



M.S.I. NEWS

The official Newsletter of
MASTERS SWIMMING - INTERNATIONAL

4th PAN PACIFIC MASTERS SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIPS – SPECIAL EDITION by Glenys McDonald

NUMBER 7

JULY 1991

Sayonara Tokyo

The 4th Pan Pacific Masters Swimming Championships of M.S.I. were held in the month of July, 1991. I was fortunate to make my second trip to Tokyo and to be a part of a truly wonderful swim meet. As well as entering the Meet, my commitments included attending the Special Congress of Masters Swimming International in my role as MSI Publicity/Promotions Officer.

On arrival at Narita airport it did not take long to get through immigration and customs and be on my way in the airport shuttle for the two hour trip to down town Tokyo. Everyone has heard about the Tokyo traffic, but for me coming from a little Australian fishing village with 40 residents, the hub and throb of the freeway traffic was especially awe inspiring. Trucks, buses and cars, all whizzed past, giving glimpses of white gloved drivers talking on telephones or two ways – weather warm and overcast.

Soon after settling into my hotel I met with Mr Kusuo Kitamura, Chairman of the Japan Organising Committee, and learnt from him that entries for the Meet were 3,429 swimmers from 13 countries. These included 3,268 swimmers from Japan and 161 foreign swimmers from the USA; Canada, Brazil; Australia; Taiwan; Netherlands; Hong Kong; Bangladesh; Mexico; Argentina; Vietnam and Russia. The recent Gulf War whilst swimmers were considering their entries and the current economic climate, accounted for the relatively small number of foreign entries. This was disappointing, but it did not mar the success of a magnificent Pan Pacifics.

Mr Kitamura also asked me if I would agree to act as Secretary for the MSI Congress. Council and Championship Committee meetings which I accepted. I must take this opportunity to register my thanks to the meet organising committee who made meeting rooms, refreshments, typewriter, photocopier and photographic assistance available throughout the week.

Now to the Swim Meet

What an incredible event. Jointly hosted by Japan Masters Swimming and Japan Amateur Swimming, the officials and organisers were a well rehearsed team of professionals. Colour coded T-shirts made it easy to identify the different roles. Pink for referees; yellow for interpreters; white for timekeepers etc.

MSI officers were given "official" status which facilitated our movement around the different areas of the pool.

The souvenirs sold out quickly within the first two days, especially a T-shirt with the mis-spelt "championsips". After observing several swimmers at Japanese beer halls over the week perhaps "championsips" could be classed as an accurate description of their behaviour. The venue itself is still "state of the art" despite being nearly 30 years old.

Identification of various areas of importance were well marked in English and Japanese. Information; medal collection; marshalling; medical; results – were all easily identified. The hub of computers; electronics; photocopiers were near poolside and easily accessible to the organisers.

The meet ran smoothly. A special dispensation was given to allow a **No false start rule** which had been advertised prior to the adoption of the FINA Masters rules in Perth in January 1991. In my personal opinion the no false start rule worked well and there were none of the usual holdups to the running of the meet. There were a few disqualifications of course for flying starts, but swimmers on the whole worked well under this scheme, and it should still be a consideration for large Masters meets.

Disqualifications

In all, there were 77 disqualifications. Interestingly enough the majority – 26, were in the freestyle events. I do not have access to the referees report, but the majority would be for "flying starts" which would have held up the meet considerably under the current "one false start rule". Four of these were in the 800m freestyle event where swimmers swam two per lane and the swimmer who did not read his programme or listen to the careful marshalling instructions, and infringed on the other swimmers space, was disqualified.

In other events there were the following disqualifications – Breaststroke 18; Butterfly 12; Medley 10; Backstroke 4 and Relays 7.

Medical Cover

The medical cover for the event was of a high class and a demonstration in pool rescue techniques was given during the meet. Of special interest was the Aqua Carry stretcher used in

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THE CHOICE OF CHAMPIONS

the demonstration which was swum out to the swimmer and sunk under him, then floated over the lane ropes to the pool side where resuscitation could be continued. The need for this type of preparedness was highlighted a short time later when a real medical emergency occurred. However, I am happy to report that all medical attention during the Meet had a positive outcome.

