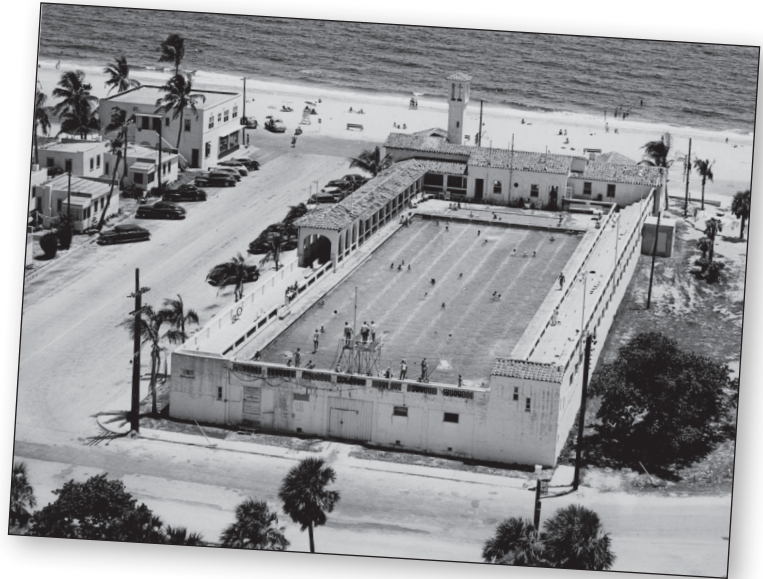


History and Timeline of Swimming in Fort Lauderdale

Casino Pool - Hall of Fame Pool - Swimming Hall of Fame

1928

Fort Lauderdale's swimming heritage dates to the Civitan raft off Las Olas Beach and the monumental Casino pool that followed in 1928. Located directly on the beach at what is now known as D.C. Alexander Park, just South of Las Olas Blvd., the beautiful Spanish style facility was engineered by Clifford Root and was filled twice a week with salt water directly from the Atlantic Ocean. The Casino Pool (1928-1966) cost \$150,000 and measured 50.38 meters by 18.38 meters (55 yds x 20 yds).



1935-1936

In 1935, the College Swimming Coaches Association of America discovered Fort Lauderdale and organized the first annual Coaches forum in the city.

Within a few short years, Fort Lauderdale gained national attention by producing two young swimming stars that won Olympic fame, Elbert Root and Katherine Rawls. Rawls was the greatest female swimmer of her time. The Associated Press named Rawls national female athlete of the year, in 1936. She was Fort Lauderdale's first celebrity of sport and international athletic ambassador.

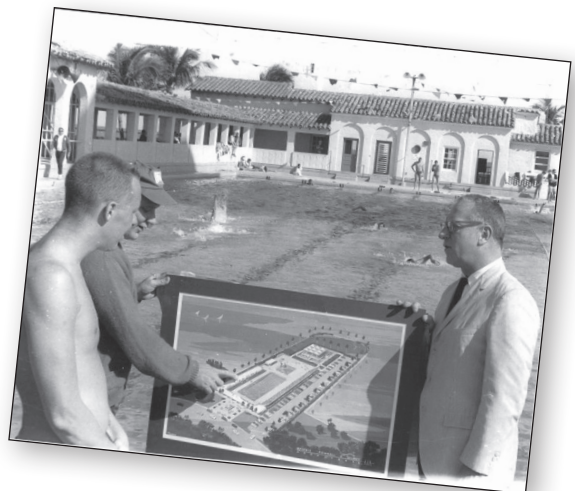


In 1937, the Women's National Aquatic Forum joined the Coaches Forum. Over 30 years later, the Forum was attracting 44 colleges and universities, 28 prep schools, 28 clubs and over 600 swimmers for Christmas training.

1962

Fort Lauderdale is awarded the Swimming Hall of Fame

The idea for a Swimming Hall of Fame began with the Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) of the United States, by a committee headed by the then president of FINA, R. Max Ritter. The College Coaches Swim Forum first kindled Fort Lauderdale's interest in the Hall of Fame. Fort Lauderdale's Mayor Burry, the entire city commission and even Florida's Governor Farris Bryant expressed support for the establishment the Swimming Hall of Fame in Fort Lauderdale. To pursue the idea, Fort Lauderdale's City Commission created the "Mayor's Swimmers' Hall of Fame Citizens' Committee," early in 1962. Members of this committee included the entire commission and 30 civic leaders.



