

International Relations Activity & Convention Report
2026 USAAS Convention
Madison, Wisconsin
Submitted by International Relations Committee Chair Betty Hazle
September 3, 2026

Below is a recap of the IR activities since the 2025 convention.

I. 2026 Club Option Program

Club options were awarded to the following clubs:

- **Santa Clara Artistic Swimming:** 2025 Artistic Swimming Masters League, held in Eindhoven, NED, Nov 1-2, 2025. Approved 1 Masters Duet (Tech/Free). (No Judge required)
- **Miramar Mermaids:** 2025 2nd World Adapted Swimming Championships, held in Mexico City, MEX, Nov 21-23, 2025. Approved 5 Solos, 2 Duets, 1 Mixed Duet, 1 Team. (Shari Darst attended)
- **Bay Area Artistic Swimming:** 2025 2nd World Adapted Swimming Championships, held in Mexico City, MEX, Nov 21-23, 2025. Approved 3 Solos, 1 Trio. (Shari Darst attended)
- **Meraquas of Irvine:** Czech Republic Artistic Swimming Open Championships, held in Brno, CZE, March 20-22, 2026. Approved 1 Senior Solo (Tech/Free), 2 Youth Solo, 2 Senior Duet (Free/Tech), 1 Acrobatics Routine. (Erin King attended as invited judge by CZE)
- **Walnut Creek Aquanuts:** PanAm Aquatic Championships, held in Santiago, CHI, April 8-11, 2026. Approved 1 Solo, 1 Duet, 1 Team, and 1 Free Combination in the Youth category. (Teagan Betancourt attended as the USAAS funded Technical Controller.)
- **Blue Legend:** PanAm Aquatic Championships, held in Santiago, CHI, April 8-11, 2026. Approved 1 Male Solo, and 1 Mixed Duet in the 12&U category. (Teagan Betancourt attended as the USAAS funded Technical Controller.)
- **Seattle Cascades Synchro:** 2026 BC Provincial Qualifier (Mable Moran Championships), held in Richmond, British Columbia, CAN, April 10-12, 2026. Approved 1 Masters Free Solo, and 2 Masters Free Duets, 1 Masters Free Trio, 1 Masters Team (Tech/Free). (No Judge required)
- **San Francisco Merionettes:** Japan National Championships, held in Tokyo, Japan, May 21-24, 2026. Approved 1 Senior Solo (Tech/Free) and 1 Senior Duet (Tech/Free). (no judge required.)
- **Santa Clara Artistic Swimming:** Cancun Open, held in Cancun, MEX, June 8-14, 2026. Approved 2 Junior Solo Tech, 1 Junior Solo Free, 1 Senior Solo (Tech/Free), 1 Junior Duet (Tech/Free), 1 Junior Mixed Duet (Tech/Free), 1 Junior Team (Tech/Free), 1 Junior Male Solo (Tech/Free). (Sheila McNabb approved to attend as a judge).
- **DC Synchromasters:** Canadian Masters National Championships, held in Toronto, Ontario, CAN, June 12-14, 2026. Approved 3 Masters Solos (Tech), 2 Masters Solos (Free), 3 Masters Duets (Tech/Free), 1 Masters Trio (Tech/Free), 1 Masters Team (Tech/Free) and 1 Masters Free Combination. (No Judge required)
- **Indy Synchro:** Canadian Masters National Championships, held in Toronto, Ontario, CAN, June 12-14, 2026. Approved 1 Masters Solo (Tech/Free), 1 Masters Duet (Free), and 1 Masters Team (Tech/Free). (No Judge required)
- **Raleigh Rhythm Rays:** Canadian Masters National Championships, held in Toronto, Ontario, CAN, June 12-14, 2026. Approved 2 Masters Solo (Tech/Free each), 1 Masters Duet (Tech/Free), 1 Masters Trio (Free). (No Judge required) (Withdrew due to safety concerns)
- **SeaStars Chicago:** Canadian Masters National Championships, held in Toronto, Ontario, CAN, June 12-14, 2026. Approved 1 Masters Solo (Tech/Free). (No Judge required)
- **Seattle Cascades Synchro:** Canadian Masters National Championships, held in Toronto, Ontario, CAN, June 12-14, 2026. Approved 1 Masters Solo, 1 Masters Duet, 1 Masters Trio and 1 Masters Team (Tech/Free). (No Judge required)
- **Santa Clara Artistic Swimming:** XV Hungarian Open International Artistic Swimming Competition, held in Budapest, HUN, July 2-5, 2026. Approved 2 Solos, 4 Duets, 1 Team, 1

