



2015 SZ Diversity Swim Camp and Summit

About the USA Swimming 2015 Southern Zone Diversity Camp and Summit

The Southern Zone will host our 2nd ever Diversity Select Camp and Summit in an effort to identify the emerging young diverse athletes from under-represented populations in the sport from each LSC and offer them a unique motivational and educational experience. The Zone Diversity Select Camps are viewed as an integral step for athletes to move from the local and Zone level onto to the national scene. Athletes from underrepresented populations would participate in a three-day camp program, which includes pool training, motivational, and education sessions and team-building activities.

Purpose:

Celebrate the opportunities of/for diversity in swimming in the Southern Zone through inspiration of athletes, coaches and volunteers. Create local ambassadors and leaders to grow our sport.

Goals:

Empower athletes from ethnically under represented populations and their coaches to:

- Demonstrate the viability of multicultural success in swimming within their local LSC
- Achieve performance excellence throughout the sport
- Introduce the benefits and value of participating in the sport of swimming
- Develop positive leaders and role models that others from multicultural backgrounds can emulate
- Connect, network and promote the virtues of the sport of swimming through a comprehensive strategy involving the athletes and the LSC Diversity Chairs in their own local LSCs and throughout the Southern Zone.

Attendees: 45 athletes (15+ boys / 15+ girls) ages 13-16 years olds (at least 1 male and 1 female from each zone) along with the LSC Diversity Chairs are invited to attend.

Dates and Location: June 18 - 21, 2015 in Arlington, TX at the The University of Texas at Arlington. Athletes, coaches and volunteers will be housed on campus in dormitories. We will have 4 Long Course sessions and 1 Short Course sessions for the campers. Meals will be catered on-site or by a local national catering company or hotel. Athletes and Diversity Chairs will arrive Thursday (June 18) early to late afternoon and depart Sunday (June 21) morning.

Invitees:

- 3 athletes (at least 1 male and 1 female) from each of the 15 LSCs in the Southern Zone
- 1 Diversity Chair from each LSC (if Diversity Chair cannot attend a chaperone needs to attend with USA Swimming Background certified)

Attendance Notification Deadline:

By April 14, 2015

Participating LSCs must submit a list of attending athletes and Diversity Chair to the camp oversight committee at:

Southern Zone Diversity Select Camp
c/o Mid-Cities Arlington Swimming
P.O. Box 13849
Arlington, TX 76094
coachsuzanne@marswim.org

**** Please include a copy of your selected athletes' complete application and all contact information for the Diversity Chair.

Funding: Each LSC will fund 3 athletes and their Diversity Chair (or chaperone) to the camp. *Funding will need to include transportation to and from the camp, and an additional fee of \$225 per person will cover housing and all meal costs.* This is based on two - person occupancy in each room, if the coach or Diversity Chair wishes a single occupancy room, an additional cost per night will be incurred by the LSC.

Qualifications: Athletes must have qualified in at least one individual event in their local LSC championship meet in either SCY or LC seasons. It is up to the Diversity Chair to select the exact criteria based on his/her LSC. In the event that there are no qualifying swimmers, the LSC can elect to send three athletes of its choice.

Selection: Each LSC will select the three athletes they wish to represent that LSC using the application provided. The LSC will then select one coach (if Diversity Chair is not available) from a diverse cultural group or a coach of a diverse cultural team based on their own LSC evaluation.

Camp Schedule: The two day camp program will include a combination of pool training, motivational and educational sessions, networking and strategic planning sessions for members of each LSC, and team building activities.

Diversity Chairs: The Diversity Chair track will include observing in-water workouts, classroom sessions with guest speakers and strategic planning sessions and goal setting with their LSC specific participants and athletes.

Camp Staff: The camp staff will be selected from accomplished multicultural candidates from the Southern Zone and include a head coach, three assistant coaches, and a national athlete along with the camp oversight committee.