

**SUMMER HIGHLIGHTS**

- Catch up on the latest SOCAL news in this Summer edition.
- Check out a NEW contest and a volunteer job possibility.

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## What's New in the Pool?

There is so much talk about the "journey." I'm writing this from Australia where I returned suddenly to be present for my grandfather's funeral. My grandfather came to the end of his very long "journey" nearly 70 years past his athletic prime as a man of great pride and love. The end of a life journey puts water polo careers into perspective. I've had time to reflect.

SOCAL places a huge emphasis on being the "top of the heap." Sometimes this pressure places too heavy a burden on our players, coaches, and parents when medal standings trump development, or winning becomes misbalanced with teaching life lessons. I pray our athletes will live 70 years after their water polo careers like my pop. Given the brief journeys of our athletic careers, preparation for

the years after water polo must be part of the fabric of our community.

A huge shout out to the women of USA who snuck by my Aussies in the semi's and beat Spain in the final for the Olympic Gold Medal. How proud I am of our SOCAL Coach and my UCI colleague, Dan Klatt, for helping steer the USA to its first Gold Medal!

Congratulations to our Junior Olympic Teams and the performances of all our programs across the spectrum this Summer – especially the Gold teams who are our "B" teams. Once again, SOCAL was top in the USA for results, leads the USA in promoting the Positive Coaching Alliance, and continues to support our local high school programs.

Good luck to our High School and College Men as they begin their seasons. May all our athletes embrace their brief journeys as Student-Athletes in preparation for the much longer journey when their water polo careers end. Enjoy your family's journey – in perspective.



Andrew Rowe,  
General Manager and President

## Meet the Coach - Dan Klatt

SOCAL welcomes back Dan Klatt as the IOU Coach this Fall. He is the Head Coach of UCI Women's Water Polo, a former Water Polo Olympian (2004), and just returned after assisting the USA Women to their first ever Olympic Gold Medal.

Dan had humble beginnings in Fresno, CA where he was a national caliber swimmer, but an average water polo player. Dan tried out for every Olympic Development Team, in high school and in college, and was cut every time.

Dan's career transitioned to coaching when he moved south and co-coached Foothill to 4

straight CIF Championships.

When Ratko Rudic (the World's most decorated Water Polo Coach and 2012 Croatian Olympic Gold Medal Coach) came to the USA, Dan decided to try out for a team for the last time. Dan commented, "I will likely get cut, but I'm going to learn everything I can from the Grandmaster of Water Polo." This time he made the team and competed in the 2004 Athens Olympic Games.

Since then Dan's credentials have grown. He has built UCI into a force in water polo, helped lead the USA in the climb to GOLD, and continued to build his reputation based on his Fresno val-

ues: hard work, humble learning, and the desire to never give up.

SOCAL WP congratulates Dan on his successful summer and upcoming marriage to Natalie this winter





# JUNIOR OLYMPIC SUCCESS

It was a glorious 10 days in sunny Northern California as hundreds of teams from all over the nation competed in what is considered the world's largest youth water polo tournament. SOCAL Water Polo athletes worked hard, competed successful and had some fun! Here's how we ended up:

- 10U Mixed - 1st, Gold (pictured)
- 12U Girls - 1st, Platinum
- 12U Boys Black-1st, Platinum
- 12U Boys Gold -13th, Platinum

- 14U Girls Black - 8th, Platinum
- 14U Girls Gold - 1st, Gold
- 14U Boys Black - 3rd, Platinum
- 14U Boys Gold - 5th, Silver
- 16U Girls Black - 3rd Platinum
- 16U Girls Gold - 12th, Platinum
- 16U Boys Black - 2nd, Platinum
- 16U Boys Gold - 1st, Silver
- 18U Girls Black - 3rd, Platinum
- 18U Girls Gold - 6th, Silver
- 18U Boys Black - 5th, Platinum

WELL DONE SOCAL!!

\* Junior Olympics tournament format: Championship Platinum & Gold Div. and Challenge Silver & Bronze Div.



**Congratulations** to the following SOCAL athletes who were chosen for the national teams:

**Girls Cadet Team** - Kacey Avalos, Nikki Daurio

**Boys Cadet Team** - Chas Hornecker, Bobby Lee, Will Lapkin

**Girls Youth Team** - Cana Manzella, Mad- dy McLaren, Kelsey Roland, Haley Wan

**Boys Youth** - Chandler Jarrels, Max Merrill

**Girls Jr. Team** - Rachel Fattal, McKenna Mitchell, Jillian Yokum

**You make SOCAL proud!**

## SOCAL CONTEST

GOT a FUN/AMAZING/  
UNBELIEVABLE STORY  
FROM YOUR JUNIOR  
OLYMPIC EXPERIENCE?

WANNA TELL US ALL ABOUT  
IT? WRITE IT DOWN AND  
SEND IT TO JANET @

JZWITNER@SOCALWATERPOLO.ORG

YOU MAY WIN a NEW  
SOCAL SUIT (FIRST  
PLACE) OR OTHER FUN  
SOCAL STUFF.

DEADLINE FOR ENTRIES  
IS MIDNIGHT, WEDNES-  
DAY, **SEPTEMBER**  
**12TH**

## Send it in!

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

We 'd love to share the ac-  
complishments of our awe-  
some players outside the  
pool.

