



California Surf Lifesaving Association

Southwest Region - United States Lifesaving Association

PO Box 366 - Huntington Beach, California 92648

World Wide Web: www.cslsa.org

Robert C. McGowan
President

Charlotte M. Graham
Vice President

Michael A. Beuerlein
Secretary

Robert E. Williams
Treasurer

Robert A. Moore
Past President/Advisor

Christopher R. Graham
Recurrent Representative

Don C. Rohrer
First Executive Delegate

Michael S. Bartlett
Second Executive Delegate

Alex K. Peabody
Alternate Executive Delegate

TO: CSLSA Board of Directors
FROM: Jay Butki
SUBJECT: Spring 2007 Competition Committee Chair Report
DATE: April 12, 2007

Results of the 2006 Fall Board of Directors meeting at Lake Tahoe

1. Acceptance of my proposed Rules to change USLA rules to mirror ILS rules whenever possible. Rules posted on Competition page of USLA.org
2. Taplin relay to be a point scoring official event

19th Wieland Shield Tour of Victoria, Australia-Jan 2-Jan 17, 2007

Celebrating the 40th Anniversary of the Wieland Shield and 50 years of International Competition. The Wieland Shield represents a long-standing relationship between the Los Angeles County Lifeguard Association (LACOLA) and Surf Life Saving Association Victoria (LSV). The exchange of ocean lifesaving knowledge, skills, and techniques has continued unbroken for the past five decades. The educational exchange has fostered many new and improved ocean rescue techniques, and equipment. Beach management and funding have also benefited. The ongoing relationship developed between Australia and the USA continues to serve the public these Lifeguards so heroically protect.

The California team for the 19th Wieland Shield competition:

Manager-Jay Butki - LACoFD lifeguard Division Paramedic Rescue Boat Captain, Coach-Scott Diederich - Laguna Beach Lifeguard Lieutenant Athletes -Male

Chad Carvin - Laguna Beach Lifeguard-2000 Olympic Silver medalist, 4 individual Golds at the US National Swimming championships, 2007 LA County Lifeguard Trainee Candidate, Micah Carlson - LACoFD -USLA Rescue Race Champion, ASU Swim team, member of the US Paddleboard team, Kyle Daniels - LACoFD -South Bay -5 time Catalina Classic Champion, Blaine Morgan - LACoFD Ocean Lifeguard & Cal. State Parks Lifeguard-San Clemente- Multiple US Lifeguard champion, Carlsbad Firefighter Paramedic . Tyler Morgan - LACoFD -South Bay, Surfski and Paddleboard specialist, Brian Murphy - LACoFD -USLA Paddleboard and Ironman Champion, Mike Murphy - LACoFD, Surfski and Paddleboard specialist, member of the US Paddleboard team

Athletes -Female

Micha Burden - Huntington Beach Lifeguard-4 times USLA National Team Member, Renee Locarnini- LACoFD - 4 times USLA National Team Member, Tandis Morgan - LACoFD-4 times USLA National Team Member
Bridget Rome - LACoFD - Surfski specialist
Educational Officers - Jaime Orr - LACoFD, Sean Kennedy - LACoFD

Our Competition started on day 3 of the Tour with the 27th Lorne Pier to Pub 1200 meter swim. Lauded as the biggest ocean swim in the world, 4300 swimmers, the online registration maxed out in 4 days.

Chad Carvin, Micah Carlson, Renee Locarnini and Micha Burden all qualified for the superfish category, the fastest 20 men and 20 women in the event. The racing wetsuit manufacturers were fighting to get wetsuits onto Chad and Micha, as the water temps were in the low 60's with scattered showers and whitecaps.

Men and Women superfish final was run together as one heat. Chad led most of the race from the gun by a body length and approached the surfline with one other. Unfortunately behind Chad and last year's winner Nick Cordner, was ex-Aussie Olympian and surf racing champion Daniel Kowalski in third place. Kowalski shot past on an outside wave from 10 body lengths back, Chad was not able to hang onto the broken wave, and Daniel body surfed it to knee deep, and Chad came running up the beach in a clear second.

Kowalski thrilled more than 25,000 fans to catch "a wave from God" and snatch the lead from Chad. Kowalski last won the Pier to Pub in 1996, the year he upstaged Kieren Perkins in the national titles. "It was a very big surprise (to win the title again)," Kowalski said, knowing his rivals had been training solidly. "I've got to thank the wave gods (for giving me a lucky ride). This event is amazing - until you've swum it, you don't know how good it is, with the crowd and all its colour." Kowalski said he was "hurting so bad" at one point, but he persevered to finish strongly.

In the women's Superfish event, Californian lifeguard Micha Burden clocked 15mins 28 secs to take out the sought-after title. Burden snatched the honours from six-time winner Naantali Marshall. Micha Burden crushed the women's field and beat seven of the guys, for her efforts she won airfare and hotel for 2 in Vanuatu, Tahiti for a swimming race there and \$1000 cash for her efforts. She also suffered a bloodied eye due to a male competitor kicking her in the goggles in frustration of being overtaken by a woman. Micha's comment was "I hope it gets a good colored bruise so I look vicious for the Shield!"

