to help us steer this organization into the future. We also say farewell to our out-going Secretary, Doug Fadel, who carried out a magnificent job in putting together the legal work for IGLA to be incorporated as well as coordinating the IGLA Wetnotes.

Roberto Mantaci was the outgoing Championship Rules Chair and a voice for Europe. We gladly do not say farewell to Roberto, since he was elected to the position of Alternate Delegate to the Federation of Gay Games. Roberto, with Charlie Carson, will ensure that the needs of aquatics are heard on the Federations Sports Committee. IGLA is extremely well represented by these two enthusiasts.

Unfortunately, we no longer have any women serving on the board. Tara Robertson and Karen Sauvigne (TNYA), who co-chair the Woman's Development Committee, will ensure this group of guys is kept informed with the needs of the 'women of IGLA'.

Welcome aboard to Phil Collins, from Out to Swim London; Kevin Brauer, from SQUID in Denver; and our new IGLA secretary and website coordinator, John Peller. Congratulations and thank you to all our new committee chairs. I look forward to working with all of you over the coming year.

Jason Klugman, Atlantic Co-President and Sean Fitzgerald, IGLA Treasurer, continue their great work on the IGLA board. I am assured that this group of excited volunteers will follow in the great traditions of IGLA boards gone before them and endeavor to serve you well. Looking forward to more IGLA friendships in Atlanta '99!

Gay Games Update

Charlie Carson, IGLA Delegate to the Federation of Gay Games

In mid-November, IGLA's new Alternate Delegate Roberto Mantaci and I attended this year's annual meeting of the Federation of Gay Games in Seattle. The focus was on the internal operating goals of the Federation. The unprecedented financial deficit incurred by Amsterdam has directly affected the Federation – Amsterdam owes the Federation almost US\$90,000, of which only a small fraction may be collected – and the challenges for growth in the near future are great.

More specifically of interest to IGLA, all sports representatives submitted reports on the outcome of this year's Gay Games events. While Roberto and I could share that report with you here, there may be information presented to us by the Amsterdam organizers that will affect our final impressions. So I thought I would instead give you a look at the

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develop. We all share a great deal of respect for Jessica and the work she has done, with Philip Hayman, in putting together the Rules & Recommendations for IGLA Championships booklet. Jessica, a long-serving member, has had a big effect on the IGLA board and we hope she

Farewell and Thanks!

During the Amersfoort General Meeting, the IGLA membership elected several new leaders to the current board. At the same time, we said goodbye to several folks who have provided years of outstanding services to the organization and Lesbian and Gay Aquatics. We want to recognize their hard work and admit that we're the suckers now.

Jessica Seaton, West Hollywood, Pacific Co-President

John Brown, Atlanta, Atlantic Co-President

Suzanne Shriner, West Hollywood, former FGG Alternate

Doug Fadel, Utah, Secretary

Jon Bauer, Policy and Procedures Co-Chair

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future, specifically Gay Games VI in Sydney.

During the past two years, it became clear within the Federation Sports Committee that host committees who wish to reinvent rules for sports can cause tremendous problems for athletes, the general public, and their own organization. As part of the Gay Games VI contract, the Federation established requirements for the 22 "core" sports. Former IGLA Alternate Delegate Suzanne Shriner and I submitted information that appears on page 10 of this newsletter for the contract.

Note that with the exception of phrases using the words "should" or "recommendation," these requirements were non-negotiable -- they were considered "deal-breakers" with the winning bidder, Sydney 2002. To Sydney's credit, these sports requirements were accepted with minimal comment. There are a number of other practices typical of a FINA-sanctioned Masters competition that may be added through riders to the contract, but it is already accepted that IGLA's Championship Rules for the Conduct of a Gay Games will be the comprehensive document used by future Gay Games Hosts.

As always, let me (and, now, Roberto) know if you have any comments. You can contact us at <cacarsonjr@aol.com> or <Roberto.Mantaci@liafa.jussieu.fr>. We will give a report of this year's Federation meeting in the next issue.