Free Combination in the Youth category and 1 Junor Solo (Tech). (Former AQUA Judge Eugenia Gillian attended as no current AQUA Judges were available)

- **MAC Synchro:** European Masters Championships, held in Bratislava, Slovakia, Aug 19-23, 2026. Approved 1 Masters Solo (Tech/Free). (No Judge required).
- **Nevada Desert Mermaids:** Pan Am Aquatics Masters Championships, held in Buenos Aires, ARG, Oct 26-28, 2026. Approved 2 Masters Solos (Tech/Free each), 1 Masters Duet (Tech/Free). (Christine McMaster-Shah (Judge) and Heather Tiernan (TC) funded by USAAS.)
- **Raleigh Rhythm Rays:** Pan Am Aquatics Masters Championships, held in Buenos Aires, ARG, Oct 26-28, 2026. Approved 2 Masters Solos (Tech/Free each), 1 Masters Duet (Tech/Free). (Christine McMaster-Shah (Judge) and Heather Tiernan (TC) funded by USAAS.)
- **Santa Clara Artistic Swimming:** Pan Am Aquatics Masters Championships, held in Buenos Aires, ARG, Oct 26-28, 2026. Approved 1 Masters Solo, 3 Masters Duets, 1 Masters Trio and 1 Masters Team. (Christine McMaster-Shah (Judge) and Heather Tiernan (TC) funded by USAAS.)
- **Unsyncables of La Mirada:** Pan Am Aquatics Masters Championships, held in Buenos Aires, ARG, Oct 26-28, 2026. Approved 7 Masters Solos (Tech), 5 Masters Solos (Free), 7 Masters Duets (Tech), 9 Masters Duets (Free), and 1 Masters Team (Tech/Free). (Christine McMaster-Shah (Judge) and Heather Tiernan (TC) funded by USAAS.)

II. 2026 Private Invitations for Clubs to Attend Competitions – none requested this year.

III. AQUA/PAQ Judge and Technical Controller Promotions & Nominations

Without any fanfare or official announcements by World Aquatics, we learned that USA individuals had been promoted on the Judge and Technical Controller list for 2026. The following individuals were promoted as follows:

- **Debbie Latchford** – Silver to Gold Judge
- **Bill May** – Silver to Gold Technical Controller and Technical Controller Evaluator
- **Sheila McNabb** – Bronze to Silver Judge

In addition, we were fortunate enough to add 1 more Technical Controller to the Pan Am Aquatics List. **Megan Loehndorf** was accepted after passing the online exam.

At the end of October, World Aquatics allowed Federations to submit names of qualified judges to enter the Bronze level. As the new Bronze category courses (mandatory for acceptance according to the new Pathway) were not available yet, they accepted applications for new judges based on experience only. These new judges were required to take the online officials test and if they passed, would be added to the Bronze category.

We submitted the names of 4 judges (2 PAQ judges and 2 previous AQUA judges) and all were accepted and passed the online test. Our new bronze level judges for 2026 were **Victoria Anderson, Krista Karowsky, Svetlana Malinovskaya and Christine McMaster-Shah.**

Congratulations Victoria, Krista, Debbie, Megan, Svetlana, Bill, Christine and Sheila!

IV. International Judge & Technical Controller Exposure

Since the 2025 convention, I am happy to report that almost all of the 10 current and former AQUA judges and 10 AQUA/PAQ technical controllers have attended at least one international competition. In addition, former AQUA judges have been active as evaluators, judges, volunteers as well as served in other key roles. This was only possible due to the support of the USOPC, USAAS, our National Teams, our Club Option Teams and personal resources. The following current and former AQUA/PAQ individuals were selected/ approved to attend international competitions in 2026.

