



CLUB EXCELLENCE 2007 PROGRAM APPLICATION

Club Name: _____

Club Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Name of person completing application: _____

E-mail for person completing application: _____

Day phone: _____ Fax: _____

Name of Head Coach: _____

E-mail for Head Coach: _____

Applied in 2005? ____ No ____ Yes: Level awarded: _____

Applied in 2006? ____ No ____ Yes: Level awarded: _____

In order to apply for the 2007 Club Excellence program, clubs must meet the following application requirements and program components:

I Professional/Organizational Component

Please submit a copy of the following documents to USA Swimming:

- Club strategic plan (including a mission statement and primary club goals).
- An athlete development/progression plan that outlines the team structure and describes how athletes progress within the club.
- A club operational plan that includes annual and (if possible) quadrennial budgets
- A professional coaching support plan that outlines employee benefits and opportunities provided for ongoing coach education and professional development.
- A description of how your club supports the swimming community, which could include participation in USA Swimming, Zone or LSC governance, the hosting of sanctioned competitions, and/or support and development of USA Swimming certified officials

Note: If you applied for this program in 2002 - 2006, you only need to update those Professional/Organizational items that are new or have changed for 2007 (i.e. budget, team progression, etc.).

New requirements related to USA Swimming's Club Recognition Program (effective next year):

- (1) All clubs applying for the 2008 Club Excellence program must have successfully completed at least Level 1 of the Club Recognition Program. Information which can be found on the USA Swimming website under *Swim Clubs/Club Recognition Program*.

- (2) All clubs applying for Gold Level recognition must also successfully complete Level 3 in the Club Recognition Program.
- (3) Gold Level clubs in the Club Excellence Program who have also completed Level 4 in the Club Recognition Program will receive an additional \$500 when Club Excellence grant dollars are disbursed.

II Club Profile and Facility Information

Clubs must update the online Club Profile Information **and** Facility Information. Clubs can access this through their Club Portal found on the USA Swimming website. Contact [USA Swimming](#) if you have any questions.

III Best Practices Data Collection

Club Excellence program participants agree to participate in periodic information gathering surveys conducted by USA Swimming.

IV Performance Component

All athletes used in this section of the application must meet the following criteria:

- A. **US citizen athlete**-The athlete must be a U.S. citizen athlete who is eligible to represent the USA in international competition.
- B. **12-month representation provision**-The athlete must have been eligible to represent the applying club for a minimum period of one year prior to the performance of the time submitted. Performances of unattached athletes do not count. In other words, if an athlete transferred to your team and swims a legal time for your team, his/her time may not count in this program unless s/he swam the time after s/he was attached to your club for a minimum of one year. Example: if you are going to use a time swum at the 2006 Summer Nationals, the athlete must have been attached to your team prior to August 1, 2005. Please note that this requirement is very different than the standard 120-day eligibility rule.
- C. **Limited eligibility for college age athletes**-The athlete cannot be currently competing with a collegiate program (NCAA, NJCAA or NAIA). NCAA athletes who are training with their home club in the summers between school years will not count towards the club's totals. Performances from athletes who have not begun their freshman year in college are eligible to score for their club (i.e. any HS Seniors who graduated from HS in May/June 2006, and started college in August/September 2006 are eligible to represent your club in the Performance Component using times achieved prior to starting college in 2006).
- D. **Performance Eligibility**-All applicants for the Club Excellence program must have at least one eligible 18-Under athlete who meets the criteria for one of the three levels, Gold, Silver, or Bronze.

Gold Medal Club – List up to three 18-Under athletes who rank in the top 150 in the final 2006 FINA Long Course World Rankings in Olympic events (does not include 800 Free for men or 1500 Free for women). World rankings can be found in the 2006 FINA Yearbook or online at: <http://www.swimnews.com/Ranking.html>

Athlete's Name	M/F	Event	Time	World Ranking
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Silver Medal Club – List up to three 18-Under athletes who swam at the 2006 Spring Championships or 2006 Summer Nationals.

