USMS SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS & LIAISON REPORTS CONTROLLER – Cathy Pennington

During the past year I have maintained the books of the Corporation, filed its tax returns, prepared monthly financial statements (and related discussion) for the EC and Finance Committee, prepared quarterly reports of expenses for the various committees and officers, and assisted the independent accountants in their review of our financial statements. We received no adjustments from the independent accountants nor have we received any comments from the IRS. I feel confident in stating that our financial accounting function is in great shape.

FINA REPRESENTATIVE – June Krauser

The Riccione Organization Committee had information to send to all the Federations but by e-mail the majority of the committee members had too many questions that have to be settled before the information will be available. The Riccione OC has sent out information on accommodations.

The FINA Masters Commission held a meeting in Lausanne SUI, on October 5-6, 2002. Many recommendations have been proposed. The commission is composed of the Chairman, the Secretary and the Bureau Liaison. Also attending were the Vice-chairman and Walt Reid.

Our FINA Masters Committee met in Riccione on May 30 & 31 and June 1, 2003. The agenda for the meeting was quite long. It consisted of reviews, preparation of the Xth FINA World Masters Championships, review of the rules, approval of the updates for the Guide, future development of Masters swimming worldwide, official list no. 6, report of Masters World Records and Top Ten and the future direction for the new FINA Aquatic World magazine. Masters are allocated one or two pages every month in the new magazine. It can be obtained for a cost of \$69 USD a year. The June, July and August issues should have the Six World Record Charts.

It is not easy getting to Riccione because Alitalia cancelled its 4 flights a day into Rimini. I flew into Bologna and it was a 2-hour drive to Riccione. At 4:30 AM it only took an hour and 15 minutes. Our hotel was right on the Beach. It is a crowded tourist town with narrow streets. We were taken on a tour the first day to San Marino. The pool was 30 min. from our hotel. It is a very nice 50 m indoor pool. FINA has a contract with the Republic of San Marino for the water polo. We then went further up the mountain to the castle. We had a guided tour of the castle and eventually a wonderful lunch. On the way back we stopped at the facility in Riccione. The outdoor 50 m pool has 10 lanes but no lane line next to the gutters in lanes 1 and 10. There are four ladders, one in each corner. The diving well did not have a 7.5 m platform but did have two 1 m and 3 m boards. Rose Cody thought it would be OK for Synchronized Swimming. We could not quite determine the depth in one place because of a shadow. Inside the building was a narrow 8-lane 25 m pool plus locker rooms etc. There is very little shade around the pool. At the other end of the 50 m pool is an indoor 50 m pool in progress. It is intended to be finished by next March. If so, men will swim in one pool, women in the other and switch each day.

Dinner each night was at 8:30 PM. On the second day we met with members of the Organizing Committee. The gentleman in charge of the swimming is the same one that was in charge of Marshalling in Germany. He speaks very good English. On the third day we had to take up any last changes to the revision of the Guide, plus a number of other items on the agenda. Our newest project is the writing of a FINA Masters Rule Book. We have a small group to tackle this and I was given the section on Water Polo. The President of FINA, Mustapha Larfaoui, suggested that our committee do this. There are many rules that do not pertain to Masters Swimming. We had a Press Conference on the beach, and were taken to a famous fish restaurant for dinner overlooking the beach. I am sure that all that attend will enjoy the city of Riccione.

INTERNATIONAL LIAISON - Jim Miller, MD

The International Liaison's Report is included in the Presidents Report.

