

## **COACHES REP REPORT – APRIL 2013**

### **Junior Olympics**

#### **General thoughts:**

Meet ran smoothly overall. I commend BAC for always running this meet; having great hospitality and friendly parent volunteers.

Personally, I'd like to see JO's held on the same weekend as 13&O Y States with the intent of having more USS swimmers making it to this meet. One positive aspect of the meet conflict was many more of our swimmers made it back to Finals, some I know personally had never made it to finals. For years the YMCA's have other goals and meets they plan and swim for. This wouldn't deny any YMCA swimmer, as we still saw a few this year at the 13&O sessions. I have mentioned this to other coaches and some seemed interested in the general idea. This is obviously linked with the JO qualifying times.

Many coaches however voiced their concerns with the session start times not being adjusted on Friday so that Finals did not have to start so late. There was almost time of upward of an hour where the pool sat empty before the 12&U session. The 12&U distance events then ran into the warm up of Finals.

The overall numbers of swimmers at JO's without the YMCA swimmers present was apparent. I feel that we as an LSC failed our 13&O swimmers. The bonus events were but a mere modest fix to the low numbers during the morning prelims.

Order of events on certain days, namely: Saturday for 13-14's...200 Breast, 200 Fly, 400 IM all on same day? Also 15&O 100 freestyle and then pretty much right after the 15&O 400 free relays had to swim??

Re-examine certain events' qualifying times...for example: Boys 11-12 200 free (46 swimmers), Boys 11-12 400 IM (55 swimmers)...Girls 10&U 500 Free (60 swimmers), Girls 10&U 50 Breast (62 swimmers)...Boys 13-14 50 Free (18 swimmers), Boys 13-14 500 Free (29 swimmers)...Girls' 13-14 400 IM (43 swimmers), Girls 13-14 100 back (36 swimmers)...Girls 15&O 200 free (26 swimmers), Boys 15&O 200 breast (27 swimmers) Also if we are too simply look at the numbers of swimmers per event in the younger kids' events as compared to the older events, I see a massive discrepancy in terms of how many kids are in each event. Additionally, I'm all for encouraging longer events, but it still doesn't make sense to me??? The older kids' times have been too fast for too many years and I'm getting tired of making this case.

#### **13&O Session:**

Re-examine, with the purpose of slowing down, JO qualifying times

Meet Theme for each season...I feel we can do more to generate excitement at Finals and the kids would love it.

#### **12&U Session:**

“Hot Heats” to generate excitement during races.

### **13&O Silvers**

Meet ran very well. Again see above for more about qualifying times. I still prefer to have Silvers serve as a springboard for JO's.

### **NJ LSC – Communication & Outreach**

I feel the LSC can do a better job at trying to get out information and updates. The website updates have been much better, yet I felt a very big number of coaches had no idea of what was going on. I spoke with Tristan about discussing with the Board some new ideas to drum up more involvement.