

The SOCAL Spotlight

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Fall 2014

SOCAL WATER POLO

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WHAT'S NEW IN THE POOL?

Happy Holidays! We have so much to be thankful for!

As you see detailed in this newsletter, another crop of Senior High School Women are off to colleges from the west coast to the east coast to earn great educations and play water polo! And in keeping with the holiday spirit, thanks to your generous donations, SOCAL Santa will visit deserving community families soon.

Your club remains one of the top clubs in the United States, from youth to high school and college. We have such a great community of players, families, administrators and coaches! Thank you all for your dedication this year. SOCAL has Mastered the Scoreboard at all levels for a long time.

It's obvious to me how much peer pressure our Coaching Staff put on themselves to Master the Score Board. Living up to SOCAL performance expectations

can be grueling and grinding, causing our Coaches to sometimes lose the perspective that "it's only a game." I sometimes wonder how our staff would view the world if we were a middling club with no expectations to win each encounter. We should be Double Goal Coaches who want to Win and Teach Life Lessons and we are getting better. No one can doubt a SOCAL Coach's desire to win. We can all help ourselves by remembering to Respect the Rules, the Officials, Opponents, our Teammates, and our Selves. (ROOTS) I believe we can win and behave beyond reproach.

Please help us to create SOCAL's culture!

Andrew Rowe

President and
General Manager



Polo-Lite Continues to Grow!!

Coach John Bell and Coach Buck Tallman have created an enjoyable program for beginning polo players. The budding athletes have an opportunity to learn the basic water polo skills while having a lot of fun! Some of the Polo-Lite kids love it so much, they have moved up to Youth Polo and are making an impact on their new teams.



Coach John and Coach Buck
with Fall Polo-Lite Athletes

USA Water Polo Academic All Americans Announced

Congratulations to the following SOCAL Athletes who have been recognized for 2013-2014 as Academic All-Americans. Student-athletes, 10th grade and older, needed a 3.6 GPA on a scale of 4.0 to qualify, those that received a 4.0 GPA were honored as outstanding achievers. (*)

Lili Aguirre-Murray*
Warren Allen
Abbey Blake*
Amy Castellano*
Madison Chen*
Nikki Daurio*

Reagan Denny
Nikki Doumas*
Troy Furniss*
Lana Gorlinski*
Sidney Groot

Julie Harrison
Katie Hungerford*
Kenneth Keller
Jenny Lee*
Nicholas Loomis
Stephen Marcin*

Ryan Melosini*
Annie Mortimer*
Ally Perkins*
Kyla Pickell
Jacob Roberts*

SOCAL PLAYERS TAKE CIF CHAMPIONSHIP AT FOOTHILL

Congratulations to the Foothill High School Boys water polo team who just won the Division II CIF Championship. Of the 20 boys on the team, 16 are SOCAL players. This was Foothill's first championship in six years. At the time of their last championship in 2008, Foothill also relied on several key SOCAL players, including renowned names such as Paul Reynolds and Paul Pickell and Clayton McFadden, who currently coaches with SOCAL. This year, Coach Jim Brumm says that the boys have been so successful because they've set high goals for themselves. The boys had made it to CIF finals last year and semifinals the year before, and Brumm believes that this gave the older boys the experience and the hunger necessary to win the championship this year. Coach Brumm states that the boys' training for this championship actually began the winter and spring of last year, when the boys began their training with SOCAL. In response to what he thought was the key to their success, Coach Brumm states, "I...think confidence is a trait you have to have and with guys playing so many games a year, and from training, our guys were confident that they would have a great season."



SOCAL SCHOLAR-ATHLETES COMMIT TO COLLEGE!

November 12th was a very exciting day for many SOCAL Water Polo athletes- Congratulations to the following players who signed early college commitment letters:

Katie Hungerford-LMU
Reagan Denny-LMU
Julia Sellers-Michigan
Angela Russo-San Diego State
Nikki Doumas-UC San Diego
Nikki Daurio-Harvard
Cana Manzella- UCI
Stephen Marcin - Swimming, Penn



Reagan and Katie commit to LMU!

Nikki Daurio is Harvard bound!



REMINDERS

SOCAL Winter Registration is Open!
Register online at SOCALWATERPOLO.ORG
Also
It is time to renew your annual USA Water Polo membership at USAwaterpolo.org

PCA Players of the Quarter

Congratulations to our SOCAL PCA Players of the Fall Quarter!

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

10 MIXED-RILEY CLANSEN

Even though Riley just started playing water polo this fall and has not yet participated in our Positive Coaching Alliance workshop, he has been chosen the 10U PCA Player of the Fall 2014 Quarter because he has naturally displayed the PCA player principles. During practices and games, Riley has strived to learn by watching others, asking questions and listening to his coaches' feedback. When he first started if he made a mistake, it would devastate him and affect his play. Now he has grasped the concept that mistakes can be a good thing if you learn from them. He takes the game very seriously and treats everyone involved, including teammates, coaches, and officials, with a high level of respect. As a teammate, Riley has developed a respect for others with his positive attitude and hard work.