IGLA LIAISON – Cris Meier Windes

Purpose and Events since 2002 Convention

- 1. The primary purpose of the USMS Liaison to IGLA is to keep the House of Delegates apprised of events involving USMS-registered Masters Swimmers who represent USMS/IGLA clubs at sanctioned or recognized Masters Swimming events hosted by La Federation Internationale de Natation Amateur (FINA), its National Governing Bodies (NGBs) that have jurisdiction over Masters Swimming, e.g., USMS, Swim Natacion Canada (SNC), AUSSI Masters Swimming, etc., and IGLA & its member clubs. The secondary purpose is to ensure a flow of information between USMS and IGLA for the mutual benefit and furtherance of Masters Swimming in the United States.
- 2. Since the 2002 USMS Convention, IGLA has put on two major competitions.
 - a. The Masters Swimming events for Gay Games VI took place at the Sydney Aquatics Centre (site of the swimming events at the Games of the 24th Olympiad in 2000). Approximately 1,400 Masters swimmers participated in this Long Course (LCM), AUSSI Masters—sanctioned event, of which some 500 were registered with USMS clubs. One World FINA Masters Swimming, three USMS National, and other NGB Masters Swimming Records were established. Problems arose with timely reporting of records and the nature of the reporting season for LCM swims.
 - b. Registration closed on Jul. 22 for the 2003 IGLA Championships (Pacific LMSC Sanction № 38-03-13 (other USAS governing bodies sanctioned their respective disciplines). As of this writing 805 Masters Swimmers, 253 water poloists, 8 divers, and 11 synchronized swimmers registered. IGLA's fourteenth Aquatics Championships since its inception in 1987 appears to be its largest yet, with 1075 total registrations. The event will take place at Stanford University's Avery Aquatics Center in Palo Alto, CA on Aug. 22-24.

3. Future competitions.

- a. The 2004 IGLA Championships will take place October 8, 9 and 10. Located at the Hall of Fame Aquatic Complex, Fort Lauderdale, Florida, USA. Meet hosts are the Nadadores of South Florida (GOLD). Visit www.IGLA2004.com for more information.
- b. Montreal, PQ, Canada will be the site for Gay Games VII in 2006.

INTERNAL AUDITOR - Jeanne Ensign

Last fall I drafted an internal audit plan for the year, with quarterly proposed activities and reports. As the year has progressed it is apparent my goals are very ambitious and that my time resources are not as plentiful as anticipated. It is a two year plan at the very least. In December I spent two days with our National Office Administrator reviewing and documenting processes for collection and recognition of revenue, payroll administration, and payment of budgeted expenses that are initiated by there. Reviewing the registration collection process included a long lunch with Esther and Tracy. My objective in the internal audit context encompasses operational and compliance risks, a little different than the traditional assessment of financial reporting risks. Findings and recommendations

ISHOF LIAISON – June Krauser

Fort Lauderdale, Florida/USA. *The International Swimming Hall of Fame* held the Inaugural Induction of the *International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame* on Saturday, the eleventh of January 2003 with a Welcome Reception and dinner at the ISHOF. The 2003 International Masters Swimming Hall of Fame Honorees included:

*Ransom Arthur	USA	Contributor	*G. Harold "Gus" Langner	USA	Swimmer
Jayne Bruner	USA	Swimmer	Kelley Lemmon	USA	Swimmer
Barbara Dunbar	USA	Swimmer	Maxine Merlino	USA	Swimmer
*Patty Robinson Fulton	USA	Diving	Ardeth Mueller	USA	Swimmer
Tim Garton	USA	Swimmer	Gail Roper	USA	Swimmer

Peg Hogan	USA	Synchro	*Ray Taft	USA	Swimmer
Graham Johnston	USA	Swimmer	Clara Lamore Walker	USA	Swimmer
June Krauser	USA	Swimmer	*Deceased		

There was a welcome reception and then a dinner and ceremony. About 125 people attended and there were seven of the above present. Each received a nice plaque and a unique medal representing the five disciplines was hung around the neck of each recipient. Speeches were kept to a minimum and it was a lovely evening. Many ISHOF Board members attended, as did USMS President, Jim Miller and his wife Nancy. Next year's list of honorees were announced as follows:

Jane Asher	GBR	Swimming	Yoshiko Osaki	JPN	Swimmer
Aldo Da-Rosa	USA	Swimming	Frank Piemme	USA	Swimmer
Mike Garabaldi	USA	Water Polo	Laura Val	USA	Swimmer
Paul Hutinger	USA	Swimmer	Louise Wing	USA	Synchro
Vi Hartman Cady Krahn USA		Diving			

The ISHOF International Congress Meeting was held on May 9th. President Sam Freas gave a summary of our relationships with the City of Fort Lauderdale. He stated that ISHOF might still have the option to go to Pompano Beach. A Cocktail and Welcome Reception was held at 5 PM and an Awards Banquet and Ceremony was at 6 PM. On Saturday, May 10th, the ISHOF Board of Directors held a meeting. The Honoree Welcome Reception and Honoree Induction Ceremony started at 5:30 PM. This was a great evening with Honorees from many different countries.