On November 9, 1962, the City Commission unanimously approved: **A RESOLUTION INDICATING THAT THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE IS INTERESTED IN ESTABLISHING THE FACILITY KNOWN AS “THE SWIMMING HALL OF FAME” IN THE CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE AND IS IN A POSITION TO PRESENT ITS PLANS THEREFORE.** At the same time meeting, the commission approved an allocation of \$250,000, the expected proceeds from the sale of the Casino Pool land, for the initial cost of a plan to build the shrine and an Olympic size pool. The plan called for the Hall of Fame to be situated on a man-made peninsula that would extend 400 feet into the intracoastal and be built by the Florida Inland Navigation District. It was noted by the commission that although the city has pledged the money, the project was contingent upon winning the bid for the shrine. “If another city takes the bid, the whole project will be cancelled.”



November 27, 1962, a five-man team – four from Fort Lauderdale and Ted Groves from the Fort Lauderdale Development Commission -presented the plan, along with letters of support from various organizations to the general assembly of the 75th Amateur Athletic Union convention in Detroit. The AAU unanimously selected Fort Lauderdale’s bid over the bids of Houston and Louisville. “We are grateful to them for bringing this new project to Fort Lauderdale,” said Mayor Burry.

Among the letters of support presented to the AAU’s committee was one from Mayor Burry, which read in part, “ The municipal government of Fort Lauderdale extends a warm and cordial invitation to you and the members of the selection committee to take advantage of our hospitality and to favor us with this national shrine, for which we are more than willing to contribute our financial assistance and continuing zeal and affection.”

In another, Robert Culliver, President of the Junior Chamber of Commerce, wrote: “This community needs the cultural asset of a museum that marks one of the traditions of our city. Our organization has set aside a considerable sum of money for such a purpose. We heartily welcome the Swimming Hall of Fame and will continue our support in years to come.

Upon winning the bid, the Mayor’s Swimmers’ Hall of Fame Citizen’s Committee became the “Hall of Fame Administration Committee,” chaired by Mayor Burry.

1963

The Swimming Hall of Fame Pool

Work began almost immediately on the made-made peninsula where the Swimming Hall of Fame was to be built. Upon completion, the Trustees of the Internal Improvement Fund of the State of Florida dedicated the peninsula to the City of Fort Lauderdale on May 13, 1963, “for public municipal purposes only,” subject to the following provisions:



In the event the said CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE shall (1) use said land for other than a site for the Swimming Hall of Fame or (2) for a period of three consecutive years shall fail and neglect to maintain and use the same for said purposes, the dedication hereby made shall, at the option of said Trustees, be subject to termination upon sixty days' notice in writing by the Trustees to said City.

1964

Swimming Hall of Fame, Inc.

On November 23, 1964, the "Swimming Hall of Fame, Inc." was incorporated as a non-profit educational corporation chartered under Florida law with a board of 19 directors. Eminent swimming coach, Dr. James E. Counsilman was the organization's first president and William "Buck" Dawson was selected and approved by the Hall of Fame Administration Committee to be the first Executive Director. Correspondence shows that the Hall of Fame Administration Committee and the Swimming Hall of Fame, Inc. worked together amicably to resolve issues involving the pool designs, financing and the mutual understanding of jurisdiction and usage of the facilities before executing a formal agreement. On January 18, 1965, the City of Fort Lauderdale and the Swimming Hall of Fame, Inc. executed a lease/operating agreement that remains in effect today, as amended in March 1991. It was then renewed in 2018 for another 30 years.



William "Buck" Dawson



1965

The 50-meter pool, 25-yard diving well warm up pool and all the appointments thereof, including the landfill seawall and landscaping for the peninsula were completed in August 1965, at a cost of \$986,000. Additional land at the end of the peninsula and \$195,000 were placed in escrow by the City for construction of the Hall of fame building, contingent upon the Swimming Hall of Fame Corp. demonstrating its reliability in collecting the memorabilia, funding the exhibits to go into the building, and demonstrating the financial wherewithal to operate the shrine once built.

On December 27, 1965, thousands of spectators and swimmers from all 50 states and eleven foreign countries participated in and witnessed the dedication of the Swimming Hall of Fame complex and an international swimming meet organized by the Swimming Hall of Fame. The events were nationally televised by on the CBS Sports Spectacular.