Range of Competition

The age of the competitors ranged from 25 years of age to the oldest competitor, 92 year old Kohzu Kyoziro, who swam in the 50m Breaststroke and 50m Backstroke events. It was wonderful to see this intermingling with old and young swimmers, ex-olympians and swimmers of a much slower class. The Welcome Function saw old friendships and rivalries renewed in a true spirit of fitness, fun and friendship. The 80-84 year age group for men was heavily contested with eleven men in that age category. Many olympians from days past attended the meet, and my apologies to those I miss. Mr Kitamura himself, who at the tender age of 14 won the 1500m freestyle gold at the 1932 Olympics introduced many swimmers to me, these included: Michiko Kihara, Tokyo 1964, Michiko is now a television actress in Tokyo and the General Manager of the Mimi Swim School. Yoshiko Osaki, who as Yoshiko Sato, represented Japan in Rome 1960 and Tokyo 1964, continued her winning performances by collecting three World Records in the 50-54 age group. Other ex olympians included Glen Christiansen, Moscow 1980; Rowdy Gaines, Los Angeles 1984; and Ann Christiansen, also LA 1984. Later I met diving and water polo olympic representatives, so it was great to welcome them back to the sport they so loved and excelled in.

There were so many special performances at the 4th Pan Pacifics, but we have to remember too the happiness on the face of every swimmer, whether medalist or not, who looked up at the clock and realised that they had swum a "personal best" time.

World Records

Japan presented a unique symbol of Japanese celebration and joy to every swimmer who broke a World Record at the Meet. A Sakazuki dish for happy occasion sake drinking was mounted on a stand and obviously was a fitting remembrance for every joyous performance.

400m	F/S	W	80+	WADE UME	8.23.50
400m	F/S	W	50+	OSAKI YOSHIKO	5.31.04
400m	F/S	W	75+	LENK MARIA	8.04.16
400m	F/S	W	70+	SUZUKI DOMEI	5.57.45
200m	FLY	M	65+	KURTZMAN JOSEPH	3.08.79
50m	BRST	W	65+	MITA TSUNEKO	48.07
50m	BRST	M	55+	KOTEGAWA HIROSHI	33.58
50m	BRST	M	65+	KURTZMAN JOSEPH	38.28
100m	BRST	M	85+	YOSHIDA SYOHEI	2.18.92
100m	BRST	M	65+	KURTZMAN JOSEPH	1.30.19
50m	F/S	W	80+	WADE UME	44.25
50m	F/S	W	75+	SUGAYA HATSUHO	40.85
50m	F/S	M	60+	YAMAMOTO SHINGO	28.13
200m	IM	W	50+	OSAKI YOSHIKO	3.00.12

100m	F/S	M	30+	ROWDY GAINES	51.50
50m	FLY	M	85+	YOSHIDA SYOHEI	59.50
50m	BK	W	80+	WADE UME	53.73
200m	BRST	M	85+	YOSHIDA SYOHEI	5.09.86
100m	FLY	M	65+	KURTZMAN JOSEPH	1.21.49
800m	F/S	W	80+	WADE UME	17.21.19
800m	F/S	W	75+	LENK MARIA	16.33.41
800m	F/S	W	50+	OSAKI YOSHIKO	11.32.21
800m	F/S	W	70+	SUZUKI DOMEI	12.24.35

The outstanding performances of the Meet can easily be identified by this list.

80-84 age group Women, Wade Ume, Japan, four World Records.

65-69 age group Men, Kurtzman Joseph, USA, four World Records.

50-54 age group Women, Osaki Yoshiko, Japan, three World Records.

85-89 age group Men, Yoshida Syohei, Japan, three World Records.

In spite of having just completed his 400m F/S in World Record time, Yoshida Syohei had plenty of energy to fix the bones and knuckles in my hand when I congratulated him, and then worked on a pressure point or two.

