

~2019 Wisconsin Water Warrior Results~

Melodee Nugent

This is my 10th year of running the Wisconsin Water Warrior Event. This 2-week swim challenge (14 consecutive days) took place between November 1st and December 31st of 2019. The goal was to challenge yourself and swim as much as you can for the 2-week period (swimming every day is not required). There were 24 participants this year. New faces this year included David Jirikowic and Leslie Hanshew.

Combined, the participants swam a total distance of 906,999 (515 miles) in 2-weeks, with an average of 37,792 total yards (21.5 miles). We again had more women (58%) participate than men (42%). This event has always attracted an older population, with an average age of 63 years. Our youngest swimmer was 45 years and our oldest was 88 years. Kudos to Fred Salzmann (87 years young) swam 41,050 yards and Lois Goddard (88 years young) swam 13,500 yards.

Congratulations to the Baraboo group again who had the most swimmers participate. They will receive an award for their combined efforts. This group included: Kara McCarty, Katy Mering, Ann Berres-Olivotti, Doug Mering and Gwyn Guenther.

Also, congratulations to those that have participated in all 10 years: Ann Berres-Olivotti, Steve Justinger, Nancy Kranpitz, Melodee Nugent and Fred Salzmann. They too will receive an award for their continued participation.

The largest age groups were the 60-64 with a total of 6 (25%) swimmers in this group and the next largest group was the 70-74 with 4 swimmers (17%). Robert Turner was the top male swimmer with 70,000 yards and I was the top female swimmer with 134,850 yards. Here are the results for 2019:

Age Group	Place	Name	Yards	Age Group	Place	Name	Yards
45-49	1st	David Jirikowic (1)	19,590	45-49	1st	Leslie Hanshew (1)	23,600
50-54	1st	Jeff Schmiedel (5)	11,800		2nd	Gwyn Guenther (2)	17,275
60-64	1st	Tim Potter (5)	34,000		3rd	Kara McCarty (3)	16,175
	2nd	Doug Mering (2)	23,100	50-54	Overall Female	Melodee Nugent (10)	134,850
	3rd	Gus Robledo (9)	20,200		1st	Jennifer May (3)	36,350
65-69	Overall Male	Robert Turner (2)	70,000	55-59	1st	Ann Jackson (4)	21,700
	1st	Steve Justinger (10)	43,125	60-64	1st	Katy Mering (8)	72,650
70-74	1st	Larry Mueller (2)	41,940		2nd	Ann Berres-Olivotti (10)	55,500
75-79	1st	James Arnold (4)	34,150		3rd	Melinda Mann (9)	35,725
80+	1st	Fred Salzmann (10)	41,050	65-69	1st	Mary Schneider (8)	42,850
* Number in parantheses represent how many years the swimmer has participated in WWW since 2010				70-74	1st	Jeanne Seidler (7)	48,469
					2nd	Candy Christensen (8)	30,750
					3rd	Nancy Kranpitz (10)	18,650
				80+	1st	Lois Goddard (8)	13,500

Awards have yet to be determined but will be awarded at the Wisconsin State Meet that will be held at Schroeder on March 23-24, 2020.

Statistics Course 101

Figure 1 & 2. These are box plot figures showing the total yards by year and by year/gender. The colored bar represents 50% of the population and the line in the box shows the median. The median is the value that divides the upper half from the lower half. For example: 1,2,3,4,5 - the median is 3 because 1,2 are the lower half and 4,5 are the upper half. The lines extending out from the bars include 95% of the population. The o and * are the outliers, those that fall out of this range.

The median (range) number of yards for all 10 years was 35,000 (2,700 – 15,500). The medians are different each year, but are consistent with the lowest median in 2012 (30,000) and the highest median in 2011 (42,100).