On January 4th, the City Commission unanimously adopted: **A RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE RECREATION DEPARTMENT, SWIMMING HALL OF FAME COMMITTEE, SWIMMING HALL OF FAME, INC., COLLEGE SWIM COACHES ASSOCIATION, AND FORT LAUDERDALE SWIMMING ASSOCIATION FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE IN THE DEDICATION OF THE NEW OLYMPIC POOL IN THE SWIMMING HALL OF FAME COMPLEX.**

The Hall of Fame Shrine Building

Before construction on the Hall of Fame shrine building began, both the City Commissioners and the Hall of Fame, Inc. agreed that the Hall of Fame should raise the sum of \$195,000, to match the projected outside building cost. This was estimated to cover the cost of furnishing the interior of the building with world-class exhibits. By contract, it was the responsibility of the city to erect the building and the SHOF to build exhibits and operate the museum, but when it was learned that the \$195,000 pledged by the city would not cover the cost of the shrine building, the Hall of Fame, Inc. contributed to the city-owned building from its own fund raising efforts. "The remarkable thing about these gifts," said Robert Culliver, of the Hall of Fame

Administration Committee, “is that more than \$100,000 has gone directly into the city-owned building-not into the exhibits, but right into the bricks and mortar of the building itself.”

1968

FINA Recognition

Official “international” status and recognition of the Swimming Hall of Fame came at the 1968 Olympics in Mexico City, when the 105-nation FINA Congress met and endorsed it as an “International Swimming Hall of Fame” – the first world recognized Hall of Fame in any sport. That this institution is in the USA is particularly appropriate because the Hall of Fame idea originated in the United States with Baseball in the 1930’s, and because the United States greatest achievements in a widely international sport are in swimming.

The organization’s Article’s of Incorporation were amended to reflect that the name was changed to “International Swimming Hall of Fame” on June 16, 1969. ISHOF also copyrighted its name and trademark.

1965-1985

The Buck Dawson Era

In 1965 Broward County had the Casino Pool and three 25-yard competitive pools. Not only did the Hall of Fame Pool become the finest swimming stadium on the East coast and one of the finest in the world, but it satisfied the demands of the local competitive swimming community.

Under the operating agreement of 1965 and mutual understandings of that agreement, the City Parks and Recreation Department staffed and maintained the pools and ran programs for the local community. The role of the Hall of Fame was to promote tourism through the operation of the museum and to use its contacts with the aquatic community to bring conventions, conferences and aquatic events to the city. From the time of the opening of the Hall of Fame Complex through the mid 80’s, Buck Dawson, the Swimming Hall of Fame Inc., the American Swimming Coaches Association, and the College Swimming Coaches Association (which operated through the ISHOF) were solely responsible for bidding on and or bringing swimming events for the city, including the annual International Swim Meet, International Dive Meet (now the FINA Diving Grand Prix), the World High Diving Championships, the Aquafollies, National Championships in swimming, diving, synchronized swimming, and water polo, the Galt Ocean Mile Swim, (now Fort Lauderdale Rough Water Swim), the YMCA National Championships and the US Masters National Championships. In addition, Dawson was a tireless promoter who brought many national and international conventions to the city.

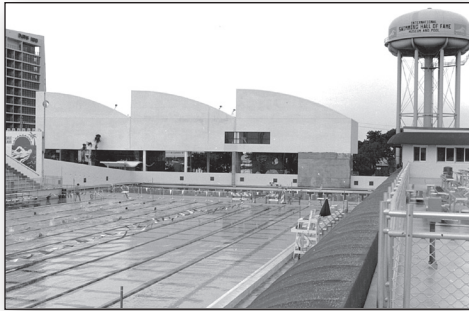
After the initial fund-raising drive that helped build the shrine building, the Hall of Fame struggled financially until Dawson came up with the idea of “Swim A Thon.” The SAT stabilized ISHOF’s finances and by the time Dawson retired in 1985, ISHOF had accumulated a \$1.4 million reserve fund.

The economic impact that the Hall of Fame brought to Fort Lauderdale, estimated to be \$20 million dollars per year by 1985, encouraged other cities to build world class aquatic venues to compete with Fort Lauderdale for events. In many cases, the new facilities conformed to modern safety and competition standards, while the Hall of Fame did not.



1986-1991

Improvements



In 1986, both the City of Fort Lauderdale and the International Swimming Hall of Fame recognized the need for improvements and the two entities collaborated on a fundraising plan that targeted both public and private sources. The city initiated a \$1.18 million-dollar Government Obligation Bond and a \$600,000 allocation from Broward County. With support of local politicians, Olympians and local business leaders, the Hall of Fame initiated a lobbying effort in Tallahassee that resulted in two grants of \$2 million dollars each and \$500K from corporate

and private sources. Funded projects including building a second 50-meter pool, bringing the stadium pool and diving well to national and international standards, building a teaching pool, renovating the bath and locker rooms, resurfacing the deck, renovating the bleachers, replacing filtration and pumping systems and expanding the Hall of Fame museum.

