

# WISCONSIN



MASTERS SWIMMING

NEWSLETTER

APRIL 2020 | MAY 2020

## FROM THE CHAIR ...

### Greetings Fellow Masters Swimmers!

I'm sure all of you are feeling like fish out of water right now. It was a very disappointing end to our season, to be building up yardage for not only the state meet, but for USMS short course nationals. The unfortunate thing is we don't know when we may have the opportunity to get back in the water, with many schools and health clubs closed for an undetermined length of time. As an encouragement to keep moving, the main page of the usms ([usms.org](http://usms.org)) website has dryland workouts, along with dryland exercises with an aerobic aspect to them. Check it out and keep moving.

Although the spring state meet was cancelled, the long course meter meet is still on the schedule. However, registration will not open until there is a resolution to the current health crisis, and we are able to get back in the pool. Keep watching the website for more information.

USMS summer nationals are still being planned for August 12-16, in Richmond, VA. You can view the order of events, as well as other information as it becomes available at [https://www.usms.org/events/national-championships/pool-national-championships/2020-pool-national-](https://www.usms.org/events/national-championships/pool-national-championships/2020-pool-national)

[championships/2020-summer-national-championship](#).

There will be at least a small group of swimmers from Wisconsin attending the event, although nothing formal will be arranged. Many times families will make a vacation out of attending summer nationals, and may only swim on some of the days. Last year, *with only seven swimmers*, Wisconsin placed 6<sup>th</sup> out of the Regional teams. Depending on when we can get back in the water, you may want to consider attending.

There are also two sanctioned open water meets in Wisconsin this summer. The first one is the Cream City open water event held in the Milwaukee River on August 1. The second event is the Madison Open Water event (MOWS) held on August 22. This is the final year the MOWS event will be held. Please consider supporting these events.

Keep moving, and hopefully soon, we'll be able to get back in the water.

**Mary Schneider**  
Wisconsin Chair



## Announcing New Wisconsin Masters Website

Working with ClubAssistant, we have developed a new mobile-friendly website:

[wisconsinmastersswimming.com](http://wisconsinmastersswimming.com).

Please send suggestions, comment or questions to: [WEditor@usms.org](mailto:WEditor@usms.org)

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**Status of Future Pool Swim Meets****6/6/2020 – Badger State Games (Aspiris Y, Wausau)**

This USA-approved meet is recognized by USMS. The meet runs Masters heats at the end of the age group heats on Saturday afternoon. Since this is a USA meet, it is governed by whether or not USA Swimming is allowing meets to run. Presently USA Swimming has cancelled meets through 4/30/2020.

**6/20/2020 – Wis. Masters LCM Champs at Schroeder**

Planning for the June 20<sup>th</sup> meet continues. However, the entries for the meet are not being accepted at this time. With new information on the pandemic becoming available daily, the possibility of hosting this meet will be determined at the end of May.

**Open Water Swims – Save the Dates**

While we can't get in a pool right now, plans are still ongoing for several open water swims in the area this summer. Save the dates for the following events being held in Wisconsin. (Click the links for more information).

**Please note: Some of these events have suspended entries until further notice.  
 Keep tabs on event websites for more information and updates.**

**USMS Sanctioned events**

**Cream City Classic (Milwaukee River Swim) – August 1, 2020**

<https://www.creamcityclassic.org>

Entries currently suspended – watch website for updates. This event is contingent upon obtaining a permit from the U.S. Coast Guard.

**Madison Open Water Swim – Saturday August 22**

This will be the last MOWS ever! See [Page 8](#) for more information.

**Non USMS Sanctioned**

**Minocqua Island Challenge – June 27**

<https://runsignup.com/Race/WI/Minocqua/MinocquaSwimChallenge>

**Big Swell Swim Devils Lake – July 11**

**Big Swell Swim Madison - August 9 (New date!)**

Series Website: <http://Bigswellswim.com>

**Pointe to La Pointe Swim – August 1**

<https://www.recreationandfitnessresources.org/point-to-la-pointe.html>

# Swim Meet Recaps

## Snowy Day Greet Sun Prairie Swimmers

Sun Prairie received 5.5 inches of snow on February 9th, the Sunday of the Madison Area Masters SCY meet in Sun Prairie. Swimmers coming west on the Interstate recall seeing a number of cars in the ditch. So, hats off to Roxie Pawluk, Julie Van Cleave, Mary Schneider, Andrew Babcock, Jim Brandon, Steven Ritt, Robert Rosen, Keith Van De Laarschot, Fred Russell and all you other swimmers who braved the elements to once again demonstrate your prowess in the water. We also recognize Illinois swimmers Kevin and Susan Scanlon, Matt Keller, and Mark Olsen who made their way north to join us.

