



LANE LINES



New Background Screening Provider

Effective May 15, 2026, USA Swimming will transition to a new background screening provider, National Center for Safety Initiatives (NCSI).

Why the change: After reviewing our screening needs and the growing complexity of state and federal requirements, we selected NCSI for their leadership in youth sports safety and their ability to provide exceptional customer service. NCSI is the official provider for the U.S. Olympic & Paralympic Committee and is trusted by more than 50 National Governing Bodies.

More details and resources will be shared in the coming weeks. Click [here](#) for more information and FAQs.

**National Junior Team Camp
Coaches Announced**



The 2026 National Junior Team Camp coaching staff for the women’s and men’s camps is finalized, with one head coach and three assistant coaches per camp. The women’s camp is April 10-14, and the men’s camp is April 15-19, both to be held at the Olympic and Paralympic Training Center in Colorado Springs, Colorado.

“The strength of this camp lies in the caliber of the coaching staff,” said Brendan Hansen, USA Swimming Director of the National Junior Team. “This experienced and dynamic staff will create an environment that sharpens focus and prepares our athletes for success on the road to LA 2028 and Brisbane 2032. These coaches will make a lasting impact as they draw from their wide range of experiences to help develop the next generation of elite athletes.”

Congratulations to the following coaches:

WOMEN'S
APRIL 10 - 14

HEAD COACH
MIKE DEBOOR
(LAKESIDE SWIM TEAM)

ASSISTANT COACHES

BRENT ARCKEY
(SARASOTA SHARKS)

ALLIE FOGLEMAN
(JERSEY WAHOOS SWIM CLUB)

JOE KELLER
(FISHERS AREA SWIMMING TIGERS)

A graphic for the Women's Camp coaching staff. It has a dark blue background with a swimmer's head. At the top, a red box contains 'WOMEN'S' in white. Below it, another red box contains 'APRIL 10 - 14' in white. The text 'HEAD COACH' is in large white letters, followed by 'MIKE DEBOOR' and '(LAKESIDE SWIM TEAM)' in smaller white letters. Below that, 'ASSISTANT COACHES' is in large white letters. The names of the three assistant coaches are listed in white: 'BRENT ARCKEY (SARASOTA SHARKS)', 'ALLIE FOGLEMAN (JERSEY WAHOOS SWIM CLUB)', and 'JOE KELLER (FISHERS AREA SWIMMING TIGERS)'.

MEN'S
APRIL 15 - 19

HEAD COACH
KEVIN ZACHER
(SANTA CLARA SWIM CLUB)

ASSISTANT COACHES

CHUCK BATCHELOR
(SWIMMAC CAROLINA)

NACIM BOUFERRACHE
(THE DOLPHINS PORTLAND SWIMMING)

CARLENE TAKAKI
(WEST COAST AQUATICS)

A graphic for the Men's Camp coaching staff. It has a dark blue background with a swimmer's head. At the top, a red box contains 'MEN'S' in white. Below it, another red box contains 'APRIL 15 - 19' in white. The text 'HEAD COACH' is in large white letters, followed by 'KEVIN ZACHER' and '(SANTA CLARA SWIM CLUB)' in smaller white letters. Below that, 'ASSISTANT COACHES' is in large white letters. The names of the three assistant coaches are listed in white: 'CHUCK BATCHELOR (SWIMMAC CAROLINA)', 'NACIM BOUFERRACHE (THE DOLPHINS PORTLAND SWIMMING)', and 'CARLENE TAKAKI (WEST COAST AQUATICS)'.



What is Block Party?

Block Party meets are fully sanctioned USA Swimming competitions available to any USA Swimming member club. They are directly sanctioned by USA Swimming and allow any member, regardless of membership type or meet number restrictions, to participate. Learn more about how to sanction a Block Party meet [here](#).

Who can host a Block Party meet?

Block Party meets are hosted by USA Swimming clubs.