Judge & Technical Controller Evaluators & AQUA appointments:

- **Irene Hawes** – European Youth Championships (LUX) Judge Evaluator; ODESUR Games (ARG) Judge Evaluator, Pan Am Masters Championships (ARG) Judge Evaluator
- **Betty Hazle** – AQUA World Cup Super Final (CAN) Assistant Referee
- **Bill May** – AQUA World Cup # 1 (COL) Technical Controller Evaluator; Central American & Caribbean Games (DOM) Technical Controller Evaluator; ODESUR Games (ARG) Technical Controller Evaluator.

Judge appointments:

- **Victoria Anderson** – AQUA World Cup # 1 (COL) Practice Judge; ODESUR Games (ARG) Neutral Judge
- **Eugenia Gillian** – Hungarian Open (HUN)
- **Krista Karowsky** – AQUA World Cup Super Final (CAN) Practice Judge; Central American & Caribbean Games (DOM) Neutral Judge
- **Erin King** – Czech Open (CZE); AQUA World Cup # 2 (FRA)
- **Kimberly Kohut** – AQUA World Cup Super Final (CAN) – replaced due to Conflict of Interest; Asian Age Group Championships (THA) Neutral Judge (invited)
- **Debbie Latchford** – AQUA World Cup Super Final (CAN); AQUA World Junior Championships (HUN); ODESUR Games (ARG) Neutral Judge
- **Svetlana Malinovskaya** – AQUA World Cup # 2 (FRA) Practice Judge
- **Christine McMaster-Shah** – AQUA World Junior Championships (HUN) Practice Judge; Pan Am Masters Championships (ARG)
- **Sheila McNabb** – AQUA World Cup # 1 (COL), Cancun Open (MEX)
- **Cheryl Russell** – AQUA World Cup # 4 (ESP)

AQUA/ PAQ Technical Controller appointments:

- **Victoria Anderson** (AQUA) – AQUA World Cup # 2 (FRA); AQUA World Cup Super Final (CAN)
- **Teagan Betancourt** (PAQ) – Central American Games (GUA) (Neutral), PAQ Championships (CHI)
- **Chris Leahy** (PAQ) – no TC activity
- **Megan Loehndorf** (PAQ) – no TC activity
- **Svetlana Malinovskaya** (AQUA) – AQUA World Cup #1 (COL); AQUA World Junior Championships (HUN)
- **Bill May** (AQUA) – AQUA World Cup Super Final (CAN) - replaced due to Conflict of Interest
- **Tammy McGregor** (PAQ) – Central American & Caribbean Games (DOM) (Neutral)
- **Ludi Stsepaniuk** (AQUA) – AQUA World Cup # 2 (FRA) Practice Technical Controller
- **Heather Tiernan** (PAQ) – Pan Am Masters Championships (ARG)
- **Anna Yesipova** (AQUA) – AQUA World Cup # 4 (ESP)

Evaluations are slowly being sent to our judges/technical controllers due to short staffing in the AQUA office. It was announced that the plan moving forward is to eventually include the evaluations in the GMS.

V. Future Changes to World Aquatics Competition Rules – Elite and Masters

World Aquatics has established and implemented a process with a timeline for rule change proposals and finalization. Artistic Swimming, Open Water, and Water Polo process started this August 2026, with various steps with final new Rules enacted by October 15, 2026. The other aquatic sports of Diving, High Diving, Swimming and Masters process will begin September 15, 2026 and conclude with new rule proposals enacted as of January 1, 2027.

Below is the entire process for Artistic Swimming:

- 5 August Deadline for all rule proposals to be submitted (by Members, Committees, the Bureau, other interested parties, etc.). Only proposals submitted on the rule change proposal template, available on the World Aquatics website, are to be considered.
- 15 August Rule proposals are consolidated into one working document (all sports and by sport) then shared with the technical committee and other key internal parties for evaluation
- 1 September Deadline for Technical Committee review
- 1 – 20 September Evaluation period by Legal
- 22 September Rule proposals published on website in final (but not yet approved) form
- 25 September All rule proposals shared with the World Aquatics Bureau in 1 consolidated working document
- 1 October World Aquatics Bureau decisions on all rules
- 15 October Rules enacted

The USA submitted rule change proposals drafted by Chief of Sport, Lara Teixeira. Changes submitted were in reference to Appendix 3 (Set Number of Elements per Routine), and multiple proposals for Appendix 6 (Hybrid Catalogue).