Oh No! Pink Balls!

John Peller, IGLA Secretary

The Gay Games Water Polo tournament in Amsterdam was a wonderful, exciting experience, but strange for several reasons. Most teams competed in a bracket that used pink woman's balls, which are smaller than the men's yellow balls, standard for IGLA competitions. Regardless, the sight

of pink balls was strange but very appropriate for a queer polo tournament. The pool was beautiful, the referees kept the games on schedule, and the volunteers were friendly and helpful. More importantly, despite some initial concerns and confusion, the tournament ran very smoothly.

For the first time, we saw TWO female polo teams compete, both from Gay Swim Amsterdam. The level of play was outstanding, and the women's teams gave several men's and mixed teams a run for their money. We hope the women of Gay Swim Amsterdam will continue to play in IGLA tournaments in the future.

Water polo representation during the IGLA general meeting in Amersfoort was a bit low (probably because meeting was so far from the polo venue). However, several of us gathered in a corner to review team development, barriers to creating new teams (mainly scarce pool time, lack of equipment and knowledge of the game, and a dearth of interested players), and hopes for the future.

In 1998, so far, we have two new IGLA polo teams: Atlanta and Utah. We hope they will continue far into the future. In addition, at the IGLA '99 Championships we will have simultaneous polo and swimming competitions. The Georgia Tech facility is able to accommodate both sports at once, and we expect that this will encourage more players to participate in both sports, since it will just take a short walk across the deck. We look forward to seeing all of you in Atlanta.

1999 Registrations are out!

Sean Fitzgerald, IGLA Treasurer

By now, you should have received your 1999 IGLA registration form. Before I beg for your money, let's take a look at last year's finances. In 1998, IGLA had US\$5500 in expenses. Nearly half of that total is expenses related to printing and sending the quarterly newsletter. Other large expenditures are travel costs for our two Federation of Gay Games Representatives to the annual Federation meeting, and rental space for the 1998 IGLA general membership meeting in Amersfoort.

Fortunately, we had US\$7500 in revenues in 1998. Membership dues contributed US\$4,400, while US\$3,100 came from the 1997 IGLA Championships. Next year, however, will be a tougher year. Since there was no IGLA championship meet in 1998 (because of the Gay Games), that portion of our income will not be available in 1999. Our expenses, however, will continue to grow. If you missed the IGLA meeting in Amersfoort and would like a full budget breakdown for 1998, email me at <SeanFitzg@aol.com> or ask for a copy of the budget when you send in your 1999 dues.

Now it's time to ask for your help. Please return your 1999 membership registration as soon as possible. We have already sent our FOGG reps to Seattle for the 1998 annual meeting. If your team hosts a swim meet this year, please include a space on the registration form for "donations to IGLA". Just a US\$1

donation from each swimmer at every IGLA member team sponsored event will help us recover the \$3100 we miss from not hosting a 1998 event. Thanks for your help. I'll see y'all in Atlanta at the 1999 IGLA Championships, June 18-20.

Swimmin' Wimmin

Tara Robertson, Out to Swim, London

Where are all the dykes in IGLA? Why don't women show up in the first place, or if they do, why don't women stick around? The Women's Development committee discussed these issues during the breakout session at the IGLA meeting in Amersfoort during the Gay Games. Karen Sauvigne (TYNA) and I will be co-chairing the committee in 1998-1999. We talked about some of the possible barriers and reasons for women not swimming (financial constraints, the impression that one must be an experienced competitive swimmer, lesbians wanting to play women's team sports like softball, soccer or hockey instead of drowning in a sea of gorgeous gay men, etc.).

We also talked about strategies that different teams have used to try and recruit more women and to keep them, including: advertising in lesbian bars and meeting places, organizing women's social events, 'learn to swim' introduction programs, and others. We talked about the varying degrees of success and the problems associated with having women's only sessions. We talked about how we can improve women's participation within IGLA and decided to start a women's development e-mail discussion group and contribute to the IGLA newsletter. Talking is important, but we also need to put these ideas into practice.