As has been a new tradition, several of us met at the Chicken Licks bar after the meet for beers, conversation and some of the best chicken wings in Wisconsin. To those who couldn't make it to the meet, we understand and hope to see you next year.

[Click here for meet results.](#)



## Dave Clark Classic Memorial Brings in the Crowds to Whitefish Bay

With 108 swimmers entered and 365 individual event splashes, the Dave Clark Classic at Whitefish Bay on March 1st, was by far the busiest meet of the (truncated) 2020 year. Swimmers from around Wisconsin and Illinois gathered for an exciting



short course yard meet.

This meet had three heats of the 1650 yard freestyle, which had the fastest heats seeded first. We also saw two heats of the 400 IM, and the fan favorite 50 yard FINS! event. Tyler Hines turned on a blistering 20.21 time, most of it swum underwater.

Hats off to Pam Dowling and Classic Dave Clark for another well-run meet.

[Click here for meet results.](#)

## Jumping into a Brand New Pool in McFarland

**David Watts, Correspondent**

56 swimmers signed up for this meet on March 7, representing 9 workout groups from around the state. And now, with pools closed and the State SCY cancelled, the McFarland short course meters meet is even more treasured as one of the last times we will see each other for a while. The brand-new pool was amazing: bright, sparkling clean, with clear water and great staff. I don't know if the pool was fast, but for some people it definitely was.

Five clubs were represented, including the largest contingent, WMAC, not to mention a few from Illinois Masters. I would like to give a shout out to one "club," the one-event entry crew, who were trying out competitive swimming for maybe the first time ever or at least in a while. Nick Nager, 25, was a one-event wonder who put down some ripping times, including 28.44 in the 50 free. I swam next to Nick in the 200 free, or at least I dived from the block next to his. Nick did not quite lap me in the 200, but he finished well ahead. I found out Nick had a collegiate swimming background and he currently does some coaching. But he didn't really know what his race times would be, so he put himself in a slow heat next to me. But even Nick's 28.44 in the 50 wasn't enough to win that event: The honor went to Tyler Hines, 28, of Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center, with a time of 25.35 — the fastest swim of the entire meet.

Another one-event swimmer was Chris Olson, 53, who slaughtered her seed times in the 400 and 200 freestyle events. Chris was victorious in both, but they were uncontested, so Chris will have to come to future meets and defend her unblemished record against actual competition. Our last one-event dynamo was Rachel Weiland, 26, who was victorious in all 3 of her events, including the 50 free with a time of 28.93. Rachel did well in the 100 back at 1:16.05, and her 100 IM was almost as good at 1:16.54. Each of our one-event entrants is welcomed as an outstanding addition to our Wisconsin Masters swimming family. We hope they will benefit from the camaraderie, the competition, the fitness, and the friend-



ships which are all a part of our club. Great to have you with us, Nick, Chris, and Rachel!

Did I mention Illinois swimmers? I just barely beat Harvey Seybold, 66, of Illinois Masters, with a 100 meter time of 1:20.44. I should point out that Harvey was doing breaststroke and I was doing freestyle! When Illinois sends its people to Wisconsin, they are often highly accomplished swimmers. Another group to mention is the more senior contingent, and I include Art Luetke, 74, a Wisconsin swimming legend just one age group more senior than mine. Art's time in the 50 free was 34.92, just slightly better than mine, but hey, I had a bad turn, had to start from a dead stop, and anyway I'm still recovering from a hip replacement. Wait till next time, Art!