Who can participate in a Block Party meet?

USA Swimming members in good standing may participate.

Can Flex and Seasonal USA Swimming members participate?

Flex and Seasonal members can participate in any Block Party meet. Additionally, Block Party competitions do not count towards the two-meet Flex membership limit.

Why should your club host a Block Party meet?

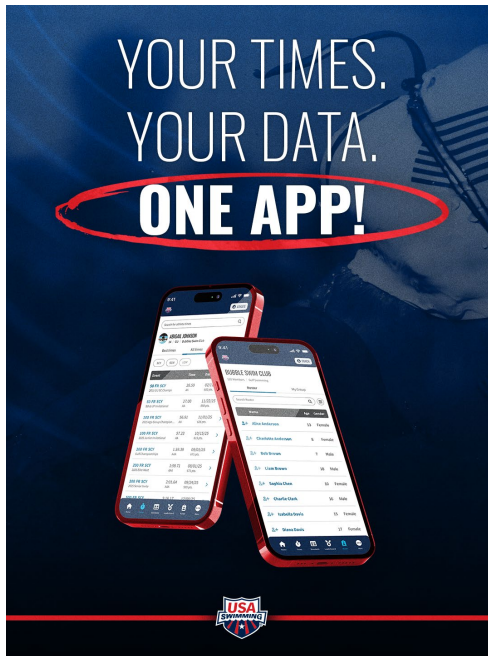
Block Party meets are shorter, affordable, and FUN.

How long does a Block Party meet last?

Block Party meets are much shorter than a traditional swim meet and can be completed in as few as a couple hours. Many clubs have held Block Party meets during practice.

Do the times count?

Yes! All times are loaded into SWIMS and shall be used towards championship entries if an LSC is using the Online Meet Entry system. They do not count towards Speedo Sectionals and above time standards or National Age Group records.



Coming Soon: New USA Swimming App

USA Swimming will be launching a new USA Swimming mobile app later this year with every feature being shaped by coach and member feedback.

The app will allow users to easily access time standards, search for times, view leaderboards, and more.

Stay tuned for additional information!



2026 Learn-to-Swim Grant Recipients Announced

The USA Swimming Foundation is proud to distribute \$1 million in funding to swim lesson providers across the country through the 2026 Learn-to-Swim grant program. Congratulations to the 112 providers across 33 states.

[LEARN MORE](#)

2026 Community Impact Grant Recipients Announced

Congratulations to the 13 programs who will receive Community Impact Grants this year. These grants help provide aquatic programming, support diverse coaches, and create competitive opportunities locally.

[LEARN MORE](#)

Hydration 101: What Do I Need to Know?

Did you know that maintaining proper hydration is critical to ensuring an athlete can perform at the highest level possible?

Read more from USADA on the basics of hydration for peak performance [here](#).

Upcoming Competitions

- [Open Water National and Junior National Championships \(Sarasota, Fla.\)](#)
 - April 2-4, 2026
 - Cheer for athletes at home by downloading the "Cheering for You" graphic, customizing it with your picture, and tagging @USASwimmingNextGen and the athlete on Instagram. Graphics are available for:
 - Open Water National Championships ([Instagram static post](#) | [Instagram story](#))
 - Open Water Junior National Championships ([Instagram static post](#) | [Instagram story](#))

News and Virtual Offerings

News and Tips

- [Pre-Game Hydration for Youth Athletes FAQ](#)
- [4 Things to Know About High Fructose Corn Syrup](#)
- [How to Get the Right Fuel Before Early Morning Workouts](#)
- [Crawfish Aquatics Win 2025 Swim-a-Thon Grand Prize](#)

Educational Offerings

- Child Abuse Prevention and Sexual Assault Awareness Month | Co-hosted by USA Swimming Safe Sport staff and the Colorado Springs Police Department
 - April 8 | 2 p.m. ET | [Register](#)



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