A women's social dinner in Adams Morgan was organized by Carol Galbraith for this year's DCAC/ACDC meet. While looking for IGLA 1999 information, I found Atlanta Rainbow Trout's women's development page that highlights the female component of ART and some of their accomplishments <http://www.mindspring.com/~atltrout/R_WD.htm>.

The organizers of the next 3 big meets are also committed to women's development. One of the original women's development committee members, Jan Suchomski and ART teammate Lisa Finfer have stated their team's goal of increasing the number of women at the IGLA 1999 championships. Sonia Abecassis (Paris Aquatique) mentioned some of their team's ideas in making IGLA 2000 accessible to women. Janet Bolton, Peter McGee, David McGrath (Sydney Wett Ones) expressed their ideas on how they've tried to strengthen their women's team. Sydney Gay Games 2002, especially the swimming competition, is going to be brilliant.

European dykes are swimming hard as well. In Denmark, Stine Rinvig started a lesbian swim club for Gay Games.

The IGLA club in Italy is keen to recruit lesbian swimmers. As we move into 1999, the Woman's Development Committee will be sure to keep you abreast of happenings in clubs around the world.

IGLA Creates New Woman's Development E-Mail Discussion Group

Thanks to Jeff Abrahamson's computer/email wizardry we now have an igla-women email discussion group. A few of the emails have been pleas for help in recruiting more women. Others have been reports from different corners of the world (okay, only from the U.S. and Canada so far). To subscribe go to <<http://list.purple.com>> or send an email to <majordomo@list.purple.com> with the following message: <subscribe igla-women>

The posting address is <igla-women@list.purple.com>. Please subscribe and encourage your teammates to join also; the discussion will be richer if a variety of viewpoints are represented. It is an exciting time to be involved with women's development committee as women's involvement in gay and lesbian aquatics is exploding. IGLA also has <IGLA> (general IGLA business), <waterpolo>, and <Dive> e-mail lists. If you haven't subscribed yet, get in the loop. Follow the procedures outlined above, but substitute the appropriate list name. And keep on talking!

Records and Times

Rick Windes, Records and Top Times Chair

On October 3, 1998 the U.S. Masters Swimming (USMS) Observer for Gay Games V, Paul Fortoul, furnished me with two diskettes containing results from the Masters Swimming events. I converted the results data to the format use in common by the Records and Tabulation chairs for USMS (Pieter Cath) and Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA) Masters (Walt Reid). The USMS results were e-mailed to the Records chair on October 20, 1998. The FINA submission for Top 10 consideration has been completed for individual results; all that remains is adding international relays; a process I should complete by November 10, 1998.

The USMS observer, Paul Fortoul, met with Walt Reid, Pieter Cath and me on October 2, 1998. Paul briefed all of us on the general conduct of the meet (good) and presented some findings-in conjunction with Jamie Cole and Alain Périé, observers for Masters Swimming Australia and French Swimming Federation, respectively. The most serious of these findings was in the 400m and 800m freestyle events, which were swum two-to-a-lane. Simultaneous starting of both swimmers in a lane, a dangerous practice, is not currently prohibited. However, the confusion and inadequacy of the timing regimen resulted in some

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swimmers not receiving sufficient hand-held timing support and other swimmers being assigned time which they did not accomplish. The consensus of all present was that these two distance events were conducted in a manner unfair to the competitors. Since the FINA and USMS recorders indicated they would not accept these results, the 400m and 800m freestyle events have been disallowed for records and top 10 consideration at the U.S. national and international levels.

Once the Gay Games V results have been sent to FINA, I will update the LCM data and records, hopefully by the end of the year. Next, I'll update the SCM data and records to reflect IGLA X, for which I now have results. Finally, I'm still looking for the SCM results from IGLA IX in Washington, DC, pretty please? With luck, I can have everything up-to-date by mid-February, six weeks ahead of the working schedule.