Athlete's Name	M/F	Event	Time
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____

Bronze Medal Club – List up to three 18-Under athletes who have achieved a 2006 U.S. Open qualifying time standard in an individual event during the 2006 calendar year

(January 1, 2006- December 31, 2006).

Athlete's Name	M/F	Event	Time	SCY, SCM, LCM
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____
_____	_____	_____	_____	_____

Note: All times listed above and on the Performance scoring form must be verifiable with the USA Swimming SWIMS database. Every attempt will be made to use the time submitted. However, if the submitted time cannot be found, the fastest time in SWIMS that meets the criteria will be substituted.

E. Performance Scoring

Use the attached form for all athletes on your club that achieved the Long Course time standards listed below during the 2006 calendar year (January 1, 2006- December 31, 2006).

1. There is no limit to the number of athletes you can use.
2. List all events for which these athletes equal or better these standards.
3. Please notice there are separate time standards for the *18 and Under* and the *19 and Over* athletes.
4. An athlete's four best events (which equal or better these standards) will count toward the team point score using the FINA LC Performance Ratings.
5. Long course meter performances only. No time conversions accepted.
6. In the box under the time, list the name of the meet where the time was swum.
7. Please remember that the athlete **must have been eligible to represent the applying club for a minimum period of one year**. Performances of any unattached athletes do not count. In other words, if an athlete transferred to your team and swims a legal time for your team, his time may not count in this program unless he swam the time after he was attached to your club for a minimum of one year. (i.e. if you are going to use a time swum at the 2006 Summer Nationals, the athlete must have been attached to your team prior to August 1, 2005). Again, this is different than the standard 120-day eligibility rule for a swimmer to become attached to a team. If there is a question on an athlete, USA Swimming will check eligibility with the clubs local LSC registration person.

If an athlete is found to not have met the eligibility requirements his/her time(s) will not count in the total for the team.

8. World Record swims (in the recognized Olympic Pool Events and long course meters) for individual events only will be rewarded with an additional 1000 points per world record.
9. All times must be verifiable with the USA Swimming SWIMS database. Every attempt will be made to use the time submitted. However, if the submitted time cannot be found in SWIMS, the fastest time that meets the criteria will be substituted.

<u>Women</u>		<u>Event</u>	<u>Men</u>	
<u>18 & Un</u>	<u>19 & Older</u>		<u>18 & Un</u>	<u>19 & Older</u>
26.74	26.05	50 Free	24.33	23.01
58.80	57.19	100 Free	53.88	50.88
2:06.79	2:03.39	200 Free	1:57.29	1:51.67
4:24.99	4:19.39	400 Free	4:08.59	3:56.15
9:06.69	8:50.49	800/1500 Free	16:31.39	15:37.06
1:05.70	1:03.99	100 Back	1:00.31	56.83
2:19.86	2:16.25	200 Back	2:10.52	2:02.83
1:12.87	1:10.99	100 Breast	1:07.56	1:03.30
2:36.61	2:32.57	200 Breast	2:26.34	2:17.41
1:02.59	1:00.97	100 Fly	58.14	54.45
2:17.62	2:14.07	200 Fly	2:08.80	2:01.33
2:23.02	2:19.33	200 IM	2:12.39	2:04.92
5:00.70	4:52.94	400 IM	4:41.59	4:24.42

Timeline for Club Excellence Program

Dec 20	Program applications sent to all USA Swimming clubs
Feb 16	Program applications due from clubs to USA Swimming
April 23	All clubs notified of their status by USA Swimming Grant applications sent to all qualifying clubs (Gold and Silver)
June 1	All grant applications due to USA Swimming from qualifying clubs
July 23	Grant awards announced

*Please note: any club that is eligible for a monetary grant award for the 2007 Club Excellence program must have submitted all required receipts for the 2005 and/or the 2006 Club Excellence program before any money will be disbursed for the 2007 grant.