VI. PanAm Aquatics Artistic Swimming Technical Committee and Athlete Committee Members – see separate reports

VII. World Aquatics Artistic Swimming Appointments to Working Groups

World Aquatics has established working groups for various tasks with experts to lead the groups. The members of the working groups were selected by World Aquatics. The USA was able to nominate 2 additional individuals to serve on the working groups. The USA nominated the following individuals:

- Elliot Schwartz - Technical Required Elements & Factors working group.
- Lara Teixeira - Difficulty Revision; Technical Controllers working group; Technical Controllers Instructors

World Aquatics approved Elliot's participation in July and will keep Lara's nomination on file for any future opportunities.

Below is the list of the current working groups for 2026, with the lead expert and USA participants listed.

Working groups:

Judges – Marie Kavaklioglu (FRA) (Lead)

Technical Controllers – Luciana Garcia Genta (NZL) (Lead)

Technical Required Elements & Factors – Ana Montero (ESP) (Lead) – **USA Elliot Schwart member**

Liaisons Continental Associations – one for each continent – no lead mentioned/ Americas is Veronica Pavon (MEX)

Field of Play – Fumiko Asahara (JPN)(Lead) – **USA Betty Hazle member.**

Gala – Despina Karampela (GRE) (Lead) – **USA Bill May member**

Specialized groups:

Judge Instructors – list of 7 members

ROC – Gabby Viglino (ARG) – Chair

Judge Evaluators – list of 14 members – **USA Irene Hawes member**

Judge Evaluator Trainers - list of 5 members – **USA Irene Hawes member**
Technical Controller Instructors – list of 7 members
Technical Controller Evaluators – list of 5 members – **USA Bill May member**
Acrobatic Movement Approvals and Codifications – list of 5 members
Difficulty Revisions – list of 6 members – **USA Bill May member**
AS Manual Revisions and Updates – list of 3 members – **USA Betty Hazle member**

Thank you to Lara Teixeira for expressing interest in a World Aquatics Working Group!

Congratulations to Elliot, Betty, Bill and Irene on your appointments!

VIII. World Aquatics Officials Pathway - Updated August 2026

In January 2024, we received an email from the World Aquatics office with information regarding a new structure for training and education of AQUA officials. This new structure will be based on individual progression and will comprise of three levels: Bronze, Silver and Gold. The 3 main pillars of this structure will be Certification, Evaluations and Experience. If a judge does not comply with the criteria of evaluations, certification and online test, they may have to start the training procedures from the Development stages independently of their current status. Upon further follow-up with the AQUA office, this new structure is being developed for all disciplines.

In November 2024, our Federation received information regarding our judges, technical controllers and evaluators' reclassification under the new Officials Pathway. Unfortunately, the information shared did not come with any explanation as to the criteria for the new levels, and so the announcement caused a tremendous amount of anxiety amongst our members, as well as around the world!

At the end of February 2025, the Officials Pathway description and criteria was shared with the Federations, followed by a zoom meeting to review. After reviewing the criteria, a request for a case-by-case review of select USA judges and technical controllers was sent to the World Aquatics office. This enabled some of our judges and technical controllers to be reclassified at a higher level. Moving forward we will continue to ask for clarification as the new pathway continues to cause confusion and frustration.

In August 2026, World Aquatics notified the National Federations of changes to the Officials Pathway. The 3 levels of Officials will continue, now requiring each individual to attend a minimum of 2 events per year! This will place a huge burden on the USA World Aquatics Officials moving forward. The organization is studying ways to lessen the impact to them financially. We also continue to seek rationale and clarification to the updated Pathway.