Finally, a new rule for USMS swimmers and an item of interest for all FINA swimmers: The USMS House of Delegates has voted that, effective January 1, 1999, USMS will comply with the FINA Age Determination Rule for metric courses, i.e., age as of December 31 of the year of competition. Such a turnaround by the rather "old guard" members of the USMS International Committee was initiated by past IGLA Pacific Co-Chair Jessica Seaton, who reported on the age determination problems regarding reporting of results faced by US swimmers in Amsterdam. It didn't hurt that the Nike Games swimming ran into similar problems. This committee, as well as the House in general, did take some note that several hundred USMS swimmers participated in Gay Games V. This issue has been controversial for many years, but recording our competitive history should become much easier.

S.Q.U.I.D.s & QUACs

KEVIN BRAUER, PACIFIC CO-CHAIR

What happens when a duck meets a squid? We're still not sure, but on Sunday, Oct. 11, 1998 S.Q.U.I.D. (Swimming Queers United In Denver) hosted QUAC (Queer Utah Aquatic Club) for a dual swim meet at Denver Metro State College. 30 swimmers from SQUID and 20 swimmers from QUAC participated. There were hosted dinners and a Registration Party at Club Proteus on Friday. On Saturday morning members did a bike/rollerblade tour or an Art Walk of Denver and attended "Always Patsy Cline" at the Denver Performing Arts Center Saturday night. After the swim meet we had a picnic in Cheesman Park with great weather and lots of food and fun. Both teams look forward to QUAC's Swim N Ski weekend in Feb. '99, open to all IGLA members. But we still want to know: if a duck quacks, what kind of a noise does a squid make, anyway?

Championship Rules Committee Update

Rex Toltschin, CR Committee Co-Chair

Robert Stofferson (DCAC) is the new Co-Chair of the 1998/1999 Championship Rules Committee, joining me as I serve the second year in this position. We had a large breakout session in Amsterdam and many others are now on the committee. As mentioned at the General Meeting in Amersfoort, there was another list of names that was not turned in. Anyone else wishing to participate in this committee, please contact me directly at <Toltschin@aol.com>.

Highlights of the committee work as we finish '98 and move into '99 will include the following:

- Reviewing the issues of GGv in Amsterdam as we move forward in developing championship rules for all future Gay Games events;
- Further enhancing and developing Diving, Synchronized Swimming and Open Water Swimming rules;
- Improving Team Size Classification (ISW 4.11.7.3) to improve the determination of team size in final team awards. Given the broad range of team sizes, many feel the size range should be "large", "medium" and "small" teams; and,
- Considering translating the Championship Rules Booklet in multiple languages.

We will continue to address the issue of appropriate behavior and conduct at IGLA events throughout the world. Given the general access of pool facilities where we hold major events, the inappropriate activities of a very few individuals have in several cases caused difficult situations with pool administrators. The committee will develop standards for all teams to ensure everyone is aware of appropriate behavior standards prior to participating in any IGLA-sponsored event.

We have a lot of work to accomplish once again! Robert and I are both looking forward to a great year for IGLA in 1999 - and hope to see everyone participate in Atlanta next year. As we move towards the close of 1998, we wish you all a very happy holiday season during both November and December and each of us participate in our various holiday festivities.

The IGLA Website is Back!

Come visit us on the Web at <http://www.igla.org>. We now have our own domain name and server space. Expect lots of changes and improvements!

Products and Promotions

Dan MacGregor and Lou Thuenissen, Co-Chairs

At the Annual IGLA General Meeting, the members of the Products and Promotions committee determined that there were two directions that the committee should pursue. The first, and not necessarily the most important, was to continue the work previously started to prepare a trademarked logo that can be better used by the organization. The second direction the committee identified was the creation of services or products by IGLA to create value in IGLA membership.

To date, we have engaged in strategic planning to determine how to proceed with these projects. The committee has looked inward and outward to determine IGLA's current status, and looked forward to where IGLA hopes to be by the next Gay Games in Sydney, Australia in 2002.