The contract with the design consultant, Arquitectonica International, was a three-party agreement, naming the City of Fort Lauderdale, International Swimming Hall of Fame, Inc. and the design firm.

The first meet to be held at the new facility was the USA Swimming National Championships was held in August of 1991. Two World Records were set in the newly renovated pool.

On August 13, 1991, Mike Barrowman set the world record in the 200-meter Breaststroke in a time of 2:10.60 and on the same day, Martin Zubero of Spain, broke the world record in the 200-meter backstroke in a time of 1:57.30.



What's Next?

1991-2018

Aquatic Complex

With the newly renovated pools and museum buildings, the years marched on with memorable events year after year at the Hall of Fame in the sports of swimming, diving, water polo and synchronized swimming. Then in 2002, Michael Phelps and Natalie Coughlin set last world records in Fort Lauderdale. Phelps in an epic 400m individual medley and Coughlin became the first woman in the world under the one minute mark in the



100-meter backstroke.

However, by 2011, it had been almost thirty

years since the 1991 renovation and the pools

and Hall of Fame were showing their age. Sadly, the bleachers were closed and resulted in the cancellation of many major events, including the FINA Grand Prix and beloved YMCA Short Course Nationals. Establishing a plan, securing funds and obtaining approval for new renovations is no easy task and it would be another decade before crossing the finish line.



2019

The Aquatic Complex's New Plan for the Future!

The push took a lot of effort, from a lot of people, but, on July, 18, 2018, the City of Fort Lauderdale voted to approve the \$27 million budget to renovate its aging aquatic complex.

The swimming community in Fort Lauderdale showed tremendous excitement over the passing of the budget. Many of the voters in the City of Fort Lauderdale expressed the need for the pool to return to its original state, and that it was about time the pool was to be renovated again. Likewise, swimming enthusiasts across the world were excited as the aging pool will finally be receiving a much-needed makeover. Fort Lauderdale, famous for swimming, will once again become a major destination for aquatic sports.



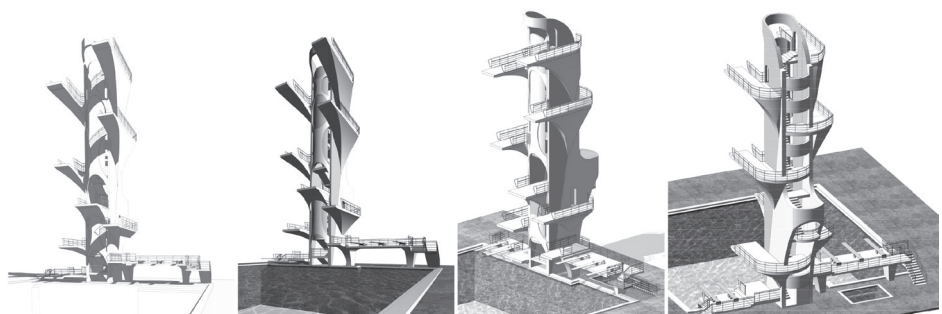
The renovations will include:

- FINA compliant standard pool with two movable bulkheads.
- Remove existing diving pool and provide new fully FINA compliant diving pool and tower with a full complement of platform levels and springboards.
- Remove existing spa for divers and provide new spa
- Repair existing 50m training pool with new surfacing and gutter system.
- Relocate and expand the instructional pool to the southwest corner of the peninsula
- Provide new filtration system, pumps, and chlorination system for all pools.
- Resurface and raise pool deck to allow for increased pool depths for competition-level use
- Remove existing grandstand building and bleachers on north side of facility and provide new grandstand with spectator restrooms, concessions, ticket office, and bleachers for +/- 1500 spectator capacity.
- Provide site improvements that include parking and drainage improvements, new stadium lighting, landscaping, sidewalks, and new main entry plaza.

2019

27-Meter Dive Tower

The City of Fort Lauderdale has decided to proceed with plans to design and include an iconic High Diving Tower to be included in its latest renovation of the Hall of Fame Aquatic Center.



When constructed, the dive tower will be the only one of its kind in the world and the first 27M dive tower and springboard combination, an ideal training center for divers in the United States and throughout the world.

High Diving is poised to become an Olympic event as early as 2024. It is currently an approved FINA Diving event for the World Championships. The world's other high diving tower is in China.

