

Cal Surf Competition News

By Marshall Parks, Competition Committee Chair

2001 CSLSA Championships

The Regional Championships were hosted by Imperial Beach on July 12 and 13. Eighteen chapters participated at the Championships with Los Angeles County finishing first overall followed by San Diego City, Cal State Parks, Laguna Beach and Del Mar.

Special thanks to Hans Feman, Rick Koslowski and the lifeguard staff from Imperial Beach for making this a successful event.

Goodwill Games

The two-day Goodwill Games Lifesaving competition took place on the Gold Coast of Australia on September 1 and 2, 2001. Eight national teams competed. Australia finished first, followed by New Zealand, the Republic of South Africa and

2001 USLA Championships

The 2001 USLA National and Junior Lifeguards Championships were held in Miami on August 9, 10 and 11. For the first time at a National Championships, teams were divided into two divisions based on number of employees. Division I (over 100 lifeguards), was won by Los Angeles County, followed by Monmouth County and San Diego City. Division II, (100 or fewer lifeguards), was won by Delray, Florida. Heidi Hannenian from Los Angeles County and Victor Fox from Hollywood, Florida took individual high-point honors.

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Ocean Challenge

The inaugural "Ocean Challenge" was held at Pacific Beach in San Diego on October 6, 2001. Held in conjunction with the PB Fest Street Fair, the "Ocean Challenge" consisted of dory, surf ski, paddleboard and iron man/woman races. The event, organized by the San Diego Surf Lifesaving

Competition Association, attracted some of California's strongest lifeguard competitors, (including three former Olympians) who vied for \$1,500 in prize money. High point scorers were Mitch Kahn, Anthony Vila and Patty Mackel.

Rescue 2002

Daytona, Florida will be hosting the Rescue 2002 World Lifesaving Championships May 7-19, 2002. The championship will include events for National and Club Teams and Masters competitors. For more information visit the Rescue 2002 website at www.rescue2000.com.

USLA National Competition Committee Chair Rob McGowan announced that Mitch Kahn has been selected to coach the 2002 USA National Team and Tim Gallagher of Monmouth County will serve as team manager.

2002 Southwest Regional Championships

The 2002 Southwest Regional Championships will be hosted by the L.A. County Lifeguard Service at Venice Beach on Saturday, July 27, 2002. The Junior Guards will compete at the same location on Friday, July 26, 2002.

Future Regional Championship Sites

It was decided at the CSLSA fall meeting to continue requesting agencies to host the event for two consecutive years. Los Angeles County has agreed to host the event in 2003.

Regional Awards

Due to ongoing fiscal concerns, Regional Championship host agencies will continue to be allowed to determine the type of awards to be provided to participants. In recent years, awards have typically been T-shirts, towels, mugs and medals.

2002 USLA National Championships

The 2002 National Championships will be hosted by San Diego, August 8-10. The competition site is South Pacific Beach. the

same venue as in 2000. Additional information can be found at www.usla.org

The team championships at Nationals will continue to be divided into two categories based on the number of chapter employees. CSLSA chapters are encouraged to take advantage of this and field a winning team at San Diego.

Suggestions: for '02 National Championships

Don Rohrer has provided the USLA National Competition Committee with several recommendations regarding the 2002 National Championships. In summary, they are as follows:

- Officials should wear sponsor-provided uniforms when serving in an official capacity.
- Officials have the responsibility to know the rules of competition and must abide by them without fail.
- Have a cordless drill and auger at each course.
- Have two sets of start/finish flags available on each course.
- Provide a portable copier at the recorder's tables.
- Provide a kit to each recorder's station with all necessary materials.
- Have an area designated to meet the special needs of master, vets and super vet competitors.

Other suggestions made to the Committee for future events included:

- Provide a source of water on the beach for competitors.
- If competitors are required to wear rash guards while competing, ensure that a variety of sizes are available.
- Official's uniforms should come in a variety of sizes and be appropriate for anticipated environmental conditions.

These suggestions were forwarded to the San Diego 2002 National Championships Committee.

USLA Competition Rule Change Proposals

At the Fall meeting of the USLA Board of Directors, the following rule changes were discussed at

length during the Competition Committee meeting. The Committee agreed to adopt rule change #1 while the others failed to gain enough support and were tabled for future discussion.

- Change course distances to match those used in international competitions.
- Eliminate the 24-hour volunteer requirement for former employee competitors.
- A proposal to implement changes designed to expedite the USLA National competition.

Past Champions Archives

In recent years, National Championship programs have included lists of past champions in open division events. At the Fall USLA Board of Directors meeting, it was decided it would be appropriate to include past age-group national champions as well. Programs will now include the female and male winners of the Senior, Master, Veteran and Super Veteran age-group events.

If you can provide information on past champions, including full name, chapter, age group, year and event, please send it to Marshall Parks at P.O. Box 880092, San Diego, CA 92168 or e-mail to Marshallparks@aol.com.