Once the project plan has been prepared, it will be forwarded to the IGLA Board for their review, revision and approval. Briefly, the Products and Promotions Committee hopes to achieve the following goals:

- To develop new and improve current IGLA services for new and established swim teams to assist them in organization and to cope better with growth;
- To assist in preparing a newsletter and website that will be eagerly visited by members and non-members alike for information and support;
- To assist in ensuring that IGLA's current postal and e-mail lists are current;
- To develop our commercial identity in preparation for searching out sponsorship for IGLA and its products;
- To develop a program to attract new teams to the membership of IGLA, with special emphasis on new and established teams outside of geographic areas of current strengths of membership.

To achieve these goals (which are preliminary at present), we anticipate polling our current membership to establish what services are needed and how IGLA can best provide those services. We foresee looking within to determine the readily available talents that exist and how they may be best utilized to IGLA's advantage. We foresee looking to Europe, South America, Asia, the South Pacific and Africa as areas to which IGLA's membership can be extended. We see a need to enhance IGLA's image, especially outside the current membership, to encourage new membership and continued growth around the world. Finally, we foresee developing and trademarking IGLA's images and identities internationally for the purposes of marketing and sponsorship.

IGLA 2001 (The Space Odyssey): Coming Soon to a Pool Near You!

Tired of schlepping across the state, continent, or world for IGLA Championships? Well, why not host one? You could have the pleasure of hosting swimmers and polo players, organizing fabulous events that would make even Martha Stewart green with envy, and helping to overrun your hometown with more gay and lesbian aquatics enthusiasts than you thought possible. Bids must be presented at the 1999 General Meeting in Atlanta, so start preparing soon. In fact, we know of one team out there already that is considering a bid. Come on! It's your turn!

We anticipate that the project plan should be completed by the end of January 1999. As always with all committees of IGLA, we look forward to hearing from anyone with questions and comments. The co-chairs of the Products and Promotions Committee are Dan MacGregor <dmacgreg@cadvision.com> and Lou Theunissen <weesp603@xs4all.nl>.

Policy and Procedures Committee

Ralph Doore, San Francisco Tsunami

Charlie Carson moderated the breakout meeting of the Policies & Procedures Committee during the IGLA General meeting held in Amersfoort, Netherlands on August 5, 1998. Member representatives from Team New York Aquatics, DCAC, San Francisco Tsunami, Downtown Swim Club (Toronto), Á Contre-Courant (Montréal) and Paris Aquatique attended the Breakout. Rob Ripp of TNYA volunteered to act as secretary of the meeting and take notes. Rob also gave the group summary and presentation to the General Membership after the breakouts. Charlie Carson brought up three items for potential discussion

- Bylaws: Article VI, Sections A. and B. Changing the Bylaws to restrict or eliminate the power of the Board of Directors to change the Bylaws without the approval of the General Membership (VI. A. & B.).
- Policies & Procedures, Section 3.5, Privacy and Protection. Concern about the IGLA mail-list being used or

IGLA Championships Head to Europe for New Century

Get ready to pack your bags for IGLA 2000 in Paris, France, in April 2000. Paris Aquatique was the successful bidder against Wett Ones (Sydney) for the millennial championships. Not only was it the first time we had two cities competing for the bid, an IGLA milestone, but both cities were outside North America. Congratulations, Paris!

distributed for non-IGLA purposes. This section of the P&P manual needs to be developed further.

- Policies & Procedures, Section 12.0, Team Development. This section needs to be expanded. Ideas for content include a listing of strategies teams have employed to form and organize. This is a good topic for e-mail discussion.

James Ridout of DCAC and Ralph Doore of SF Tsunami volunteered to Co-Chair this committee.

