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In This Issue...

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EDITORIALS

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In This Issue . . .

International Aquatic History Symposium & Film Festival

The International Swimming Hall of Fame will host the first ever International Aquatic History Symposium and Film Festival (IAHSFF) in Ft. Lauderdale, FL on May 2-5, 2012. As an IAHSFF Ambassador, I have been encouraged to invite all readers of our journal to consider attending and even to propose to present a poster or oral presentation. Persons interested in attending or presenting should check the IAHSFF's website, <http://iahsff.com/>. Participation in the conference will include keynote speakers, posters and presentations, a film series, book signings, and ISHOF Museum tour.

In This Issue

With this issue we inaugurate our sixth volume of the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education*. I recommend the articles and reviews within this issue to readers. The majority of these articles is authored by some of our more experienced and best journal contributors, which as a group make important contributions to the aquatic literature. I have started out this issue with my own editorial, "Building aquatics: Telling your story," in which I propose some modest ideas for novice writers and potential contributors to this aquatic journal. The main suggestions actually link back to the evaluative criteria I introduced in the previous issue. I hope some of you may find it intriguing, perhaps even useful in your own writing.

Interestingly, we have received a letter to the editor from our colleague and frequent contributor, Dr. Stathis Avramidis, which complements and comments upon my November 2011 editorial criticizing impact factors. He has expanded upon my criticisms of using impact factors, pointing out several documented instances in which impact factors have been purposefully exploited for unethical purposes. You may find it interesting to read what he has written.

Research Articles

The first of the five research articles in this issue, "The Nature of Caregiver Supervision of Young Children in Public Pools," comes to the journal from Lauren Petrass who teaches and does research in the School of Human Movement and Sport Sciences at the University of Ballarat in Victoria, Australia. Lauren has addressed the issue of how closely caregivers pay attention to their children at public pools in Australia. Her findings are instructive to parents as well as water safety and lifeguarding personnel.

The second research article comes from another “down under” country, New Zealand. Kevin Moran and Jonathon Webber from the University of Auckland have contributed, “Surf Lifeguard Perceptions and Practice of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).” Because CPR is a vital skill for practicing lifeguards, this study surveyed volunteer beach lifeguards about their knowledge of CPR knowledge and concepts, plus it actually tested the skill competency of these same lifeguards. Readers will be interested to discover how well lifeguards retain—or forget—CPR knowledge and skills.

The next two research articles both focus on aquatic exercise, contrasting land-based exercise with various modes of aquatic exercise, especially the latest in underwater aquatic treadmills. In the first article, Courtney Schaal, Larry Collins, and Candi Ashley, all from the University of South Florida, have presented “Cardiorespiratory Responses to Underwater Treadmill Running versus Land-Based Treadmill Running.” They have explored measures to identify the degree to which land and aquatic treadmills differ and compare in producing cardiorespiratory effects. The second aquatic exercise review article comes from a research team centered in the HPER Department at Utah State University. The team members are William Denning, Eadric Bressel, and Dennis Dolny from Utah State; Megan Bressel from Mountain West Physical Therapy (Logan, UT); and Matt Seeley, currently in Exercise Science at Brigham Young University. The article, entitled “A Review of Biophysical Differences Between Aquatic and Land-Based Exercise,” overviews how four categories of aquatic exercise (deep water running, shallow water running, water calisthenics, and underwater treadmills) each compare to land-based exercise on a variety of “biophysical” dependent measures. It is a comprehensive article by several leaders of research in this area that makes an important contribution by overviewing the existing aquatic exercise literature.

The final research article in this issue concludes a series of research articles all published in *IJARE* that have focused on biomechanical characteristics of racing start entries. A research team from the Councilman Center for Aquatic Research at Indiana University includes Andrew Cornett (now at Eastern Michigan University), Josh White, Brian Wright, Alexander Willmott (also of the University of Lincoln in the UK), and Joel Stager. This final article, “Modification of Start Depth by Adolescent Competitive Swimmers,” concludes this team’s racing entry series of studies by investigating how well age group competitive swimmers could modify the depth of their entry when requested. The series contributes uniquely to our understanding of how well persons of different ages, experience, and skill levels make head first entries as measured carefully using kinematic variables.

Educational Article

This issue also contains a very interesting educational and theoretical paper contributed by John Connolly from The Lifesaving Foundation, formerly the Irish Lifesaving Foundation, entitled “The C-Zones Framework.” John has an abiding interest in understanding how to prevent drownings. Because of that interest, he has proposed a clinical framework comprised of a series of seven “zones,” which represent ordered categories in the progression of a typical drowning incident. The article is offered as a first step prior to validating its application for educational and debriefing purposes in drowning prevention.

AEA Abstracts

As they had the previous year, the Aquatic Exercise Association (AEA) submitted edited versions of abstracts (i.e., short and long abstracts) from the 2011 International Conference they sponsor. We originally had intended to publish these abstracts in the previous issue (November 2011) but because of increasing numbers of research and educational submissions we did not have the page space in that issue. Authors of those abstracts had expressed an interest in gaining access to their published abstracts, something that normally was impossible without a subscription to the *Journal*.

The manuscript submissions to the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* continue to rise, which creates the “nice challenge” that we must carefully control the number of pages in future print issues. As a result we have made the editorial decision to publish abstracts from organizations such as AEA only in electronic format. The positive aspect of limiting abstract publications to online is that henceforth abstract authors will be able to openly access their works online. Authors and other interested parties may retrieve abstracts from *IJARE*’s website, <http://journals.humankinetics.com/IJARE>. We think this is a strong solution that encourages open access publication of research abstracts from aquatic organization conferences that provide screening and review while allowing us to control costs and limit printed pages. Authors will have online access to their work without necessitating subscription (although we certainly strongly encourage subscribing to *IJARE* in order to get print and electronic access to the full-length research and educational articles in each issue of the *Journal*).

Representatives from any aquatic organization who would like to explore possible future electronic publication of refereed conference abstracts with the *International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education* should contact me at slangen@bgsu.edu or ijare@bgsu.edu. We can discuss the possibilities, requirements, and timeframe.

Media Review

This issue concludes with my media review of Michael Brooks’ *Developing Swimmers*. As a specialist in the area of lifespan motor development, I am always intrigued with the different ways that variations on the concept of “development” are used in the literature, in this case, as it is applied to competitive aquatics and swimming.

Until our next volume in May, I wish you good reading and safe swimming.

Steve Langendorfer, Editor
International Journal of Aquatic Research and Education