Please send this application and all supporting documents to:

USA Swimming
 Attn: Ruth Flint-Club Excellence Program
 1 Olympic Plaza
 Colorado Springs, CO 80909



Club Excellence 2007 Program Description

Summary

The *USA Swimming Club Excellence Program* is a voluntary program that identifies and recognizes USA Swimming clubs for their commitment to excellence in administration, performance, and for their support of the sport and USA Swimming. This program strives to meet the following objectives:

- Promote the development of strong, well-rounded age group and senior swimming programs that produce elite 18 & under athletes;
- Provide recognition and resources to motivate and assist member clubs to strive for the highest ideals of club development and performance; and,
- Encourage USA Swimming's most successful clubs and professional coaches to become leaders in the sport through involvement in local and/or national governance.

This program's goal is to embrace leadership and excellence in up to 200 of USA Swimming's top member clubs. The program provides funding and support to the clubs and recognizes the club development system as integral to achieving excellence.

What Factors Are Involved in this Program?

All clubs participating in the Club Excellence program must meet the following four application requirements.

1. Provide documentation of Professional/Organizational components.
2. Complete the USA Swimming Club Profile **and** Facility Information accessed through the Club Portal on the USA Swimming website.
3. Participate in periodic "best practices" data collection/surveys.
4. Submit the required Performance Eligibility and Performance Scoring information.

What Are the Levels?

Clubs will qualify as Gold, Silver or Bronze Medal clubs.

- Up to 16 clubs will qualify for the Gold level.
- Clubs ranked up to #100 (that are not Gold) will qualify for the Silver level.
- Clubs ranked #101 and lower (that are not Gold or Silver) will qualify for the Bronze level.

How Does My Team Qualify as a Gold Medal Club?

- The highest scoring 16 clubs, based on the 2006 *IPS* "International Point Score" rating system developed by Nick Thiery for www.swimnews.com, will be recognized as *Gold Medal Clubs*.
- *Gold Medal Clubs* must have at least one 18 & Under athlete ranked in the Top 150 in the World in the final FINA 2006 Long Course rankings (in Olympic events only).
- Clubs that meet the qualifying criteria but are not ranked as a *Gold Medal Club* are automatically eligible for inclusion in the *Silver Medal Clubs* program.
- *Gold Medal Club* coaches are required to provide a mentoring service to USA Swimming once per year. The mentoring service will allow our most elite coaches the opportunity to mentor a developing club and its coaches.

How Does My Team Qualify as a Silver Medal Club?

- Clubs ranked through number 100, and not recognized as *Gold Medal Clubs*, will be recognized as *Silver Medal Clubs* based on the *IPS* (International Point Score) rating system.
- Clubs must have at least one 18 & Under athlete compete in the 2006 Spring Championships or Summer Nationals in an individual event.
- Clubs that meet the qualifying criteria but are not selected as a *Silver Medal Club* are automatically eligible for inclusion in *Bronze Medal Club* programs.

How Does My Team Qualify as a Bronze Medal Club?

- Clubs ranked #101 and lower or not recognized as *Gold Medal or Silver Medal Clubs*, will be recognized as *Bronze Medal Clubs* based on the *IPS* (International Point Score) rating system.
- Clubs must have at least one 18 & Under athlete achieve a 2006 U.S. Open qualifying standard

Who Reviews Applications?

Applications will be reviewed by a special committee appointed by the USA Swimming President.

What Are the Benefits?

Those clubs that qualify as Gold or Silver clubs will be sent a grant application once they qualify for that level. The benefits for all of the levels are as follows:

GOLD MEDAL

- Recognition as a *USA Swimming Gold Medal Club, 2006-2008* and use of the *USA Swimming Gold Medal Club* designation and logo in all advertising and promotional materials for the remainder of the 2008 quadrennium.