Speaking of the most senior contingent there were John Olson and Fred Salzmann in the 85-89 age group. Fred put everybody to shame by swimming 6 events, including the longest free (400), back, and breaststroke events. When you realize that US Masters Swimming marks its fiftieth anniversary this year, swimmers like John and Fred represent foundational members of our sport. Congratulations, John and Fred!

Right now we sit on the sidelines, relegated by Corona-virus to being land mammals once again. But this can be a time to refresh and refocus, and think how important masters swimming has become in our lives. We can remember the words of Ray Lewis, who said, "Wins and losses come a dime a dozen. But effort, nobody can judge effort. Because effort is between you and you. Effort ain't got nothing to do with nobody else."

[Click here for meet results.](#)

## Swimming the Turquoise Blue Waters of the Adriatic Sea

David Drury and his wife Cheryl embarked on a swimming experience of a lifetime. Here is Dave's description:

"Like-minded swim souls from Japan, Brazil, Great Britain, Germany, Australia, and the U.S. ventured to Tivat, Montenegro for a six-day swim vacation of a lifetime in September

we swam in the turquoise blue waters of the Adriatic Sea around Mambula Island and into Blue Grotto caves and WWII-abandoned submarine tunnels. Between swims, we explored historical towns with white, stone fishing villages and climbed high above the Bay of Kotor to the Old Church Prcanj for an



2019. Montenegro lies on the Adriatic coast nestled between Croatia to the north and Albania to the south. This unique country with natural unspoiled beauty and multifaceted cultural heritage only recently gained full independence as a modern nation state in 2006 after the struggles during the breakup of Yugoslavia.

"Our very capable swim guide was Borut Strel. He is the son and support person for the greatest ultra marathon swimmer in the world (Martin Strel). Borut led a comprehensive safety escort (3 boats, 2 swimming guides, and 1 local boat pilot) while his mother provided nourishing home-cooked meals for lunch on the boat, even accommodating gluten-free and vegetarian dietary requests. Borut also provided underwater videotaping and stroke analysis for all swimmers.

"Our group swam 4-km to 5-km daily, broken into morning and afternoon swims. We traversed the Bay of Kotor, a UNESCO World Heritage site which is a stunningly beautiful fjord with crystal-clear, calm, balmy salt-water. Additionally,

expansive panoramic view of the best natural swimming pool in the world! For anyone looking for an active and memorable vacation, this is one trip to consider!"

We know that this virus shutdown won't last forever. Maybe now is a good time to start dreaming of your swim vacation. For more information on Strel Swimming, visit: <https://www.strel-swimming.com/>.



## 2020 WISCONSIN MASTERS LCM STATE CHAMPS at Schroeder LONG COURSE METERS

**Saturday, June 20, 2020 – Event On hold, pending decision in May**

**Check [wisconsinmastersswimming.com](http://wisconsinmastersswimming.com) for updates.**

TIME: Warm-up 11:00-11:50 am, Meet starts at noon

SPONSORED BY: The Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center Masters

SANCTIONED BY: Wisconsin LMSC for USMS, Inc. Sanction No. 200-S008

LOCATION: Walter Schroeder Aquatic Center

POOL: 8-lane 25-yards

MEET INFORMATION: <https://www.clubassistant.com/c/4DE7542/file/Meet%20Information/IN20200620WISStateLCMChampsAtSchroederJun20.pdf>

### MEET DIRECTOR

Jeanne Seidler

Email: [wivicechair@usms.org](mailto:wivicechair@usms.org)

Two membership options are available:

- 1. Current USMS membership.**
- 2. One Event membership.**

One-event registration are not eligible for USMS Top 10 or records consideration.

**ENTRY FEE:** \$24.00 plus \$5.00 per individual event.

**ENTRY LIMITS:** Six (6) individual events, plus relays. THE 1500 and 400 freestyle events and THE 400 IM event will be limited to the first entries received up to a maximum of 14 entries for the 1500 Free, 21 entries for the 400 IM and 35 entries for the 400 Free . Email [meet director](mailto:meet_director) to be wait listed. *Designate an alternate event that you will drop if you get to swim the 1500 on the day of the meet.*

**No E-mail or deck late entries for individual events will be accepted.**

**ENTRY DEADLINE:** Mail entries must be received by Saturday, June 13, 2020. On-line entries will be cut-off on Saturday, June 13th, 2020 at 11:59PM central time.