Send your news to Janet  
Zwerner at:

jzwitner@socalwaterpolo.com

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



# SOCAL ALUMNI - Where are they now??



## Rosey Redaelli

started her career as a water athlete at age 10 after never finding success in

land sports. Her mother suggested she try synchronized swimming and so she found herself at the pool was immediately attracted to the music, the sequins and the water.

Rosey comes from a long line of decorated synchronized swimmers. Her mother, aunt and cousins have won Masters World Championships, World Championships, Olympic Bronze and collegiate titles, respectively.

When she got to high school, her decision to switch to water polo was welcomed with open arms as Foothill needed another goalie and she had already mastered the egg beater. Her older sister Mary helped her transi-

tion from a nose clip to lunging toward water polo balls.

She had amazing support from her teammates and coaches, "who believed in me more than I did myself," she recalls. Foothill and SOCAL taught her to be tenacious, to be resilient and to win and lose (mostly win) graciously. She went on to play water polo at UC Santa Barbara, a goal she had set for herself early on, not knowing she could even achieve.

After graduation, she made her way back to the pool where Ed Reynolds brought her back to SOCAL as a coach. ("Thanks Ed, I owe you one!" she says.) Coaching such talented athletes was inspirational - "the dedication, teamwork and the love that they shared made me love my job and the sport." She remembers.

The dynamics between the different teams and how they influenced the outcomes led her to pursue a Masters in Social Work from USC. She just com-

pleted her MSW with a concentration in Mental Health and School Settings.

Rosey says, "Water Polo has taught me so many leadership and team work skills that I have found to be helpful in any situation. The ability to think on my toes, whether it's where to lunge on a 5 meter or what to do when a crisis evolves at work. The determination to put in the extra bit of work because one more leg set means I can last through the end of the game or achieve the results I want. And the realization that building trusting relationships with a team and working toward a common goal always results in a satisfying outcome."



## Splashball Stuff

Summer Splashball concluded one of its biggest and most successful seasons with over 40 participants passing, shooting and learning that technique called an egg beater.

Unique to the program was an in-house league where younger (ages 5-6) and older (ages 7-9) teams could scrimmage each other. SOCAL also hosted the first SOPAC Splashball tournament and ice cream social

where 150 beginning players filled four courses in the Beckman pool.

After a crazy game of parent-player inner tube fun, the season finale proved much improvement and understanding of the game as they scrimmaged Long Beach Shores Splash. Pizza, awards and reminders to SWIM! capped off a great summer.



**"over 40 participants passing, shooting and learning that technique called the egg beater"**



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

## **SOCAL SPOTLIGHT**

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## **WANTED:**

### **YOUNG SOCAL JOURNALISTS**

We're looking for some student athletes interested in contributing to the SOCAL Spotlight in the areas of reporting, illustrating and even editing. See your name in print! Get college credit (just kidding, but it will look good on college apps!)

If interested, please contact Janet at [jzwirner@socalwaterpolo.org](mailto:jzwirner@socalwaterpolo.org)



## **PCA Winners for Summer**

### **Congratulations to our SOCAL PCA Players of the Summer Quarter.**

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

#### **10U - Noah Rowe**

Noah exemplifies the traits of every good athlete: a strong work ethic, a desire to learn, and unselfishness in the field of play. Whether on offense or defense, Noah is always striving to give the best that he can on every possession with a maturity and a levelheadedness that inspires trust from his fellow teammates

#### **12U Girls - Ava Perkins**

"As a player, Ava is always striving to make herself better. She listens to the coach and immediately implements their advice. She plays completely unselfishly - working to make the team successful. She is always quick with words of support for her teammates and she is a true student of the game who is passionate about learning.

#### **12U Boys - Zane Scott**

Zane Scott is a true competitor to his core. He always

gives 110% whether is practice, scrimmage or a championship game. His thirst to always challenge himself and the others around him has raised the bar for SOCAL's youth boys programs. Zane ends his career as a 12 & Under with 1 Bronze and 2 gold medals from the junior olympics. Thank you, Zane, for all your hard work and all you have done for SOCAL.

#### **14U Girls - Kelsey Holland and Julie Harrison**

Kelsey Holland (aka the smiling Goalie) exemplifies the Growth Model of Youth Sports. Kelsey courageously engaged in the Goalie position on the Gold Team. Kelsey's growth in the technical skills of a goalie, building her team, learning the game, and reducing her self-criticism are exceptional. Kelsey's biggest growth has been in blocking the first goals of early morning games and shrugging off mistakes. Her nickname triggers her great smile that brightens her teammates and the world around.

Julie Harrison came to SOCAL Youth Girls to improve and learn. Julie gave her teammates far more than they could ever give to her: BETTER EFFORT. Julie led every swim set despite lacking the swim skills of others, burned her legs to exhaustion at 110% effort when her teammates gave 80%, and simply set the learning desire standard for future Youth Girls to emulate. Julie's genuine smile when she applies a learned skill and it actually works, inspire her Coaches to return to the pool deck.

#### **14U Boys - Chris Wan**

Chris has grown a lot as a player and person over the last year. He's a hard worker, very receptive to coaching and is always looking for ways to improve. Chris takes responsibility for his development by asking for clarification. Finally, Chris is very respectful of himself, his teammates, coaches, opponents and officials. Chris sets a great example of what it means to be a Triple-Impact Competitor.