Upcoming deadlines include:

- **Judge/ Technical Controller Activity Report form** – due no later than **Oct 1st**.
- **Online test** for Judges/Technical Controllers – opens **Oct 5-26, 2026** on CORAL platform.

IX. 2026 US Nationals – AQUA recognized event

Just a few weeks prior to our US Nationals in Buffalo, New York, CEO Adam Andrasko received approval from the World Aquatics office confirming our national championship was a recognized World Aquatics event. What this meant for USA AQUA judges was that our event would have an AQUA Evaluator and our AQUA judges would receive evaluations.

Adam worked quickly with limited time before the event to find an Evaluator, reaching out to basically the entire list of AQUA Evaluators. It was an honor to host Miwako Homma from Japan in Buffalo at our event.

We hope to pursue this same recognition in 2027 earlier so that more AQUA & PAQ judges can attend. Also, we look forward to hopefully having a Technical Controller Evaluator in the future, too.

Thank you, Adam, for making this happen!

X. Technical Controllers/ Evaluator – AQUA and PAQ

After the 2024 convention, World Aquatics notified each Federation that they may nominate additional individuals to become World Aquatics Technical Controllers for Difficulty and Synchronization. Each Federation was allowed to nominate 5 people for each category. The International Relations committee's strategy was to approve the same 5 people for both categories to allow more flexibility for use at World Aquatics Events.

Just this month, World Aquatics notified Federations that the Synchronization Technical Controller position will no longer be considered a separate Technical Controller position. Consequently, from 2027 onwards, Synchronization Technical Controllers will no longer be maintained as a separate role within World Aquatics.

Per the memo, all Difficulty Technical Controllers will also be trained in Synchronization and will serve in both roles in World Aquatics competitions. The STC online test will consequently be integrated into the annual Technical Controller test and all Technical Controllers having passed the 2026 online test will be eligible to serve in both roles.

World Aquatics will maintain the STC List throughout 2027 as individuals that were trained only as a Synchronization Technical Controller may transition to the combined Technical Controller role, if deserved.

Since our strategy from the beginning was to have our Technical Controllers serve in both capacities, we are ahead of the game.

Our 5 World Aquatics Technical Controllers are:

**Victoria Anderson
Svetlana Malinovskaya
Bill May
Ludi Stsepaniuk
Anna Yesipova**

Congratulations to Victoria, Svetlana, Bill, Ludi and Anna!

In addition, we have individuals that are currently on the PanAm Aquatics Technical Controller list in addition to our World Aquatics TCs who are automatically on the PAQ list. Our PanAm TCs also are trained in both Difficulty and Synchronization.

Our 5 Pan Am Aquatics Technical Controllers are:

**Teagan Betancourt
Chris Leahy
Megan Loehndorf
Tammy McGregor
Heather Tiernan**

Congratulations to Teagan, Chris, Megan, Tammy and Heather!

XI. PanAm Aquatic Events – 2026 PanAm Championships

The PanAm Artistic Swimming Championships were held in conjunction with the CAC Games qualifier in Santiago, Chile in April, 2026. Unfortunately, due to the late announcement and the scheduling of the competition in April during our U.S National and Junior Championships, we only had 2 club options attend. For information, see Section I.

Due to the timing of the event, we were very fortunate to have PAQ Technical Controller **Teagan Betancourt** available to go. She was funded by USAAS to support the 2 club options.

Thank you, Teagan!

XII. United States Aquatic Sports Officer Update

In July, USAS requested nominations for their 3 officer positions – President, Vice President of Administration and Treasurer. According to the USAS By-Laws approved 4 years ago, there are no longer 5 officer positions – 1 from each NGB, thus no longer guaranteeing a position for a member of USAAS.

A request for interested candidates was sent, with no interested individuals wishing to be nominated. Therefore, USAAS will not have a candidate for a USAS officer position for this next term.

XIII. National & International Awards – ISHOF

The International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF) held the 61st Annual Hall of Fame Induction in Fort Lauderdale, FL on May 16, 2026. The Class of 2026 inducted 11 Honorees from 7 countries including USA, HUN, NED, ITA, AUS, ZIM, FRA across all disciplines for swimmers, coaches, and contributors.