The spectators clapped and cheered each special performance, whether it was the older swimmers finishing their events, or Rowdy Gaines bringing them to their feet with his 100m F/S world record time of 51.5. It is interesting to note that Rowdy's winning time seven years ago at the Los Angeles Olympics of 1984 in the same event was 49.8. Not much of a deterioration for an old 32 year old. Rowdy now swims and works at the Mainichi Sports Oahu Club, Honolulu. He became interested in Masters and began training for Brisbane in 1988, but his times were so good that he turned his attention to the Olympic selection trials, and only missed these by a whisker. Now Rowdy is a tried and true Master swimmer.

Of special importance in Masters is the relays, and no relay gained more interest than that of the Meet Director - Yoshi Osaki, his wife and daughter and business partner, who earned gold in the Mixed Medley Relay 160+ in a great time of 2.08.84.

The love story of the meet must go to Ann and Glen Christiansen who are both Swedish ex-olympians who now work in Japan. They came here about five years ago, and stayed because they loved it, and loved each other. Both work at the Mainichi Sports Club and feature in books, videos and on television promoting swim techniques for Masters.

Their swimming continues to bring them together in fun, fitness and friendly rivalry as each took off four gold medals in each of their four events. Ann at 25 and a model, is certainly the opposite of the "wrinkly" image of a Masters swimmer. Her times were: 400 F/S 4.40.06; 100 F/S 1.01.25; 200 F/S 2.13.62; 800 F/S 9.38.36.

soothe swimmers eyes
PREFRIN DROPS

Glen, not to be outdone registered: 50 BRST 30.36; 100 BRST 1.07.74; 200 BRST 2.31.65; 800 F/S 9.35.87.

I believe Glen's goal for the 800 F/S was simply to win and to beat his wife's time, which he just managed to do. That's a good Masters partnership.

Diving

Twenty-three female and twenty-three male divers from Japan and the USA were entered for the 1m and 3m events at the 4th Pan Pacific.

Masami Yano organised the programme which ran smoothly. The atmosphere was relaxed, which is not to say there were not some disappointing performances or some very good ones. Whilst I watched one dive, the judges score registered 10,10,10,9 and 9.

Gold medalists 1m springboard

WOMEN

75-79	NISHIZAWA REIKO	187.20
70-74	HANAWA KUMIKO	144.10
60-64	YAMAMOTO TERUKO	216.00
55-59	KAWAHARA EIKO	233.50
50-54	MANABE MICHIKO	270.60
45-59	NISHIMURA NAOMI	270.35
40-44	SEKI FUJIKO	287.15
30-34	TANAKA MAYUMI	295.05

MEN

75-79	STAUFFER FLOYD	279.10
60-64	YAMANAKA YOSHIO	207.45
55-59	AKIYOSHI FUMIO	213.65
50-54	FOX FREDERICK	373.65
45-49	ARIMITSU YOUSUKE	460.75
40-44	MARUYAMA KENICHI	288.60
35-39	NAKATA HIDEO	284.45
25-29	YU KINKEI	624.30

3m springboard

WOMEN

60-64	IMAGAWA REIKO	187.05
50-54	MARUYAMA JUNKO	214.05
45-49	KUBOTA SETSUKO	302.85
40-44	SEKI FUJIKO	271.05
35-39	KOTANI RIKIKO	501.50

MEN

75-79	STAUFFER FLOYD	268.50
60-64	TAKEUCHI HIROSHI	183.40
55-59	SHIMOJI HIDEO	252.80
50-54	FOX FREDERICK	412.05
45-49	ARIMITSU YOUSUKE	486.35
40-44	MARUYAMA KENICHI	316.05
35-59	TACHIKAWA TOSH-IYUKI	213.10
25-29	YU KINKEI	675.65

Outstanding performances were given by Kotani Rikiko in the women's 3m springboard, and Yu Kinkei in both of his events.

