

SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS

- Catch up on the latest **SOCAL** news in this Summer edition.
- Find the word "shark" hidden in this issue and be the first to email the correct page and sentence where it's located to:

Jzwirner@socalwaterpolo.com

You'll win a free tee shirt!

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What's New in the Pool?

It's amazing how summer goes by so quickly. It seems we just played in the Cal Cup tournament and now we're wrapping up the Junior Olympic games.

We can be proud of our athletes and how well SOCAL performed at all levels in the tournaments this summer. Once again, we proved to be the best club in Orange County and the nation by dominating other clubs especially at the NJOs.

Summer has brought us other benefits. Jason Lynch has joined us as a level I Head Coach on the boys side joining Ed Reynolds, the level I Girls Head Coach. We continue to offer our players top notch coaching.

The Positive Coaching Alliance

(PCA) is transforming our program at all levels. It's our intent to make PCA our focus on every pool deck all year long.

I wish to thank Robin Baia for all her administrative work, especially this summer where our schedule was filled to the brim. Working behind many scenes, she is invaluable to our club with her many talents and efforts. Thank you Robin!

Our Fall Session is quickly approaching. We have numerous top-level competitions planned for our athletes. Don't forget to check our schedule on a regular basis. Since Tustin High's pool is down, there's more shuffling needed than usual. I'm thankful for the way the Tustin

Unified and Socal Aquatics programs have cooperated as we work together to build strong aquatics programs in the Tustin area.

It's always a pleasure serving SOCAL and seeing our boys and girls grow stronger in the pool and in life.



Andrew Rowe,
General Manager and President

Meet the Coach - Shayla Wilcox

My journey with SOCAL WP began as a player at age 11. I wanted to play water polo just like my big sister, Kelsey. I started as a field player then at 13, I switched to goalie. Why? Because my big sister became a goalie, of course!

When I played 14Us, my teams did well at the National Junior Olympics. We first earned a silver and a bronze the next year.

I continued to play for SOCAL during the summers. But I soon found I really wanted to coach new players. (No, my big sister

had nothing to do with that!) I began coaching the 10U group three years ago. I also coach the Splash Ball program and it's been great helping kids bridge from one program into the next.

As a coach, I have loved watching kids transform into water polo! They start out as individuals not knowing much about the sport. Then I see they expand their abilities to pass and shoot, their egg beaters get stronger and before they know it, the team develops as a whole.

As far as my future goes, I hope to finish up at Santiago Canyon

College in the next few years, then enter a world of opportunities.

Something you may not know about me is that I'm one of three sisters - all of us played water polo and all of us are goalies!





*“Coming together
is a beginning.
Keeping together
is progress.
Working together
is success.”
Henry Ford*



JO SUCCESS

SOCAL competed at all levels in the 2011 National Junior Olympics held locally. The tournament is the most prestigious competition for all water polo clubs in the United States. SOCAL's outcomes were unprecedented across all clubs in the USA. NJO's is the largest water polo tournament in the world and the best performing club lays the foundation to be the best club in the United States. Even SOCAL's B and C development teams placed higher than most clubs' top elite

teams with their finishes. In most brackets there were 48 to 64 teams.

While all SOCAL teams finished well, here are the medal winning teams:

Gold (Platinum bracket)

12U Boys Black

21U Girls

Silver (Platinum bracket)

14U Girls Black

16U Girls Black

Bronze (Platinum bracket)

14 U Boys Black



16U Boys Black

18U Girls Black

Gold (Silver Bracket)

18U Girls Gold

From the players, to the coaches, to the parents, to the fans, SOCAL is a team! Congratulations to everyone who participated in the 2011 Junior Olympics!

Send it in!

Student of the Month? Accepted to College? We want to know!

We'd love to share the accomplishments of our awesome players outside the pool.

Send your news to Janet Zwirner at:

jzwirner@socalwaterpolo.org

While we can't promise we'll print everything, we'll sure try!

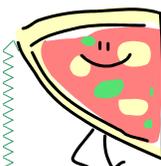
ALSO - Please share your photos with us! Send some of your best shots to:

photos@socalwaterpolo.org

Register now for

FALL SESSION!

(check for new times and locations)



POLO AND PIZZA

Calling all Splash Ball players !!

(past and present!)