The Victorian were ready to bubble wrap the Shield for travel after that introduction to our swimmers but unfortunately at the Wieland Shield at Torquay, the Home team, Life Saving Victoria, beat us 74-54. California decisively won the Surf Teams, Surf Rescue Relay, and Men's Run Swim Run. Micha Burden won the Women's Swim, and the Women's Run Swim Run. But local knowledge, surf skills and home team advantage proved insurmountable.

The California Team was hosted by Ocean Grove, Anglesea, Torquay Surf Life Saving Clubs and was then hosted in Melbourne at the palatial head quarters of Life Saving Victoria and given complimentary tickets to the Australian Open where we watch Sharapova sweat in the 110 plus heat and 8 of our crew were given plane flights on the daily Coast Watch patrol flights.

A hearty "Thank You" goes to LACOLA, LACOLA Trust Fund, CSLSA, and SDSL for their donation, and to Surftech, Surftech Australia, Xcel, and Bennett Surfboards for

their assistance with the tour. Surftech Australia set us up by delivering a 10 board quiver for our use, 5 longboards, 5 shortboards, so with all our 12 Surfboards, 8 paddleboards, and 6 surfskis we had quite a road warrior caravan.

Agenda Items for the 2007 Spring USLA National Board of Directors Meeting
Southwest Region USLA Competition Rule Change Proposals- (listed in order of importance):

1. Add ILS Open Women's Board Rescue-maximum of 4 Teams per Chapter-this is an ILS event and raced everywhere else and our Women have been disadvantaged as it is not practiced by the USLA-Event to be held after the Men's Open Board Rescue on Day 2. Pre-lim heats as necessary on Thursday.
2. Add ILS Open Men and Open Women 3 person Surfski Relay-maximum of 4 Teams per Chapter-Open only held on Day 1-Friday. Prelim heats as necessary on Thursday.
3. Add ILS Open Men and Open Women 3 person Board Relay-maximum of 4 Teams per Chapter-Open Only held on Day 2-Saturday. Prelim heats as necessary on Thursday.
4. Establish an Open Point Score Championship-a second category in addition to the Overall-where points are accumulated only through Open events-no age groups. This would mirror ILS, and other Surf Life Saving Countries Championships.

Issues / Agenda items for the Competition meeting:

Discuss the required changes to the current course set up in order to meet agreed upon ILS Standards.

Competition Caps- Current USLA rules state "no numbers, writing or letters" -however we have Chapters that have writing on their current caps. ILS allows writing on the caps, but no advertising. We need to adopt ILS standards and get all our chapters caps in a data base. I've been asked by the ILS and SLSA to get a final list of Competition Cap designs from all the USLA chapters. The goal is to get them all the Cap designs from all the Chapters / clubs in the ILS member nations so they can be recognized and up on the web site. After this summer there will be no more duplication of design, only original designs / colors will be accepted by the ILS.

It's been a pet peeve of mine and I've tried over the past few National BoD meetings to get the regions to submit their Comp Cap designs, so we can set up a cheat sheet to aid the announcers at Nationals. We need to get this done and raise our game. I have a presentation to show when this topic comes up.

Discuss the Rescue Race changes-ILS Rules make this event into a 4 person open Men's and Open women's event adding two Rescuers on the beach to bring the victim on shore and across the finish line. All the other International Countries and the ILS use a Rescue Tube for this event clipping the victim in on the offshore side of the flag / buoy line, USLA currently uses a "Mini or maxi Rescue Can. Which should we be using at USLA events? Also discuss merits of adding ILS Rescue Tube Race for the Age Groups to replace the USLA Rescue Race.

Judges / Referee Clinic-only 5 officials currently from Southwest Region

2007 Competition Calendar - check updates at www.CSLSA.org

5/26 June Tune-Zuma
6/16 Ed Perry Regatta-26th Ave, Venice Beach
6/24 Mike Knight Relays-South Mission Beach
6/30 South Bay Dozen-Torrance Beach
7/1 Working Mans 4x4-Manhattan Beach
7/7 Hennessey's Paddleboard Festival-Redondo Beach
7/20 JG Regionals-Santa Barbara
7/21&22 San Clemente Surf Festival-San Clemente Pier
7/28 CSLSA Regionals-Huntington City Beach
8/4 Judge Taplin Relays- Hermosa Beach Pier
8/9-11 USLA National Championships - Myrtle Beach. South Carolina
8/18 Great Catalina Dory race
8/26 Catalina Classic Paddleboard Race
12/1 International Surf Challenge-Bondi Beach, Australia
7/18/ 2008 Rescue 2008 Lifesaving World Championships Germany from 18 July until 2 August 2008. Pool events held in Berlin, and Beach and Surf competitions held in Warnemunde.
7/15, 2008 20th Wieland Shield Competition, held in Southern California
August 7,8, & 9 2008 USLA Nationals- hosted by LACOLA-Location to be determined Venice or Santa Monica

Respectively Submitted,

Jay Butki
CSLSA Competition Committee Chair