Social Events

A Welcome Party was held in Restaurant 505 on the 11 July to enable swimmers to renew acquaintances and make new friends, (and also to see who had turned up to the Meet in their age group). A couple of nights later the same restaurant was host to a wonderful New Zealand night, where New Zealand wines and cheeses were sampled by all the swimmers as they watched the video presentation on what we can expect when we visit New Zealand in 1993. Hamilton will be the host town, so start planning for April 1993 now.

However, the event of them all was the Sayonara Party at the

Keio Plaza Hotel. Despite the 10,000 yen ticket cost, numbers were wonderful and the venue and food just superb, and value for money. Several Japanese Masters swim clubs provided hilarious entertainment, we linked arms and danced the evening away, and swimmers from the Soviet Union, Bangladesh, Vietnam, Chinese Taipei and others joined us all in singing the Japanese finale.

Speeches were short and both the MSI President, Gary Stutsel, and John West from New Zealand attempted a few Japanese words in their speech, even if Gary only listed the train stations. Dan Gruender USA set a date to renew friendships at the FINA/MSI World Masters Championships in Indianapolis in 1992. A wonderful meet, a wonderful host, sayonara until next time.

Masters Water Polo comes of age

The Water Polo and Long Distance Swimming events of the 4th Pan Pacific Masters Championships were held in Guam, July 18-21. For me it was my first introduction to Masters Water Polo and an experience I'll never forget. Like Tokyo, the numbers of teams competing were disappointing, but what they lacked in numbers they made up for which class, enthusiasm, sportsmanship, competitiveness and camaraderie.

Four teams contested over four days for the overall Championship Team, and then the Pan Pacific Masters Age Group Medals games were held. Guam fielded a strong 30+ and 40+ team; a 40+ team travelled over from Japan; and the competition was supplemented by an enthusiastic Guam open pre-masters team.

Two Australians, Ron Finkleton and John Wilson, together with Patrick Hayes from USA were the referees the boys loved to hate. For me it was a "coming of age" for Masters Water Polo. A vision of how great it could become if the numbers of teams grow larger. But nowhere in the world could there have been more atmosphere, and more enthusiasm as spectators cheered the blue and white caps charging about yelling direction and encouragement, and the occasional expletive at each other. Where at Mama's Mimi's Bar post game discussions were held over a local beer and where new strategies were devised for the next game. I kept the scorebook for the championship, so I felt a real part of each game and there was little to separate the masters teams.

The top Championship Team went to the Guam 30+ boys who held steadfast to a winning streak throughout their five games of the tournament. However, the Japan 40+ team did not let the boys have it easy. In the early match the 30+ team was trailing narrowly behind Japan when two minutes into the 4th period they managed to tie the score and went on to win comfortably 15 goals to 12. The next day the results were even tighter with the Guam 30+ trailing 6 goals to 8 goals at the 3rd quarter, to win to the cheers of local club spectators with a final score of 10 goals to 9.

Best players for the 30+ Guam club were Joe Bourland; Peter Lin; Don Sayre and Dennis McGee.

However, it was the tussle of the "old boys" the 40+ Guam and Japan teams for the gold and silver Pan Pacific Championship medals which drew most excitement amongst the spectators. Locals, many long distance swimmers, and of course a strong Japanese contingent came to see this final match. The 40+ Guam boys finally ran out of legs as the Japanese team, ably coached by Y Shimizu made it past the winning post with a

score of 11 goals to 8.

Best players for Japan were hard to identify as the team played exceptionally well. However, Minegishi; Shimizu and Kuwabara led the field. those who helped the tournament "under dogs" the Guam 40+ team to show such class were goalie Al Doesburg; Geoff Burke; Ron Finkleton; Fred Black and 60 year old John Wilson.

Tournament Director Geoff Burke, as well as being a member of the 40+ team, managed to secure for Guam a state of the art water polo timing and recording system, a System 4000 Sports Timer from Colorado Time Systems, which was the envy of all countries present. Geoff also commented that the pre-masters Guam team had learnt a lot from the experience of this event and will undoubtedly be a force in Masters in the future.