NATIONAL SPONSOR LIAISON – Mel Goldstein



The USMS National Sponsor Liaison was established to create a working relationship with USMS National Sponsors and USMS National Championship Meet Hosts, and to work with the USMS Marketing Committee to promote USMS and increase the organizations exposure.

This year the USMS National Sponsors monetary contributions to USMS exceeded \$57,000 a 10% increase over last year. Our USMS National Sponsors have provided added value to our USMS membership and have offered support for a variety of USMS programs. In addition to their monetary contributions the sponsors provide approximately \$18,000 in product and services to USMS programs.

Much of my time after last year's convention was spent working on renewing many of our USMS National Sponsors agreement, which expired on December 31, 2002. All of the agreements were renewed with exception of one USMS Logo Licensee.

The traveling USMS tradeshow display continues to be widely used and for the LMSC's using it the benefits have been very rewarding. The display attended various events, such as marathons, triathlons, health fairs, and open water events in Colorado, California, Indiana, Washington, New Mexico, and Virginia just to mention a few. The best part about the LMSC's efforts to promote USMS, there is no cost involved as USMS pays all shipping.

Promoting USMS has been one of the primary functions of the USMS National Sponsor Liaison. As a representative of USMS I attended the National Parks and Recreation Association National Aquatic Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, where we had very favorable responses. I also attended the National Senior Games in Newport News, Virginia, many of the participants are registered USMS swimmers; the presence of the USMS display and a representative validated their efforts and the competition. To those not registered with USMS, this type of competition is new to them and they seek information on USMS programs. I will be attending the American Swim Coaches Association (ASCA) World Clinic in San Diego, which this year should be an outstanding event with featured speakers such as David Marsh, David Salo, Jim Montgomery, and Jonty Skinner all participating on the USMS Masters Speakers Track.

In our effort to provide greater value to our membership I have been working the USMS Communication Committee developing a program whereby our sponsors through our website will offer discounted swim products to our membership only, you should see the results and garner the benefits of this program shortly.

One of the future projects of the USMS International Committee and the USMS Executive Committee is to host the 2006 FINA World Championships in the United States. This event is a very prestigious event that attracts a large number of participants. However, there are only a few facilities capable of hosting this event. At the request of the International and Executive Committees, and after many telephone calls and emails it was determined a face to face meeting be set up with probably the only site in the US that could host this event, the Avery Aquatic Complex on the Stanford University campus. In July I met with the Stanford University Assistant Athletic Director Earl Koberlien and the university Business Manager, Jamie Zaninovich to try and convince them that hosting an event of this nature at their facility would be important to the university as well as the community. While much work must be done over the next few months prior to submitting our bid, I am pleased to say at the writing of this report that Stanford University has consented in principal to hosting the 2006 FINA World Championships at the Avery Aquatic

SWIM MAGAZINE EDITOR - Bill Volckening

This year has been a productive year for the USMS Editor of SWIM Magazine. In 2003, I updated my home office equipment at my own expense, and made the transition from PC to Macintosh equipment. I have continued to work with SWIM Magazine to establish deadlines for submission of materials. I have distributed deadlines, worked with SWIM Magazine and represented the interests of USMS during the process of determining the final run sheet for each issue of the magazine. I have reviewied the balance of editorial content, proposed new ideas, shared feedback from USMS and its members with the Editors and Publishers of SWIM Magazine; appointed proofreaders, and communicated with them when planning the annual calendar and reviewing materials. I have also preparing news and information about USMS and its swimmers for the swiminfo.com web site, reviewed unsolicited story ideas, and communicated with the individuals generating these ideas.

Following the USMS Short Course Nationals, I had a productive meeting with Brent Rutemiller, Dick Deal, and Phil Whitten of Sports Publications, and Nancy Ridout and Jim Miller of USMS. During this meeting, we discussed goals, expectations, improvements made since the Executive Committee meeting earlier in the year, and areas for improvement. During the meeting, we all agreed that since we have spent many years fostering the relationship between USMS and SWIM Magazine, we would like to see this relationship continue to grow. As a result of this meeting, timelines have been more clearly defined, a new procedure for approving cover photography was established, and we have planned to upgrade and coordinate software between USMS and SWIM, Minutes for this meeting are available on the USMS web site.