Figure 1

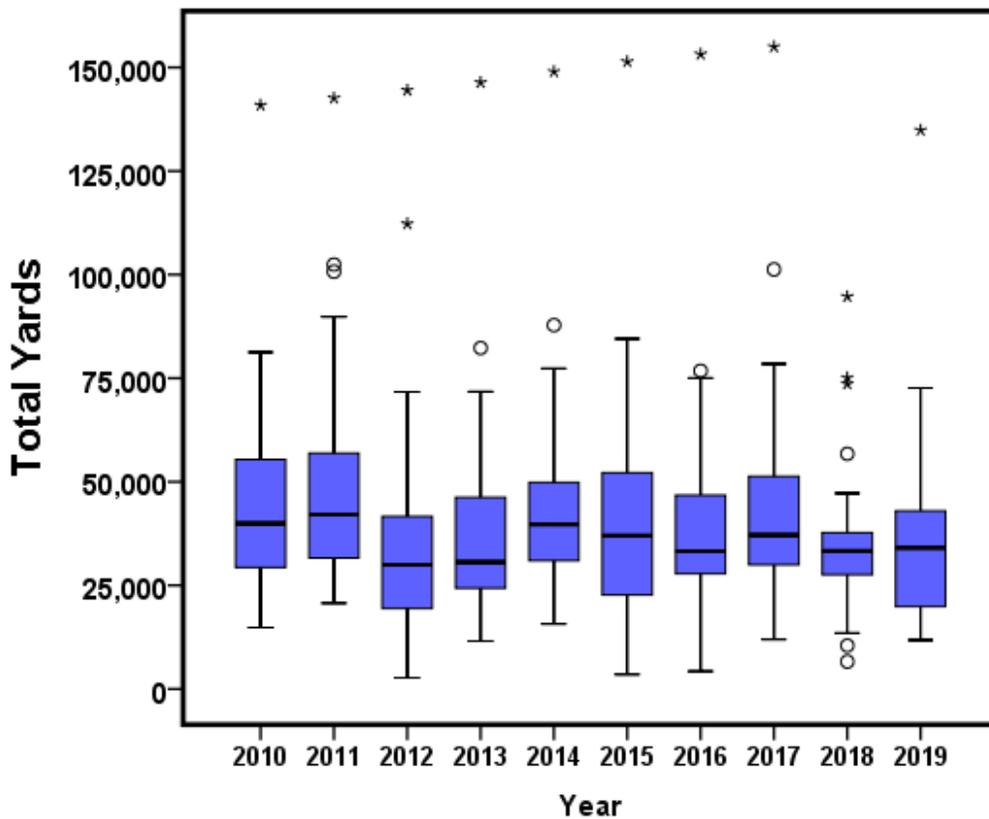
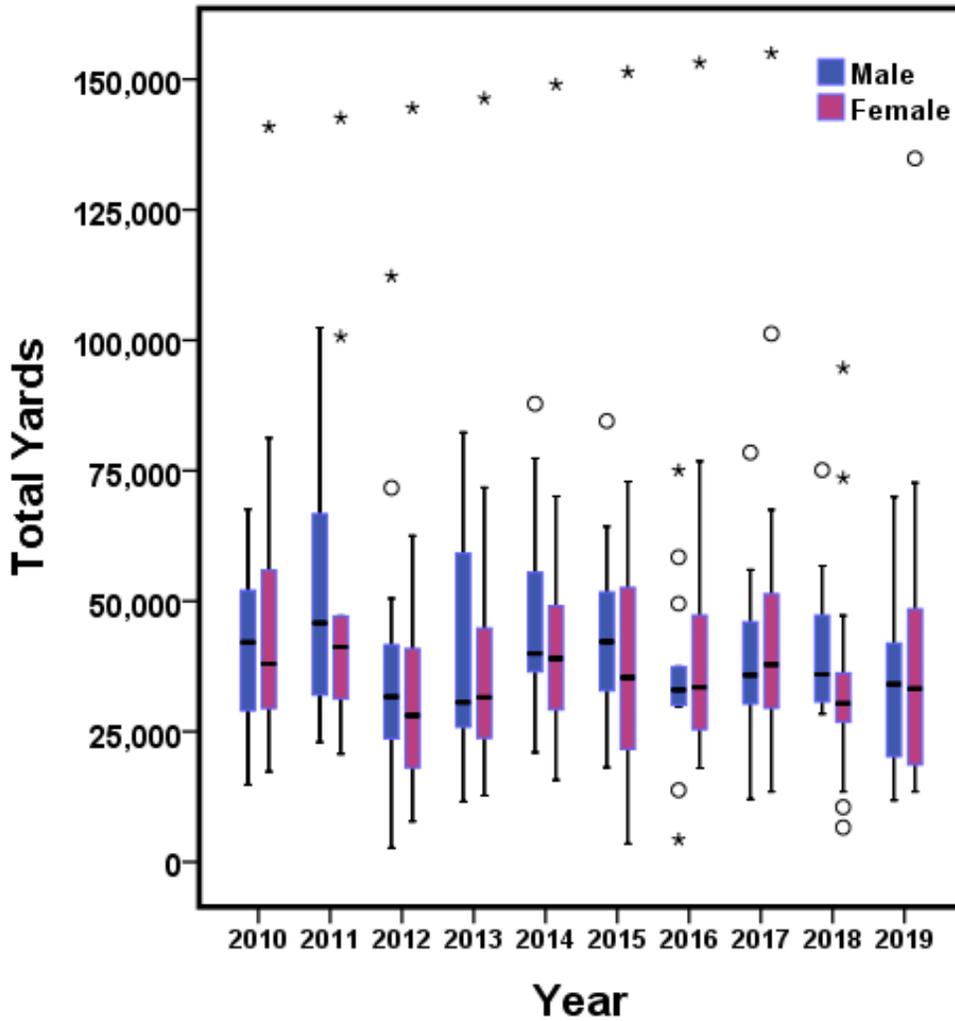


Figure 2. To dig deeper into the data, we can also look at gender too. For 7 of the 10 years, the men had a higher median of 36,900 (2,700-112,265) than women 34,225 (3,500-155,000). Even though that were more women participating in the event since 2010 (62% women versus 38% men). There was no statistical difference for any of the years when comparing total yards of men and women. This means that if you tested this 100 times, 95% of the time there would not be a difference (the remaining 5% of the time would mean they were statically significant).

Figure 2



Finally, another box plot shows the difference between those that participated 1-5 years versus 6-10 years. Here you can see quite a difference, showing the 12 that participated 1-5 years with a median of 23,350 (11,800-70,000) versus the 12 that participated 6+ years with a median of 41,950 (13,500-134,850 yards). There was no statistical difference, but it was almost significant.