Geoff's right hand lady Evelyn, and Guam Masters Swimming President, Steve Brasington, who organised the long distance swim, had wonderful support from the 21st Guam Legislature and their sponsors. They were able to put on magnificent Welcome and Awards Banquet Dinners at the Pacific Star Hotel, free to all participants. Evelyn organised, by a stroke of magic, that the awards presentation conclude with a magnificent fireworks display on the waters edge of the hotel. Actually the fireworks display was part of Guam's Liberation Day celebrations, but we could not help feeling that it was all provided just for us - truly, a Pan Pacific to remember.

The Cocos Crossing

Early on the morning of July 20 we travelled along the coast passed rolling green hills and beautiful bays, to Merizo at the bottom tip of Guam for the 3.4km "Cocos Crossing".

I have attending and run a number of long distance events, but never in a setting such as this, and NEVER in water of such an ideal temperature. The swim course was to the left, past the ferry jetty and after rounding the green buoys, direct to the Cocos Island. The water was crystal clear, but became a little choppy by the end of the event. Again numbers of participants were disappointing, for if the World had really known about this picturesque swim, the World would have been there. Nine pre-masters set off at 7.30am followed by the 40 strong Masters contingent at 8.00am. Swimmers hailed from Guam, Brazil, USA, Australia, Japan and Canada.

The swimmers congregated somewhat nervously on the banks, plotting the course through borrowed binoculars, or asking each other which side of the buoys they had to go. Last minute broken goggles were fixed, and last minute nerves evaporated as the starters gun fired at exactly 8.00am.

The oldest male swimmer was 72 year old Masara Matsutani from Japan, who won his age group and came in 35th overall. The oldest lady was Maria Lenk, 76 from Brazil, who, after securing two world records at the swim in Tokyo, won her age group in the Cocos Crossing and came in an incredible 26th overall. The first and fastest swimmer was Pepe Laflamme USA who at 27 hails from Hawaii and swam the event in an incredible 48.03 min. Pepe prefers events of 5 miles and upwards. But perhaps the happiest swimmer of the event was 69 year old Marion Chadwick of the USA, who won gold, but also the hearts of the Navy guys in the support vessels, by asking if they were enjoying themselves as much as she was, as she swam along beside them. Marion trained for the event in the US by doing 5 laps of the 3 mile Mercer Island.

There were no mishaps during the event, although two swimmers decided to opt out and did not complete the race. Several police and navy boats, police jet skis, and an ambulance on shore were all set up to ensure the safety of the swimmers.

The only contentious issue was the lack of a clearly defined "finish" area and many swimmers lost time coming back to the finish mark on Cocos Island. This could easily be rectified and with a little more assistance to the timing and recording team, the Cocos Crossing swim could cater for many hundreds of participants in the future. Indeed, Japan Masters are asking for an annual invitation, and I suggest that any swimmer in the world who happens to hear about Guam's Cocos Crossing should grab their swim suit and goggles and ensure they do not miss this incredible event.

Cocos Island is at present closed to the public and it is undergoing a huge clean up following a devastating typhoon at the beginning of the year. So we had the Island to ourselves with esky's full of fresh fruit and drinks. The ferry arrived at 11.30am to pick us up after the awards presentation.

Cocos Crossing - Overall Placing's

1	Pepe Laflamme (USA)	M 27	48.03
2	John Bailey (USA)	M 35	51.52
3	Kevin Kelly (USA)	M 48	55.27
4	Duncan Barlow (USA)	M 35	57.35
5	Steve Brasington (USA)	M 33	58.49
6	Geoffrey Llewellyn (AUS)	M 57	1.05.02
7	Patricia Bayers (USA)	F 36	1.05.44
8	Lewis Bayers (USA)	M 40	1.05.58
9	Libby Hassal (AUS)	F 47	1.06.31
10	Shawn Holstram (USA)	F 25	1.08.43
11	Ann Bailey (USA)	F 35	1.09.11
12	Biddy Hall (AUS)	F 52	1.09.52
13	Hironari Ueda (JAP)	M 70	1.10.12
14	Shigeru Imai (JAP)	M 27	1.10.27

