



2017 SZ Diversity Swim Camp and Summit

About the USA Swimming 2017 Southern Zone Diversity Camp and Summit

The Southern Zone will host our 3rd 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 two and half 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: 40 athletes (15+ boys / 15+ girls) ages 13-16 years olds (at least 1 male and 1 female from each LSC) along with the LSC Diversity Chairs are invited to attend.

Dates and Location: June 22 - 25, 2017 in Charlotte, NC at the Mecklenburg County Aquatic Center. Athletes, coaches and volunteers will be housed in hotels. We will have 4 Long 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 22 early to late afternoon and depart Sunday, June 25 morning.

Invitees:

- 2 athletes (1 male and 1 female) from each of the 15 LSCs in the Southern Zone
- 1 Diversity Chair (L2 Background check) from each LSC will be the travel chaperone and attend the Summit (if Diversity Chair cannot attend a chaperone needs to attend with USA Swimming L2 Background certified)

Attendance Notification Deadline:

Participating LSCs must submit the names of the 2 attending athletes and name of the LSC Diversity Chair to the SZ Committee administrator, Cedric Rawls (cedric.rawls@gmail.com), cell number (972-655-6126) by **March 10, 2017**. After this date, all LSCs can submit an additional athlete name to fill the 40 athlete seats. The additional seats will be filled on a first come, first serve basis.

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

Funding: Each LSC will fund at least 2 athletes (up to 3) and their Diversity Chair (or chaperone) to the camp. *Funding will need to include transportation (car and airfare) to and from the camp, and an additional fee of \$350 per athlete will cover housing and all meal costs.* This is based on two - person occupancy in each room.

Payments for the SZ Select Camp should be made out to: *Mid-Cities Arlington Swimming* and sent to:

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

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 two athletes of its choice.

Selection: Each LSC will select the two (up to 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 that will attend the Summit.

Camp Schedule: The two and half 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 Summit: Diversity Chairs hotel and Summit information, including costs, will be provided by USA Swimming. Please contact Manny Banks at mbanks@usaswimming.org

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 two managers along with the camp oversight committee.