It is with great pleasure to announce that one of our very own Olympic athletes was inducted during this prestigious event:

Honor Artistic Swimmer: **Heather Simmons-Carrasco (USA)**

In addition, the International Swimming Hall of Fame announced the ISHOF Aquatic Awards presented by AquaCal (formerly the Paragon Awards 1996-2022) on Friday, May 15 2026. The ISHOF Aquatic Awards presented by AquaCal are presented annually to individuals or organizations for outstanding contributions to aquatics. This year's recipient for Artistic/Synchronized Swimming was **Mary Black** from Scotland.

Congratulations to Heather and Mary!

XIV. Succession Plan Continues

The IR succession subcommittee was established in 2013 and consisted of Charlotte Davis, Betty Hazle, Ginny Jasontek, Judy McGowan and Barbara McNamee. The role of the subcommittee was to develop an overall succession plan with assigned mentors for interested people for the FINA/AQUA and UANA/PAQ Technical committee positions.

In 2017, the positions within United States Aquatic Sports were added to the list for possible succession plan development.

The IR succession subcommittee has continued to expand to include the current international experts consisting of Irene Hawes, Bill May, Tammy McGregor and Denise Shively. The subcommittee continues to help encourage individuals to participate in various areas of our sport and assign mentors to help prepare them for an assignment / selection.

A zoom call was held in October 2022 of the IR succession subcommittee to discuss a strategy moving forward. It was decided to expand the list of positions to include the International Relations committee, International Relations Chair, Vice President Olympic International, and International Judge or Technical Controller in order to continue to encourage growth and interest in these additional international positions. A tentative list of new candidates was discussed.

From April – June 2022 the IRC Chair consulted with various leaders to create a list of individuals to send a special invitation to become more involved in the international arena. Over time, as positions become available (i.e., Technical Controller), people expressing interest in serving have been added to the ongoing list.

Following this convention, the IR succession subcommittee will be reestablished and review the list of interested people and assign new mentors to be a part of the Succession Plan. The IR succession subcommittee will also discuss deletions to the list of those individuals already assigned a position or no longer interested.

Many individuals have been appointed positions within AQUA, PAQ and USAS and the IR committee needs to continue to develop talented and interested people for positions within and outside of our organization.

XV. National Competitions in the US with International Participants

A. Junior & US National Championships – April 2026

This year, we were fortunate to have international participation at this combined championship in Buffalo, New York. Participating Federation included Canada.

B. 12&U Invitational and Youth Championship – April 2026

This year, we were fortunate to have international participation at this combined competition in Buffalo, New York. Participating Federations included Ecuador and Poland.

XVI. Invitation and Intent to Participate Forms – Local Events

This year we continued the use of our foreign invitation and intent to participate form to assist local meet hosts with notifying the IR Chair of foreign participation at their local, regional and zone championships. The form is used to inform local, regional and zone meet managers of the rules and policies of the organization. Last fall, the form was distributed to each Zone Chair to distribute to their registered clubs.

XVII. Private Invitation Form

This year we continued the use of the form for our clubs to notify the IR Chair of private invitations to international events. The form is very similar to the Club Option application form. Private invitations follow the same policies and procedures as the Club Option policies.

XVIII. IR Review Subcommittee

Throughout the year, the IR Review Subcommittee was asked to review and approve 8 club option applications (see section I). Note: Masters club option and PAQ Event winner/club option applications for most events do not need approval as the competitions allow multiple entries, so the IR Chair approves the applications rather than the subcommittee.

XIX. International Clinics, Schools, Coaching Assignments & Invitations

In addition to items already listed in this report, many members of our organization have been requested to organize clinics, coach foreign individuals and teams, and lecture at seminars around the world, as well as others have attended various competitions/events. Below is a summary of the activities provided to the IR Chair.