In conjunction with Jim Matysek, we have set up a private forum on the USMS web site for reviewing and proofing articles that have been submitted for SWIM Magazine. Since this system is new, we are still getting used to it. There have been some mixed reactions to this method of proffing materials, but we see potential for more progress in the future.

This year I traveled to each USMS National Championship, both pool and long distance. Though the pool championships are work related, the long distance championships are something I decided to do on my own, at my own expense, because I felt it would enhance my ability to report on USMS Long Distance events. It has been very rewarding to participate in these events.

NOTE: A second meeting with SWIM Magazine has been scheduled for the Convention. The meeting will include Jim Miller, Nancy Ridout, Dick Deal, Brent Rutemiller, Phil Whitten and myself.

USAS REPRESENTATIVE – Jim Miller, MD

The United States Aquatic Sports Representative's Report is included in the Presidents Report.

USMS SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS & LIAISON REPORTS USMS LIAISON TO USA SWIMMING – Ted Haartz

Since my mid-year report of April 14, 2003 I attended the regularly scheduled USA Swimming Board of Directors meeting in Colorado Springs May 2/3, 2003. Two National Board of Review cases were appealed to the Board of Directors and consumed Friday afternoon. Friday evening was filled with numerous and sundry reports. I reported that USMS had received 1911 entries for the Short Course Nationals in Tempe. That was greeted with a stunned silence followed by some "wows". Swimming runs some big meets but not of this size.

Saturday was a continuation of reports by the officers and staff. Lunch was followed by a 2 hour presentation on the current status of doping, worldwide and in the US. This was followed by a heated discussion of a RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE proposal which is aimed primarily at various state high school rules determining when and for whom athletes can train and compete during the high school seasons for the various federation sports. This item was finally withdrawn to allow a task force to study the issue further. A special telephonic USA Swimming Board of Directors meeting has been called for June 23, 2003 to debate and vote on this RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE resolution offered by the task force.

The next scheduled Board meeting will be in San Diego on September 9, 2003.

US OLYMPIC COMMITTEE LIAISON – Hill Carrow

In my mid year report, I covered the excellent USMS Training Camp in Colorado Springs in February and the (ever-constant) major changes at the US Olympic Committee.

In recent weeks a special Review Committee formed by the US Congress issued its report on necessary changes to the US Olympic Committee (USOC) and the Amateur Sports Act, which established the authority of the USOC and Olympic sport governing bodies in the U.S.

The report was very close in its findings and recommendations to that of the USOC's own Task Force which was assigned to recommend how best to reconfigure USOC governance and management, in light of seemingly constant high-level management infighting and turnover in recent years. Both reports suggest creating a significantly smaller Board of Directors (down from over 100 to 9 or 11) with a strong CEO position.

Currently these recommendations are not in synch with International Olympic Committee rules regarding recognition of National Olympic Committees, so there is still work to be done. However, Congressional leaders are pushing to enact the recommendations, including changes to the Amateur sports Act as soon as possible (i.e. by August/September), so the changes, including new management can be in place prior to the Athens Games. the USOC's Task Force, on the other hand, has recommended a more studied approach that would not see such drastic changes until after the Athens Olympics.

USOTC CAMP LIAISON – Nancy Ridout

The 2003 USMS/USA Swimming High Altitude Training Camp was held February 1-5 at the Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs. It was one of the best camps yet! Twelve swimmers from across the United States and five staff spent five days being tested, learning from experts, and practicing new skills under the capable and experienced eyes of coaches Mike Collins, Kris Houchens, Scott Williams and ROM specialist and MPT Steve Thompson. The involvement of USA Swimming was outstanding and liaison John Walker suggested new ideas and procedures that worked out very well. Our athlete rep was Cristina Teuscher who spent 2 days talking with our athletes and participating in the scheduled program for the day. Our sponsor, The Victor, is to be commended for their continuing support to this valuable asset to our program and their assistance is greatly appreciated.

The participants in the 2003 camp have done an exceptional job of sharing their new skills and knowledge by holding clinics, writing articles for local newsletters, and providing information to their coaches and teams.

The 2004 camp is scheduled to take place Saturday, January 31st through Wednesday, February 4th. Brochures were available to participants in both the Short Course and Long Course National Championships as a part of their goody bags. Interested swimmers are also able to download forms from the USMS website where it can be found under Coaching.