**Online Entry (pending):** [https://www.clubassistant.com/club/meet\\_information.cfm?c=1176&smid=12724](https://www.clubassistant.com/club/meet_information.cfm?c=1176&smid=12724)

## In the Lanes – Erin Detwiler, Coach and Swimmer

Age group swimmer, college swimmer, coach and fellow Masters swimmer, Erin Detwiler has had a lifelong passion for the chlorinated lanes. You may have run into Erin at Wisconsin Masters swim meets lately, although she swims for the Kenyon (Ohio) Masters. More on that in a bit.

Erin grew up in Wisconsin and started swimming when she was five years old. Taught by her mother, a Red Cross swimming instructor, Erin joined the “club scene” swimming with teams in Janesville, Fort Atkinson and with the J Hawk club in Whitewater. Erin swam for Fort Atkinson at State (DII) in each of her four years in high school. Her college swim career started at women’s swimming powerhouse Kenyon College, where she earned All-American honors while the team took home four consecutive NCAA Division III National Championships.

Erin has had her eyes set on a career in architecture. “But I took a gap year first,” says Erin. “And that led to a coaching position at a local club in Charlottesville, Virginia, mostly just to get some free pool time.” A little later Erin moved back to the Midwest to pursue a master’s degree in architecture, but the pool kept pulling her back. Erin coached Masters and age group swimmers at the Schroeder pool for several years, and then got her taste of college coaching as an assistant coach with the UW-Milwaukee Panthers. With an architecture degree in hand, Erin moved to the Madison area, and along the way coached an age group swim club in Waunakee. The recession of 2008 snatched away her job with an architectural firm. Swimming called again, as she became an assistant coach and aquatics director at another DIII swimming powerhouse, Emory University.

In 2011, Erin became head coach at Allegheny men’s and women’s swimming program. In her first season, she earned the North Coast Athletic Conference Women’s Swimming Coach of the Year Award after leading the women’s squad to a third place finish at the conference championships. At that time, Olympic champion (1984-1988) and world record holder Betsy Mitchell was the Allegheny Athletic Director.

“Working with Betsy was an exceptional experience. She was a great mentor.”

Fast forward a few years, and Erin is back in Wisconsin again. Working in Madison as

an Project Architect, and coaching age group and high school on the side for a few years, Erin is now back in Masters swimming full swing. “I signed up with the Kenyon Masters because of the connections I have on that team. I was hoping to help them this year at Nationals, but, well, that didn’t pan out, as you know.” Once a breaststroker, Erin says she’s focusing more on the butterfly because of her knees. “Swim meets at Masters are great. It’s fun to see so many ages in the water.”

This year Erin took on the 400 IM and the 100 Fly. “I have to tell you, I’m not as young as I used to be. The 400 IM was very hard. My fly was great, but coming up for the backstroke... I was gasping for air before I reached the flags! If any of my swimmers had seen that, they would never let me forget it.”

With years of experience coaching and swimming, what advice does Erin have for Masters swimmers? “Enjoy the moment,” she says. “As a younger swimmer I did not necessarily listen to my coaches, who often talked about enjoying the journey of training, racing and the camaraderie of teammates. As a Masters swimmer I have embraced enjoying the journey. There are still season ending goals, but there are some things we just cannot control. Make the best of what you can control, roll with the rest and enjoy the people that surround you.”

Thanks for the advice, Coach. We’ll try our best.





## Last Chance to Swim MOWS

The 18<sup>th</sup> annual Madison Open Water Swim is scheduled for Saturday, August 22, 2020. This will be the last time this event will be held. What started out as 20 people and a few stopwatches in Lake Mendota has turned into one of the largest open water swims in the country. Attendance has fallen off the last couple of years, but at our largest event we had about 750 entrants.

There are many other open water events in the area to choose, and this event has sometimes conflicted with others. **Since this is the final time for this event, we hope that when people make their choice, they will choose to swim MOWS.** We hope to make it a fun and memorable event. Watch for more information: <https://www.swimmows.org/>