- A Philippines athlete training with Meraquas of Irvine represented the Philippines Federation at the 11th Asian Aquatics Championships in Ahmedabad, India (Oct 2025) – Carmina Tan
- Presenter for the virtual PAQ Artistic Swimming update on AQUA 2026 rules (Nov) – Bill May
- Great Britain’s mixed duet, Izzy Thorpe and Ranjuo Tomblin, held a training camp in Santa Clara – coached by Bill May
- The Korean artistic swimming national team held a training camp in Santa Clara – coached by Bill May
- Hosted Great Britain male soloist (Jan) – Santa Clara Artistic Swimming
- The Italian National team trained in Santa Clara for 2 weeks (Feb) – Coached by Anna Voloshyna
- Coached Grand Cayman National Team for 1 week (Feb) – Tammy McGregor
- World Aquatic Championships Chef de Mission approved for 2027 (Feb) – Christine McMaster-Shah
- Mixed Duet from Chile trained in California (Feb-Mar) – Santa Clara Artistic Swimming
- Pacific Waves hosted an Italian athlete (Letizia “Lety” Costantini) for 4 months, while she attended High School for her Senior year as an exchange student. She swam Free Solo at their Invitational Competitions and swam Honorary at Regionals as well as participated in their Pacific Pals program and swam in their water show (Feb-June) – Pacific Waves
- Volunteered coaching (virtually) for Ecuador (March) – Eugenia Gillan
- Attended the AQUA Artistic Swimming Technical Officials Clinic, 2026 AQUA Rules Update and Key Clarifications presented by Erika Lindner and Bill May (March) – Betty Hazle, Scotti Nichols
- The North Zone hosted athletes from Club Isalen from Ecuador at their North Zone Championship (March) – North Zone
- Worldwide Invitational Event hosted: Cayman Islands, Ecuador, France/Guadalupe, Jamaica, Panama, and several USA clubs (May) - Ashley Johnson and Coral Springs Aquacades
- Judged and DTC at Costa Rica's National Championship (May) – Sarah and Anna Farmer
- Hosted an international competition in Honolulu, HI (June) – Walnut Creek Aquanuts
- A Philippines athlete participated in the San Diego Invitational (June) – Maddison Violet Durban
- Assisted with a camp with local Club Athletes in China (Aug) – Ou Liu & Bill May
- Hosted Male Soloist from Great Britain in Santa Clara (Sept) – Santa Clara Artistic Swimming
- Traveling to South Africa, possibly with a coach from Santa Clara to assist with training (Sept) – Bill May.
- Serving as Ambassador at an upcoming Polish competition – Bill May
- Panam Sports and PanAm Aquatics Artistic Swimming Training Camp, Nov 5-7, 2026 in Lima, Peru – USA will extend this opportunity to a USA duet
- European Aquatics Artistic Swimming Clinic, Nov 6-8, 2026, Samorin, Slovakia – Teagan Betancourt, Shari Darst, Linda Loehndorf, Megan Loehndorf, National Team staff member, Cheryl Russell
- Ashley Johnson will host the CARIFTA competition in Coral Springs, FL (Mar 2027) – Ashley Johnson

XX. Club Options 2027

If interested in a 2027 Club Option, applications will be due **Friday, January 31, 2027**. Please refer to the website for additional information or contact the IR Committee Chair for more information and the application form.

XXI. Upcoming Events in 2027

- A. 2026 New Zealand Championships, Sept 26-20, 2026, Waterworld, Hamilton, New Zealand
- B. II. Synchro Sopron Cup, Oct 3, 2026, Lovar Uszoda, Sopron
- C. PanAm Masters Championships, Oct 19-27, 2026, Buenos Aires, Argentina

- D. Lima Open, Nov 1-4, 2026, Lima, Peru
- E. Panam Sports and PanAm Aquatics Artistic Swimming Training Camp, Nov 5-7, 2026, Lima, Peru
- F. XXXIV Hungarian Cup, Nov 5-8, 2026, Budapest, Hungary
- G. European Aquatics Annual clinic in Artistic Simming, Nov 6-8, 2026, Samorin, Slovakia.
- H. 35th Slovakia Synchro competition, Nov 20-22, 2026, Bratislava, Slovakia
- I. Christmas Prize, Nov 27-29, 2026, Prague, Czech Republic
- J. 6th Beijing Schools Artistic Swimming competition, Dec 12-13, 2026, Beijing, China