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15	Scott Lee (USA)	M 26	1.10.45
16	Tamara Grigsby (USA)	F 30	1.12.07
17	Yutaka Shinozaki (JAP)	M 41	1.13.17
18	Nancy Hawkins (USA)	F 35	1.13.40
19	Jim Robson (USA)	M 48	1.13.56
20	Marlene Mrdes (BRA)	F 57	1.15.42
21	Nancy Arthur (USA)	F 31	1.18.24
22	Yoshinori Hirano (JAP)	M 50	1.18.41
23	Toshitsugu Kato (JAP)	M 57	1.18.43
24	Miyako Nakamura (JAP)	F 43	1.20.03
25	Manabu Ochi (JAP)	M 69	1.21.03
26	Maria Lenk (BRA)	F 76	1.21.28
27	Kikue Koshida (JAP)	F 57	1.22.46
28	Taeko Hirano (JAP)	F 42	1.22.47
29	Susan Carmack (USA)	F 36	1.26.35
30	Kevin Kasperbauer (USA)	M 31	1.29.50
31	Miyoko Wada (JAP)	F 47	1.33.09
32	William Cole (CAN)	M 31	1.33.19

33	Hisako Shinozaki (JAP)	F 40	1.34.14
34	Lyle Cummings (USA)	M 55	1.36.52
35	Masaru Matsutani (JAP)	M 72	1.39.23
36	Marion Chadwick (USA)	F 69	1.52.27
37	Jim Turner (JAP)	M 54	2.05.41
38	Monoguchi Chikako (JAP)	F 55	2.11.45
39	Sugino Adachi (JAP)	F 43	2.14.04

Next Issue

Next issue of MSI NEWS will contain a report on all the "back room" activities of the 4th Pan Pacific Championships, ie the results of the Congress, Council and Championship Workshop meetings. A number of issues relating to Masters have emerged, and I am sure you will be interested to hear about them.



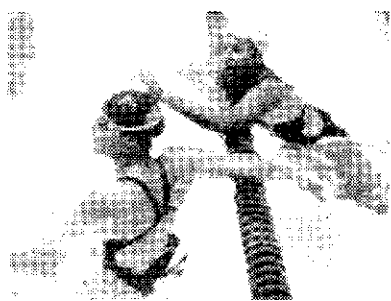
*MSI Area Director Europe
Rob Hanou
MSI Publicity Promotions Officer
Glenys McDonald*



2 disabled swimmers



*Japanese Organisers
hoping all will go well*



*Ann Christiansen (L)
winning one of her 4 golds*



Swimmers comparing heat times



*3 swimmers from USSR
Urii Nikolaer, Sergei Lapashenkov,
Yaroslav Novilskii*



*Rowdy Gaines being presented with his world record
by World Recorder Peter Gillett*



Sayonara Party

Calendar of Events

AUGUST 1991

15th-18th

USMS Long Course

Elizabethtown Masters ROB 2294
Elizabethtown KY 42701

23rd-25th
29th

German Short Course Masters
4th Championships France

St. Cloud 2, 03700 Bellerive sur Allier, France

SEPTEMBER 1991

5th-8th
22nd

European Masters Championships
Dutch Open SC Masters

116 Earlsdon Ave, Coventry CV5 6DN England
Proosdijstraat 20, 1433 JH
Kudelstaart, Holland
138 Sunday's Well Road, Cork, Ireland

27th-28th

Irish Open Masters

OCTOBER 1991

11th-13th

3rd Australian Masters Games

Swimming Co-ordinator
PO Box 389, Kenmore, Qld. Australia
Sheffield England
Tel: 0509 230431

18th-20th

ASA National Masters

"Novotekhnika" Desjatinnaya 7
Kiev 252025 Ukraine USSR

26th-8th Nov

Dnieper Cup

DECEMBER 1991

7th-8th

3rd Open Masters

14 rue de l'ingenieur R. Keller
75015, Paris France

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1993

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