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In This Issue...

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In This Issue . . .

Biomechanics and Medicine in Swimming, 2014

By the time this issue becomes available, the World Conference on Drowning Prevention in Potsdam, Germany, will be history. On the other hand, the XII Biomechanics and Medicine in Swimming conference to be held at the Australian Institute of Sport, Canberra, Australia from Monday, April 28 through Friday, May 2, 2014 will still be accepting abstract proposals for sessions.

According to the emails and the web site, abstracts from aquatic biomechanical and medical research will be accepted in areas including Computational Fluid Dynamics, Physiology including Recovery, Medicine including Physiotherapy, Nutrition, Strength & Conditioning, Coaching, and Technology. Although not explicitly identified, another area that includes pedagogy as well as drowning prevention will welcome abstracts. Both oral and poster presentations will be accommodated at the conference. To receive updates on the symposium and to express your interest in attending, you are encouraged to contact the following: Web site: <http://ausport.gov.au/bms2014> and email: BMS2014@ausport.gov.au.

In This Issue

This fourth and final issue of our seventh volume of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* continues the tradition of the entire volume in featuring strong research papers, along with several interesting educational and review papers. I hope subscribers and other readers will enjoy these fine and diverse pieces of scholarship as much as I and the peer reviewers have.

As usual, I offer a personal editorial for your consideration. The idea for this particular editorial topic arose just as I was composing an entirely different editorial. As a long-time swimming instructor, I am always intrigued by various opinions and questions related to the “ideal” order for introducing and learning various aquatic skills. In the current case, a swim coach has raised the question of changing the first stroke taught in The Netherlands from the breaststroke to the front crawl (a.k.a., “freestyle”), presumably to improve the country’s competitive success. I invite you to read the Editorial to see what I have to say about that proposition.

Original Research Articles

This issue features four excellent research articles. The first article, “Readiness to Rescue: Bystander Perceptions of Their Capacity to Respond in a Drowning Emergency,” comes from our New Zealand colleagues, Kevin Moran, University of Auckland, and Teresa Stanley, WaterSafe Auckland. As you will discover, this paper examines how accurately bystanders can perceive their proficiency to respond in the face of drowning situations.

The second research paper, co-authored by an international team comprised of Per-Ludvik Kjendlie, Tommy Pederson, Trine Thoresen, Trond Setlo, and Robert Keig Stallman, all from Norway, and Kevin Moran, from New Zealand, have conducted perhaps the first intervention study as part of the larger “Can You Swim” project. This study, “Can You Swim in Waves? Children’s Swimming, Floating, and Entry Skills in Calm and Simulated Unsteady Water Conditions,” examines the impact of human-made waves upon the swimming performance of intermediate level pre-adolescent children. The results reinforce the fact that water competence is not a static ability, but is impacted by changes in environmental conditions.

Kate Hoskin, Karen Dodd, Siew-Pang Chan, Sam Rosengarten, and Sophie Heywood from Melbourne, Victoria, Australia, co-authored “Aquatic Exercise Compared to Contrast Therapy With Shallow Water Treadmill Running to Assist Recovery in Elite Australian Rules Footballers.” This study examined the role of different types of aquatic therapy as remediation for Australian football players.

The final research article was written by Michael Fralick, Zane Gallinger, and Stephen Hwang, all internists from St. Michael’s Hospital of University of Toronto. The study, “Differences in Drowning Rates Between Rural and Non-Rural Residents of Ontario, Canada,” examined how drownings in areas of Canada vary depending upon where the victims live.

Educational and Review Articles

We have three additional articles featured in this issue. The first, “Quantification of Aquatic Interventions in Children With Disabilities: A Systematic Literature Review,” is in fact a fairly lengthy and comprehensive review of how aquatic therapy can serve as an effective intervention for children with differing abilities. The co-authors, Marlies Declerck, from the University of Edinburgh, and Baiba Kārklīņa and Daniel Daly, both from the KU Leuven in Belgium, have pooled their expertise to provide a far-reaching document that will provide a review article for others with similar interests in adapted aquatics.

John Connolly, Honorary Executive Director of The Lifesaving Foundation, provides a fascinating historical essay entitled, “The Lifesaving Foundation,” that describes the past and future of what originally was called the Irish Lifesaving Foundation.

Our final educational article was co-authored by Jacqueline Pattman and Eirwen Record, from Brighton & Sussex University Hospitals, and Jane Hall, from Royal National Hospital for Rheumatic Diseases. They composed the intriguing and provocative educational article, “Effectiveness of Aquatic Physiotherapy in Clinical Practice” that is worth your inspection.

I also have provided a Media Review of the latest volume of *Science in Swimming IV* edited by Krystyna Zaton, Marek Rejman, and Andrzej Klarowicz. I was impressed by the expanding aquatic research coming from the Polish aquatic community.

Finally, because this is the final issue of this volume, you will find the peer reviewer list for this volume online. You will note the increased number of peer reviewers who have unselfishly volunteered their time and efforts to make sure *IJARE* continues to be a double-blind, peer reviewed scholarly journal. Thank you, reviewers!

I expect I will have enjoyed interacting with many of you in Potsdam. I look forward to doing so in Canberra in April. So, until the next issue in February 2014, may you enjoy continued good reading and safe swimming.

Steve Langendorfer, Editor
International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education