Since then, we have started to discuss items 1 & 2. Regarding Internet e-mail privacy, we have learned from Jeff Abrahamson, who manages the IGLA e-mail lists, that list security is very low. Currently, you can only post a message to an IGLA lists if you are a member of the list (enrollment is open, however). You can only get a listing of the other subscribers if you are a subscriber and the list is sent to the e-mail address of record for the individual making the query. This gives us casual security, since someone from outside of the organization or interest group would have to subscribe to a list before getting a list of other subscribers. Additional measures, should they become necessary, are to make the lists moderated, in which case any posting would have to be approved by a moderator before it was sent to all subscribers.

The Policies and Procedures Manual has been transferred from the past Co-Chairs and is now being updated to include the provisions that were passed in Amersfoort. This change was the alternation of Federation Delegates and the election of the alternate every two years. The term of office remains four years, but in the final two years of the term, the Alternate becomes the Delegate and a new Alternate is elected. When completed, the Policies and Procedures Manual will become available on the Internet.

Should you wish to join the Policies and Procedures Committee, please send e-mail to James Ridout <jridout@ix.netcom.com> and Ralph Doore <ralphd@slip.net>.

About Phil Collins, Atlantic Co-Chair

You can e-mail Phil at philc@tht.org.uk

I joined Out To Swim in February '92 with the aim of getting fit, meeting people and seeing if I should not have retired from competitive swimming at the age of eleven. I did not compete at the New York games because I was attending the ILGA conference at the Fashion Institute. I soon realized which IGLA/ILGA event I should have attended. My first masters competition was in January 1995. I enjoyed it greatly and now compete as often as I can. My main event is breaststroke, but I have a go at the rest and have recently started doing IMs, which are great fun.

Amsterdam was the most enjoyable meet I've participated in yet. I did personal bests in all my events. The one I'm most proud of is the 100 breast, where I knocked 5 seconds off my personal best and came in eighth.

Clubwise, I managed to avoid all responsibility until someone suggested I should stand for vice-chair in 1996. I have been chair since 1997 and will stand down in 1999. I also serve on the Middlesex County ASA masters committee.

Before getting involved in swimming I was a volunteer at the London Lesbian and Gay Switchboard for seven years including 4 years on the coordinating committee. Professionally, I am Director of Finance and Corporate Support at the Terrence Higgins Trust, the main HIV NGO in the UK. I had intended to be an engineer in nuclear submarines in the Royal Navy, but after completing my degree and reaching the dizzy heights of Lieutenant I was asked to leave as they realized I was gay. I decided to become an accountant instead. My favorite toy is my Honda VFR 750.

IGLA aims to promote participation of lesbians, gay men and their friends in aquatic sports and to ensure the maintenance of highest standards for aquatic competitions. As Atlantic co-chair I intend to work toward these goals by supporting the organizers of the IGLA championships in Paris 2000. I think it is important that Paris Aquatique gets the support they need from IGLA in the planning and running of the IGLA championships in 2000. I also hope to build on work already underway to increase membership in Europe. IGLA has played a vital role in putting forward the sanctioning argument in Europe and encouraging European clubs to join the organization. The number of sanctioned meets I have been able to attend in Europe has more than doubled over the last three years. I want to continue this work and increase the membership of IGLA amongst the existing network of lesbian and gay swimming clubs. Finally, I want to increase the visibility of lesbians and gay men in aquatic sports. I was delighted that the Amsterdam Games got the support of the wider community in the Netherlands, both from the media and ordinary people on the street. It is important that in encouraging lesbian and gay aquatics we remember that we can also challenge stereotypes and contribute to a better understanding of who we really are.

About Kevin Brauer, Pacific Co-Chair

You can e-mail Kevin at Trikevden@aol.com

I'm a RN/Cardiovascular Nurse Specialist at St. Joseph Hospital-Denver. I grew up in Cheektowaga, NY and studied Nursing, Kinesiology and Exercise Science in Youngstown, Ohio. My swimming background is primarily open water. I earned lifesaving and WSI certifications at Boy Scout Camps in southern Ontario and western New York where I spent several summers as an aquatics/boating instructor. I'm a reserve officer in the U. S. Army Nurse Corps.