US SENIOR GAMES LIAISON – Scott Rabalais

The National Senior Games swimming competition was held in Newport News, Virginia, on June 2-7. The total number of swimmers in the meet was 775, with 300 in the 50-64 age groups and 475 in the 65 and over age groups. Eleven USMS records were broken.

USMS played a key role in ensuring the meet was run according to USMS championship standards. Charles Cockrell did an outstanding job ensuring that the officiating was in place and informed. He also served as a USMS observer for the recognized meet.

David Diehl officiated and swam in the meet, while Mel Goldstein and Betsy Durrant worked the USMS booth. The Coast Guard Blue Dolphins reportedly did a fantastic job of running the meet, with special recognition given to Meet Director Mike Downs, Meet Referee Mike Willard and Kevin Spence.

In the post-meet evaluation, several areas were mentioned in terms of improvement or revision for subsequent Games, such as accuracy and completeness of entry data, order of events posting, session lengths, communication with the NSG office, and designation of meet for national training for officials.

In addition to fielding inquiries from USMS members and the local Virginia committee, I worked with the NSG throughout the year regarding a variety of issues for state, regional and national competition.

With convention, my tenure as your NSG liaison is concluding. It has been a rewarding experience assisting both USMS swimmers and the National Senior Games in our quest to provide quality competitive opportunities for adult swimmers. My hope is that our work will continue with the NSG, as USMS and the NSG have a lot in common.

USA TRIATHLON LIAISON – Cindy Hawkinson

Now in its second year, the cooperation with USA-Triathlon is moving successfully forward. Often times, not in the direction I expected, and often times not as fast as I would like. This year, my contact at USAT was promoted within the organization and thus, I have had to establish a new relationship with her replacement. This has taken time but things are back on track now. I have met with USAT on a quarterly basis. The discussion during these meetings is quite varied. Topics have been varied and included such items as event coordination, insurance changes and costs, benefits of masters swimming to the triathlete, motivating volunteers to action, swimming techniques for open water versus pool swimming. This year I had budgeted for a trip to the USAT Training Center in Clermont, Florida. Because of scheduling conflicts, Jim Miller and I, so far, have not been able to accomplish this. We still have an opportunity in 4th quarter of this year and I would like to see that happen. USAT executives have offered to allow us to audit any course being offered. I have also attempted to motivate local LMSC in the four corners of the nation to utilize the USMS marketing booth. By the time this report is read, I will have placed it at the race expo at the Boulder Peak Triathlon. This race is the USAT Club Championship race and is listed in Triathlete magazine as one of North America's best triathlons. However, no other LMSCs in the other regions have taken me up on my request. I will be happy to travel to other races to promote USMS but, my budget does not allow for this. I would encourage local LMSC to participate in this simple task of managing a booth at a triathlon; it is great exposure and very simple to do.

I still need articles for the USAT Newsletter. They have generously offered to print anything we will submit. This is a great way for those of us knowledgeable in the different aspects of swimming to share with the triathletes. Please submit any articles to me and I'll be sure to pass them along to USAT.

Among the items that have moved more slowly than originally expected are studying and possibly integrating the coaching certifications of USAT with USMS, assisting in USAT swim camps and clinics, and studying dual registration in both organizations. I haven't forgotten these, it has just taken more time than I thought.

Locally, I have been quite involved in promoting USMS to the triathlete community as a result of my position as President of our local LMSC and also managing the open water swim at our local reservoir, Chatfield, which is a favorite training ground for the triathletes in the Denver Metro Area. I would encourage everyone to seek out a place like Chatfield in your own regions. It is a great place to offer swimming encouragement.

Discussions and projects that have taken place since the last convention:

- 1. USMS Booth was placed at the expo at the Boulder Peak Triathlon on August 9th. Members of the Colorado LMSC manned the booth while many masters swimmers competed in the triathlon.
- 2. Quarterly meetings with USA-T representative discussing a variety of common interests and shared ideas on the common needs each organization.
- 3. On a bi-monthly basis, communicated via email with a list of interested USMS coaches, swimmers, USAT representatives, and triathletes on issues concerning the triathlete and swimming community.
- 4. Guest speaker at the Rocky Mountain Triathlon club on June 9. Requested topics were the benefits of joining a masters swim team to the triathlete, how to swim in open water, and what is a masters swim practice like. As a result, approximately 20 new members to COMSA/USMS.