12U BOYS- JACOB TALLMAN

Jacob is always giving 100% effort while looking for ways to improve himself and his team. He is an amazing teammate and competitor.

14U BOYS-ADAM FLORMAN

Adam has demonstrated great perseverance coupled with hard work and dedication along his water polo journey. Adam sets a great example for his teammates in terms of his attitude and work ethic. Adam loves water polo his enthusiasm makes the game better.



Kimmie Holland, recipient of the Maureen O'Toole Sportsmanship award, proudly shows her sweatshirt signed by Maureen O'Toole: "Follow your dreams..."

YOUTH GIRLS- KIMMIE HOLLAND

Kimberly aka "Kimmie" Holland -- a center defender -- is the sole Youth Girl PCA Player of the Fall Quarter. Kimmie has one of the highest levels of attendance of all Youth Girls and has steadily shown improvement. She quietly comes to practices prepared to compete. She communicates directly with her Coaches instead of her parents communicating. Kimmie's biggest challenge has been to flush mistakes when she makes them instead of beating herself up. She is doing 100% better in this area and will continue to improve. Kimmie has come such a long way that at the end of Tyr Cup in Dallas, she was voted as one of the Maureen O'Toole Award Winners -- a National Award to a young woman of good water polo character. And she showed off in the pool, starting the final game of the tournament and leading her team to the Bronze medal with her DEFENSE. and in a last jab of the napier... fed the ball to Celeste who blasted it home to seal the WIN!! Congratulations, Kimmie!!



SOCAL Helps in the Community!

SOCAL CONTINUES TRADITION OF HOLIDAY GENEROSITY

Due to the enthusiastic generosity of SOCAL families last year, we were able to "adopt" three families and provide them with much-needed items like clothing, jackets, and grocery store gift cards, as well as toys for the children.

A big thanks to all of the SOCAL families who helped! SOCAL will help four families in need this holiday season-

Santa's favorite helper, Michael-Ann Pevehouse is busy at work coordinating the wish lists for the deserving families this year. Stay tuned for more information on how you can help.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!



Gracie and Noelle lending a hand

SOCAL MAKES A SPLASH AT DINO DASH



SOCAL players Campbell Gorlinski, Ryan Clarke and Ian French represent SOCAL well at the 24th Annual Dino Dash, held annually in November to raise funds for Tustin Public Schools.

“Water Polo-“Oh, the Places You’ll Go!”



The SOCAL Youth Girls became the “winningest” team in the history of TYR Cup in 2013 when they won the Gold Medal, thus besting Commerce for all time performances. This year, with a completely revamped roster, the team headed to TYR Cup in Dallas seeded #1 based on last year’s win. The 2014 TYR Cup team arrived in Dallas after having just won the SPA cup, beating out top competitors Northwood and United. At TYR Cup, the girls visited the stockyards and took a picture with a real Long Horn. They ate BBQ and bonded as a team. Though the trip was short, the girls really grew up through the tournament. According to Coach Ed Reynolds, the girls got “bullied” by Santa Barbara in the quarters and then “drowned” by

Rose Bowl in the semis. In the Bronze medal game, the girls had to play Santa Barbara again. Santa Barbara has had our SOCAL’s girls’ psyches for a long time, so it was the best victory of the autumn. The girls implemented our game plan and the Coaches made a few roster switches for match-ups and minutes, then gifted the opponent with a handshake while SOCAL waltzed away with the Bronze Medal. The Youth Girls are rebuilding and will only DO BETTER in the year to come!!! In December, we will focus on shooting clinics.

Follow the Youth Girls and see their Dallas diary @YouthGirlSOCAL on Twitter.



SOCAL PARTICIPATES FOR FIRST TIME IN ROCK-TOBER 12U TOURNAMENT

SOCAL’s 12 U Boys and Girls teams played some great polo and had a lot of fun

when they traveled to Mesa Arizona to compete in the Rock-Tober Fest Tournament October 24th to 26th. This was the first time SOCAL participated in the annual 12U competition sponsored by USA Water Polo and the Positive Coaching Alliance. The tournament was established to introduce competitive water polo opportunities to areas outside of polo dominant California.



In typical SOCAL fashion the boys and girls found time to have fun- the boys even took in the ghoulish sites of a Haunted House while the girls had a blast playing laser tag. The teams represented SOCAL well with their focused athletic efforts and great sportsmanship with the boys finishing 7th with a win against Commerce in a shootout while the girls were the youngest and the only girls team and played well, finishing 12th.

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@socalwaterpolo -
<http://instagram.com/socalwaterpolo>

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Send It In!

Student of the Month? Accepted to College? Helped your Community?
We want to know! We’d love to share the accomplishments of our athletes outside the pool. Send your news to Lisa Gorlinski @ lisagorlinski@socalwaterpolo.org
While we can’t promise we’ll print it, we’ll sure try!