I'm a member of S.Q.U.I.D. (Swimming Queers United In Denver) swim team, which I joined in 1993 (shortly after its formation). Among the best experiences of my life have been attending Gay Games IV, IGLA '95, '96, and '97 and Gay Games V. In Amsterdam I participated in the Olympic Distance Triathlon, the full Marathon and swimming events, and earned personal bests in each.

I co-founded Denver FrontRunners and am Race Director for Denver's Pride Run. I'm an "affiliate" of the Federation of Gay Games and belong to its Outreach and Sports committees. I'm on the board of Team Colorado. I'm fond of alpine skiing and have organized events for Colorado Outdoor Ski & Snowboard Association and Aspen Gay Ski Week since 1991.

As Pacific Co-Chair I want to assist wherever help is most needed, and I'm keenly interested in outreach beyond the USA and Canada. I've talked to members of the Gay Games VI organizing committee about their outreach plans and as soon as possible I want to start putting those discussions into action.

About John Peller, IGLA Secretary

As the 1998-2000 Secretary, I have a tough act to follow. Doug Fadel served for two years as our communications guru, spreading the word about Gay and Lesbian aquatics and putting tremendous effort into building the organization.

I have taken on the job of webmaster (even though I know next to nothing about HTML programming), which will make the job of website maintenance and development much easier. The other Secretary's jobs include maintaining the IGLA member directory, developing and mailing Wetnotes, registering teams as IGLA members, and taking care of lots of other tasks. I look forward to serving all of you in the coming two years.

On a personal note, I am pleased to be the voice of water polo on the board. Fortunately, we work by e-mail so I can't grab the other board member's swimsuits underwater, scratch them while the referees aren't looking, and engage in

the usual tactics polo players use to get their way.

In addition, I have just left Washington D.C., where I was Captain of the Wetskins in 1998, and well as a member of DCAC, for Chicago, where I am working on my Masters in Public Policy at the University of Chicago. So that makes me... a Smelt! The team has welcomed me warmly and helped to make me feel at home. Unfortunately, U of C doesn't have a polo team, and only has 20-yard pools (one of which was used to train swimmers for the 1908 Olympics!), so I'll be going to as many Smelts practices as I can.

I look forward to serving you all in the coming years. If you ever need anything, don't hesitate to contact me at JohnPeller@aol.com.

FGG Contract Language for Swimming and Water Polo

Note: Sorry this is so small, but we really wanted to fit it in. The following is the language that all Gay Games hosts will be required to follow in the future for Diving, Swimming, and Water Polo. Is it reproduced exactly, so poor grammar is not our fault! This goes with Charlie Carson's article on the Gay Games on page 3.

DIVING: GOVERNING BODY: Sanctioning: The Diving meet must be sanctioned by the host country's national federation affiliated to FINA.

Federation of Gay Games Sports Organization: International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA).

Rules: The most current FINA Masters rules are to govern the diving meet. Where there is a conflict between FINA rules and local rules, which rule is governing the meet should be explicitly stated on the registration forms.

REQUIRED EVENTS: The following diving events must be conducted for each age group and gender: 1 meter springboard; 3 meter springboard.

DIVISIONS: Age groups will be adhered to, as stated in the FINA rules. Age groups will be used to determine final results. All divers must be currently registered in accordance with the rules governing masters diving in their country.

VENUE: Minimum standards for equipment and facilities will be met as stated in the FINA rulebook. If more than one facility is being used for diving, all facilities must meet similar standards.

SAFETY ISSUES/MEDICAL: Proper medical services for the size of the tournament should be provided. This includes emergency medical services for both serious and non-serious injuries or occurrences. A physician should be named for all competitions.

SWIMMING: GOVERNING BODY: Sanctioning: Aquatics competitions must be sanctioned by the National Federation of the country hosting the meet. FINA is the governing body for this event. Federation of Gay Games Sports Organization: International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA).

Rules: The most current FINA Masters rules are to govern the swimming meet. Where there is a conflict between FINA rules and the local rules, which rule is governing the meet should be explicitly stated on the registration forms.

