

AGE GROUP

Coach of the Year Nominations

(Bio information was provided by the person who submitted the nomination and have not been edited or verified by AZSI)

Maryanne Keever

1. *Maryanne has done a fantastic job of growing the Scottsdale Aquatic Club age group program and helping her swimmers achieve more than they thought possible. Her swimmers continually win state championships, medal at Far Westerns and are ranked in the top 10 in the country for their age.*

This past year, she had a swimmer ranked #1 in the country in several events. She also had a 10&U Boys relay that broke a nearly 30-year old National Age Group Record!

She is a tremendous coach and her athletes adore her!

2. *I wholeheartedly nominate Maryanne Graham-Keever, Head Age Group Coach at Scottsdale Aquatic Club, as recipient of the Age Group Coach of the year for 2012.*

Maryanne's enthusiasm for the development of athletes as well as her extensive knowledge of swimming make her an outstanding leader in Arizona Swimming. Maryanne has coached a variety of ability levels over her 20+ years in coaching, leading swimmers to the State, Sectional and National level in swimming.

Maryanne's own development in swimming at a young age has created a path in the swimming world that is above and beyond those of today. With a positive outlook, incredible opportunity to be coached by the best in the country, her experience and knowledge in this sport is reflected daily amongst her swimmers.

Maryanne is not only an outstanding athlete and coach, but she is also an incredible leader and teacher. She has made it a priority to create an atmosphere where positive teaching and hard work ethic is the input and high class results is the output.

Ryan Kent-WSF

Every time I see Ryan interact with his kids, the kids enjoy every minute of it. This shows how well Ryan connects with his kids.

- *The Age Group Program for WSF has put out some great swimmers over the past few years and I believe that Ryan is the main force behind this.*
- *Ryan is just an all-around friendly guy*

I believe Ryan Kent deserves this nomination for Age Group Coach of the Year

Jessica O'Donnell-SDA

No information submitted

Anthony Pedersen-NEP

Anthony Pedersen is new to Arizona Swimming, but has accomplished a great deal in a short amount of time. After coaching in Potomac Valley for ten years, Anthony joined Swim Neptune in 2011 and has grown the groups he oversees from less than 20 swimmers to nearly 100. He is lauded for his dedication to his groups and his skill in working with multiple ability levels, including swimmers with disabilities. In 2012 he coached Joe Underwood to great success at the Paralympic Trials. Joe placed in the top 3 in his classification in several events. Anthony helps all swimmers achieve their personal goals, and this care for each swimmer is obvious by his commitment to them and their success in the pool, at school, and at home. Anthony has proven he is a great asset to Arizona Swimming's community.

Michael Polak – (TJCC)

Under Coach Mike, the TJCC Stingrays finished 5th overall at the 2012 Arizona Short Course Age Group Championships, and 8th at Long Course Age Group Championships, after finishing 14th as a team, at both meets in 2011. In addition, membership over the past year has increased 30%.

Amy Stechmann-LTAZ

I would like to Nominate our Head Coach (Age Group), Amy Stechmann from Life Time Arizona (LTAZ). She has been an integral part of us establishing a new USA Swim program at Life Time in Arizona in 2012. She has helped us build our team from the ground up. She created a Swim Team Handbook (now used nationally at all of the Life Time's), helped create our website, and maintains the site herself. We do not have a parent board, so all meet entries, communication to swimmers & USA Swimming, and the weekly newsletter are done by Amy.

Amy is an incredible coach who is truly dedicated to our team. She inspires kids daily no matter their swimming ability. She spends an equal amount of time on each child, focusing on individual milestones. Amy continually goes above and beyond what is required of her to make our team better. Please consider her as the Age Group Coach of the Year.

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