- Eligible for up to \$12,500 in grant assistance to be used for program enhancement. Grants are awarded based on a share system of how many clubs are chosen and point totals from a review of the actual grant applications.
- Recognition from USA Swimming includes: a team banner for the current quadrennium, announcement in Splash magazine, and an announcement on the USA Swimming website.

Note: Clubs must reapply for the Club Excellence program to be eligible to receive grants each year. In the remainder of the quad, only clubs placing in the Top 16 each year, based on the performance points, are eligible for grant funding at the *Gold Medal* level. As an example, a Gold Medal club from 2006 might only be eligible for Silver Medal funding this year (based on this years performance points).

SILVER MEDAL

- Recognition as a *USA Swimming Silver Medal Club* for a period of one year.
- May use the *USA Swimming Silver Medal Club* designation in all advertising and promotional materials for a period of one year.
- Receive a recognition team banner from USA Swimming.
- Eligible for up to \$2,500 in grant assistance to be used for program enhancement. The grant application process will take place after clubs have been named a “Silver Medal Club.” Grants are awarded based on a share system of how many clubs are chosen and point totals from a review of the actual grant applications.

BRONZE MEDAL

- Recognition as a “USA Swimming Bronze Medal Club” for a period of one year.
- May use the “USA Swimming Bronze Medal Club” designation in all advertising and promotional materials for a period of one year.
- Receive a recognition banner from USA Swimming.
- Eligible for possible site visit from a USA Swimming Sport Development or Sport Performance Consultant within two years of qualifying as a “Bronze Medal Club”.

*Please note: any club that is eligible for a monetary grant award for the 2007 Club Excellence program must have submitted all required receipts for the 2006 Club Excellence program before any money will be disbursed for the 2007 grant.

If you have any questions please contact either Pat Hogan (phogan@usaswimming.org) or Tom Avischious (tavischious@usaswimming.org) or call the USA Swimming office at (719) 866-4578.

Team Name: _____ 2007 Club Excellence Performance Scoring Component

List all athletes that meet the time standards. Qualification period: January 1, 2006 – December 31, 2006
 Age column is age as of day of swim. Write below each time where the time was achieved. Duplicate sheets as needed

WOMEN

		50 Fr	100 Fr	200 Fr	400 Fr	800 Fr	100 Bk	200 Bk	100 Brst	200 Brst	100 Fly	200 Fly	200 IM	400 IM
18-Under		:26.74	:58.80	2:06.79	4:24.99	9:06.69	1:05.70	2:19.86	1:12.87	2:36.61	1:02.59	2:17.62	2:23.02	5:00.70
19-Older (non-NCAA athlete)		:26.05	:57.19	2:03.99	4:19.39	8:50.49	1:03.99	2:16.25	1:10.99	2:32.57	1:00.97	2:14.07	2:19.33	4:52.94
Name/ID Number	Age													
Sample: Elizabeth R. Swimfast	16		:58.75		4:26.18									
063084ELIRSWIM	Where swum:		Spr Ntl		Smr Ntl									
	USA Swimming Use:													
1	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
2	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
3	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
4	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
5	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													

MEN

		50 Fr	100 Fr	200 Fr	400 Fr	1500 Fr	100 Bk	200 Bk	100 Brst	200 Brst	100 Fly	200 Fly	200 IM	400 IM
18-Under		:24.33	:53.88	1:57.29	4:08.59	16:31.39	1:00.31	2:10.52	1:07.56	2:26.34	:58.14	2:08.80	2:12.39	4:41.59
19-Older (non-NCAA athlete)		:23.01	:50.88	1:51.67	3:56.15	15:37.06	:56.83	2:02.83	1:03.30	2:17.41	:54.45	2:01.33	2:04.92	4:24.42
Name/ID Number	Age													
1	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
2	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
3	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
4	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													
5	Where swum:													
	USA Swimming Use:													