REQUIRED EVENTS: The following swim events must be conducted for each age group and gender.

Individual Events
50, 100, 200, 400, 800, 1500 meter Freestyle

50, 100, 200 meter Backstroke
50, 100, 200 meter Breaststroke
50, 100, 200 meter Butterfly
100,* 200, 400 meter Individual Medley
* only if run as a short course meet.

Relay Events

200, 400, 800 meter Freestyle Relay
200, 400 meter Medley Relay
All Relays will be run for men, women and mixed (2 men, 2 women) divisions.

DIVISIONS: Age groups will be adhered to as stated in the FINA rules. Age groups will be used to determine final results. Championship seeding is required for the meet. This seeding is by sex, age and time. All swimmers must be currently registered in accordance with the regulations governing Masters swimming in their country.

VENUE: All competitions must be held in long course meters or short course meters distances. An accurate measurement of the pool length must be taken prior to the meet.

Long Course - 50.00 meters (164 feet, 1/2 inch)
Short Course - 25.00 meters (82 feet, 1/4 inch)

The minimum lane width for competitive swimming shall be 2.13 meters (7 feet). The minimum water depth shall be 2 meters (6 feet, 7 inches) throughout the course.

DURATION OF EVENT/START OF EVENT: The number of Gay Games competition days should not exceed 5 and one-half days. A rest day is recommended after the third full day of competition. Swimming events should not exceed 8 hours per day and should be scheduled so that they end at a reasonable hour.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER INDIVIDUAL\TEAM
Competitors will be allowed to swim a maximum of eight individual events and five relays. A team may enter as many relays as possible in compliance with individual swimmer relay limits.

MINIMUM OF COMPETITIVE INSTANCES (TEAM, INDIVIDUAL)
Competitors will be allowed to swim at least five individual events and three relays.

SAFETY ISSUES/MEDICAL: Proper medical services for the size of the

meet should be provided. This includes emergency medical services for both serious and non-serious injuries or occurrences. A physician should be named for all competitions.

WATER POLO: GOVERNING BODY. Sanctioning: The Water Polo tournament must be sanctioned by the host country's national federation affiliated to FINA. Federation of Gay Games Sports Organization: International Gay and Lesbian Aquatics (IGLA).

RULES: The most current FINA Masters rules are to govern the water polo tournament. Where there is a conflict between FINA rules and local rules, which rule is governing the meet should be explicitly stated on the registration forms.

DIVISIONS: If there are at least three women's teams, separate divisions know as "Women's" and "Open" must be adopted. "Open" would be any mix of men and women on a team. Women may compete under both divisions as long as they pre-register with the tournament director for both teams.

All polo players must be currently registered in accordance with the rules governing masters water polo in their country.

VENUE: Minimum standards for equipment and facilities will be met as stated in the FINA rulebook. If more than one facility is being used for water polo, all facilities must meet similar standards.

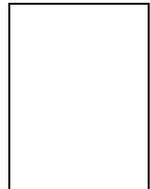
DURATION OF EVENT/START OF EVENT: The tournament shall be run as a randomly seeded tournament, where the first round establishes seeding for a single-elimination medal round. If time allows, games will played with four seven-minute quarters. At a minimum, quarters will be five minutes long.

MAXIMUM NUMBER OF ENTRIES PER INDIVIDUAL\TEAM
An individual may only play for one team per division.

MINIMUM OF COMPETITIVE INSTANCES (TEAM, INDIVIDUAL)
Each Team will play a minimum of five games. No team shall be required to play more than two games in one day.

SAFETY ISSUES/MEDICAL: For safety reasons, referees must meet minimum certifications as established by the national federation. It is preferred that referees have experience at a Masters level and have refereed large competitions previously. Proper medical services for the size of the tournament should be provided. This includes emergency medical services for both serious and non-serious injuries or occurrences. A physician should be named for all competitions.

John Peller
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