

## Age Group report

### January Open

Other than the combining of sessions on Saturday of the January Open, Course # 1 ran fairly smooth and finished within the approximate time lines. While it's always nice to have touch pads, not having them did not adversely affect anyone. Our main problem was that apparently when buttons get wet (go figure) they don't always fire properly and need to dry out. That's information that is probably worth sharing with Meet Directors. Because we ran all watches we were required to give 3 timers per lane. I couldn't understand why I didn't have enough watches (FAST has 32 and borrowed 15 from a summer team) when I realized that each timer had 2 watches. This might also be worth passing on that more than 26 watches are needed for an 8 lane course if no pads are being used.

### IMX Games

I thought the meet ran very well and everyone had a great experience. I'm sure Bill will expand further.

I spoke with a few coaches about qualifying for the meet, and also spoke with Emily during the meet and she fielded some of the same questions

By rule, NT's are not allowed. In the event of an athlete aging up, he or she can still qualify with their score from the younger age. I asked Bill about the numerous NT's. The response was that a 10 year old or 12 year old who had just aged up did not have the longer distances as part of their IM Ready / IMX program and that makes sense.

in looking through results and entry files here's what I found

1. There were 27 NT entries
2. 23 of these NT's were PVS athletes
3. Only 2 athletes with NT's actually aged up in January.
4. Some athlete had NT entries in 2 events.
5. In PVS there is no shortage of meet opportunities as we've discussed at length
6. One athlete represented PVS at LC Zones as a 13 year old
7. 11 athletes aged up prior to the SC season ever beginning and another 4 aged up in October

No one had a problem with point totals being used from a younger age group. The main issue was athletes entering with NT's. My personal concern is that PVS has almost all of these NT entries. As the host LSC are we sending the message that our athletes have different rules? When we (coaches) sit down with our athletes at the beginning of the season and map out the year we make a point of knowing when our athletes age up. The 10 / 12 year olds who age up prior to JO's / LC Age Groups / Zones are presented with the cuts for the next age group. The same needs to be presented to coaches (or included in the MA) when looking at entering IMX.

## February Distance

Entries have been submitted and one other club will be sending in entries. We are currently at 4.5 hours on the timeline. 163 athletes. 12 heats of the 1000 and 6 heats of 1650.

Manga