Join us for an evening of fun designed just for you! Swim, play and feast on pizza

Friday, September 9

6 PM at the Beckman pool

RSVP to jzwirner@socalwaterpolo.org

Where are they now?? AMBER OLAND

Amber Oland knows how to juggle. She learned back in middle school how to work her schedule around water polo, swimming and school. She also knows how it pays to work hard at all three and where it can take you. In fact, as this is going to print, her hard work has taken her to Shenzhen, China to participate in the 2011 World University Games.

Amber started swimming when she was five years old, following in her brothers' footsteps and being the daughter of Vickie, legendary swim coach (now at SOCAL Aquatics). At 12, Amber considered giving water polo a try and joined SOCAL.

From day one she knew she wanted to be a goalie. In fact, she told Coach Ed that she would only play if she could be in the goal. She knew. As a goalie, she helped her 14U team win the gold in the Michigan Jos. Her Speedo Cup team won the gold, as well, where Amber received the Jodi

Campbell Award (now the Maureen O'Toole Award for girls).

She continued winning during her high school career at Foothill where they won two CIF championships and she was awarded CIF and All-Sea View League MVP. Her position on the Junior National Team took her to Italy, Greece, Holland, Portugal and Canada.

Then came college. She accepted Stanford University's offer and competed in four NCAA championships while she was there. Stanford's record proved impressive with two third places., one second and they just won first place in the NCAA this year.

Fun Facts about Amber ? In high school, she competed in the 500 free during her junior year. What's amazing about that is she swam the backstroke - and won! Also, Amber got a chance to sneak in some games at Stanford and play in the field. She scored two goals as a senior!



Looking ahead, Amber is considering playing professional water polo abroad and attending graduate school.

Looking back, she never regrets balancing swimming, water polo and good grades. It taught her how to manage her time and it opened doors to an amazing future.

Splash Ball Stuff



They say a picture speaks a thousand words. Enjoy a multitude!

PCA Athlete Awards

Congratulations to our SOCAL PCA Summer Athletes

These shark athletes were chosen by their coaches for demonstrating excellent sportsmanship, teamwork and dedication:

12U Girls - Mia Chanove

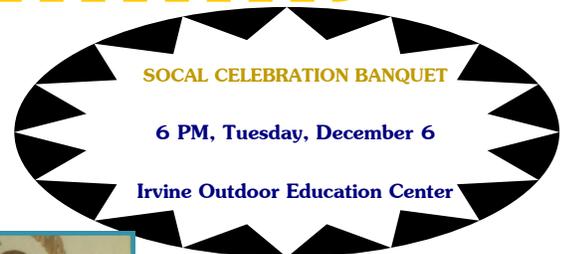
12U Boys - Nolan Ortega

14U Boys - Gavin Scott

14 U Girls - Angela Russo

10U - Ethan McKenzie

Be sure and give them a high 5 or fist bump when you see them on deck!



**DON'T FORGET TO
CHECK THE CALENDAR
OFTEN!!!**

SOCAL SPOTLIGHT

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Janet Zwirner, Editor

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RULIN' THE POOL

NJOs wasn't the only tournament where our teams found success. Here's a shout out to some of our teams who played this summer :

**Cal Cup: 4th grade - 5th place
6th grade boys - 2nd
10th grade girls - 5th
12th grade girls - 1st**

**US Club Championships:
10U - 5th place
12U Boys - 1st, Girls - 3rd
14U Boys - 5th, Girls - 5th
16U Girls - 2nd
18U Girls 4th**



Photos - Susan Best

NAVY SEAL FITNESS CHALLENGE

It's been awhile since nearly 100 SOCAL athletes competed in the Navy Seal Fitness Challenge at Beckman High. It was tough, but most finished with bragging rights and a tee shirt. Rose Bowl competed against us in a virtual challenge and here are the results:

- Most overall Challengers: Rose Bowl
- Most Females; SOCAL
- Most Males: Rose Bowl
- Most Top 20: TIE
- Most Female Top 20; SOCAL
- Most Male Top 20; Rose Bowl
- Top Overall Score: George Avakian; Rose Bowl

Even though we didn't win this one, we hope to compete again soon. In the meantime, wear your tee shirt with pride, remembering the lost Navy Seals at this time and their bravery.

B.F.F. NIGHT

(BRING A FRIEND TO FLOAT)

KNOW SOMEONE WHO MIGHT LIKE TO TRY WATER POLO? BRING 'EM TO FOOTHILL'S POOL ON

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 8

7 PM - 8:30 PM

FUN IN THE POOL FOLLOWED BY ROOT BEER FLOATS

PRIZES FOR THE PLAYERS THAT BRING THE MOST FRIENDS

