



## *Advantages of USA Swimming Membership for YMCA Swim Teams*

### **USA Swimming membership doesn't change your YMCA identity, it can enhance it.**

Keep your YMCA program structure, leadership, meet schedule, & budget. USA Swimming will not make you change it. In fact, USA Swimming has special offerings for YMCA teams, recognizing the unique aspects of competitive swimming at a local YMCA.

### **USA Swimming membership offers many opportunities, not restrictions.**

Swimmers may participate in different competition formats in addition to their YMCA meet schedule. They can also be included in several motivational programs and challenges such as the national age group rankings and times database, the IM Xtreme Challenge, the Virtual Club Championships, the Select Camp programs, the Club Recognition program, and the Club Excellence program.

### **USA Swimming membership provides many benefits and resources, not requirements.**

The resources available to USA Swimming member athletes, coaches, parents and volunteers are available to all, regardless of affiliation, team size or level of competitive achievement. Information and consultants are available in several areas including:

- Facility Development
- Team Development
- Sport Performance
- Coaches' Education
- Parents' Education
- Diversity
- Fundraising
- Learn to Swim

In addition, members receive Splash magazine, a bi-monthly publication designed for swimmers to share what is happening in the world of competitive swimming and to motivate young athletes toward their goals. Member teams receive a yearly highlight video with race footage and other materials to motivate athletes and potential team members. Member coaches receive a credential indicating that their safety certifications and background screens are current. These cards are recognized at YMCA and USA Swimming meets alike.

### **Did you know...**

- 61% of USA Swimming member clubs have fewer than 100 swimmers.
- 58% of all USA Swimming swimmers have been competing for 2 years or less.
- In most areas of the country, USA Swimming offers a seasonal 150-day seasonal membership for swimmers who do not swim year-round.
- YMCA of the USA and USA Swimming are collaborating on Make a Splash, a national LTS initiative as well as delivery of officials training, competitive rules and times recognition.
- There are currently 335 YMCA teams who are also members of USA Swimming.