As there is no formal committee for this position, I would welcome anyone interested in assisting with promoting the cooperation between USMS and USAT to contact me. Any topic is of interest to me. Here are some ideas: coaching triathletes, getting involved in the triathlete community, publicizing swimming events to triathletes. There are a myriad of others. Look me up and let's talk.

USMS WEBMASTER/IT DIRECTOR - Jim Matysek

There has been a constant supply of projects available this year to increase or enhance member services through the USMS web site. Many of these projects are interconnected through their use of the USMS database, with the database task force work well underway towards integrating all USMS core data in a common database. Individual projects are scheduled with their impact and dependence on other database projects in mind.

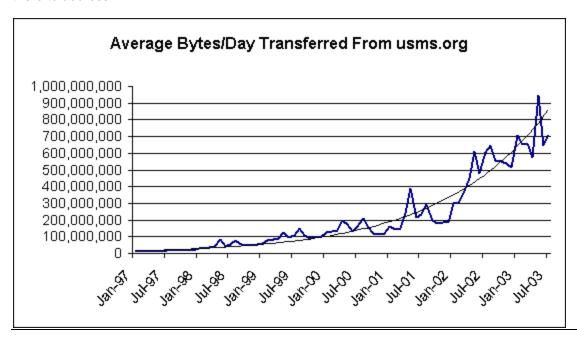
Work has begun on the conversion of our History & Archives data to the USMS database through the RFP that was issued this year. The archived data is extensive, with top ten, All American, and all star listings forming the core of this data. The conversion of all of this data will be complete prior to convention, and new ways of using the data are being investigated to enhance our services in this area.

A key enabler to the History & Archives conversion is our new use of the USMS permanent swimmer ID. Tighter integration of the USMS registration database has been implemented this year, allowing us to easily reference the registration data from more applications. A key part of converting the H&A data has been to convert the permanent swimmer IDs used in the current data to the new USMS permanent swimmer IDs. Since the USMS permanent ID is a part of our annual registration number, identifying swimmers in all future competitive data will be easier as long as the swimmer's registration number is captured.

Plans and preliminary work are also underway to enable on line member registration, widespread use of the on line event entry system for local and regional meets, and on line event sanctioning and automated listing in the USMS calendar of events. These features will provide an exciting new array of features for our swimmers, LMSCs, and clubs. There are still many details to work out for these features, and they will be the main focus of activity following the History & Archives conversion and long course nationals.

In addition to web site and database development activities, I am continuing to manage the USMS web server and all associated software and our web hosting service. Our current server is up to the task of handling these services for the coming year. We are currently hosting 31 live sites plus 6 that are in various stages of setup and testing. Free web hosting is available on our server for any zone, LMSC, or registered club.

Below is a chart showing the average daily bandwidth served from our web server for the USMS site only. As you can see, the demand for our web site is continually increasing over the years with spikes occurring each year in May and August, corresponding to our national championships. The USMS web site is also averaging about 75,000 hits per day. With this volume, there are always lots of questions and little problems here and there to address.



YMCA LIAISON – Stu Marvin

The YMCA Masters program is alive and well and it is one of the best-kept secrets in masters swimming. If you have ever been to a YMCA National Masters Meet you will know what I mean. They know how to swim fast and have on heck of a good time.

This year's YMCA Masters National Swimming Meet took place at the Selby Aquatic Center in Sarasota, FL, April 24-27, 2003. This was the second time in three years that the Sarasota YMCA has hosted the event and they did another fine job. There were 451 athletes entered from 79 teams, with the largest hailing from Anne Arundel, MD. Several teams made the trek across country to participate, including the team from Palisades/Malibu and one from Toronto, Canada. There were over 80 National YMCA records established, 9 of which were USMS records. Complete results can be found www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org

The YMCA Competitive Swimming & Diving Advisory Committee announced the dates and location of the 2004 YMCA National Masters Meet at their meeting in Fort Lauderdale. The dates are April 15-18, 2004 at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex along beautiful Fort Lauderdale Beach. The City of Fort Lauderdale is set to provide all participants with another quality run event. Meet information is being assembled and will be available at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/hofac/calendar or at www.ci.fort-lauderdale.fl.us/hofac/calendar or at www.ymcaswimminganddiving.org