2017-2018

ISHOF New Lease with Fort Lauderdale, New President/CEO

ISHOF opened its world-renowned museum and shrine to aquatic sports in Fort Lauderdale back in 1965. ISHOF's 50-year lease with the City of Fort Lauderdale expired in 2015 and without a long-term contract, the question of whether ISHOF would remain in Fort Lauderdale was finally answered in November 2017 when the ISHOF Board of Directors hired Brent Rutemiller as its President/CEO. As a result of the City's renovation project for the aquatic complex, the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF), signed a 30-year lease to remain in Fort Lauderdale, Florida. Bruce Wigo would remain on as ISHOF's historian, filling the role formerly held by Bob Duenkel.



“Today starts a new era for the City of Fort Lauderdale, the International Swimming Hall of Fame, and the aquatic community worldwide. We are very excited about the future of ISHOF and want to thank Lee Feldman, Mayor Dean Trantalis, Commissioner Steven Glassman, Heather Moraitis, Robert McKinzie and Ben Sorensen for their trust and support for ISHOF and their vision for this iconic aquatic complex,” said Rutemiller.

“We look forward to building this relationship into a model of how a city can work with a non-profit entity that has mutual goals for the community. This is only the start. Our next step is to look at other infrastructural improvements relating to the museum and our incredible one-of-a-kind memorabilia.”

In addition to the \$27 million renovation of the aquatic complex, and ISHOF's new 30-year lease, with ISHOF's new leadership in President/CEO, Brent Rutemiller, came the merger of ISHOF and *Swimming World* Magazine.

TODAY

A Voice for the Sport: International Swimming Hall of Fame Poised for Greatness

Commentary by Brent Rutemiller, President/CEO, ISHOF and Publisher of Swimming World Magazine.

For those who have not been following events surrounding the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF), please let me bring you up to date. It was announced in 2017, on Nov. 3, that *Swimming World* would merge operations with the International Swimming Hall of Fame. Much progress has been made to consolidate these two important institutions. A major event took place in August 2018 when Sports Publications, International—Parent Corporation of *Swimming World*—transferred its stock to the International Swimming Hall of Fame. The transaction brings more financial stability to ISHOF and allows the transition of *Swimming World* Magazine subscribers to become ISHOF members, and *Swimming World* advertisers to become ISHOF sponsors.

The inclusion of *Swimming World* properties into ISHOF's portfolio creates new opportunities and new products that will elevate ISHOF. Significant upgrades to the museum are already completed, including the conversion of parts of the Henning Library into a television studio for new multi-media programming and products. Offices have been upgraded, and new *Swimming World* staff relocated to Fort Lauderdale.

The stock transfer was predicated on two other major events that directly affected ISHOF. The most significant event was the announcement that the City of Fort Lauderdale will invest \$27 million to renovate and upgrade the aquatic center, and the reconstruction began early in 2019 and should be completed in early to mid 2021.

As a result of the upgrades, there has been much interest in major events returning to Fort Lauderdale on a national and international basis. The infusion of new dollars for the facility has created excitement for the city and ISHOF that will surely extend to upgrades in the museum and its displays.

The month following the city's \$27 million approval to renovate the aquatic center, ISHOF and the Fort Lauderdale City Commissioners came to terms on a 30-year lease, ensuring that ISHOF remains permanently attached to the aquatic center. Within that agreement, the city has agreed to work with ISHOF to revert the name of the aquatic center back to the International Swimming Hall of Fame Aquatic Center with the intent of finding dollars from a presenting sponsor.

So, now that three strategic actions have taken place surrounding the International Swimming Hall of Fame, ISHOF is poised to fulfill its true mission. However, renovation, a long-term lease and the merger with Swimming World only establishes a strong foundation. It is up to everyone in the swimming community to build on this momentum to make things even better!

ISHOF's leadership and board are now turning their attention to establishing a new vision on how it will display, archive and preserve the rich history of aquatic sports. And with any new idea, dollars will have to be obtained for any vision to reach its fruition. Look for ISHOF to set a new and exciting course, and in the meantime, please consider becoming a member of ISHOF and donating to help us preserve the history of aquatic sports.

Athletes that have represented the City of Fort Lauderdale as members of the USA Olympic Team:

Swimmers - Fort Lauderdale Swim Team

Joel Thomas	1996	4x100 Freestyle Relay	Gold Medalist
Paige Zemina	1988	4x100 Freestyle Relay	Bronze Medalist
Jack Nelson*	1976	Head Women's Team Coach	Coach
Dave Edgar	1972	4x100 Freestyle Relay	Gold Medalist
Dave Edgar	1972	100m Butterfly	5thPlace
Shirley Stobbs	1960	4x100 Freestyle Relay	Gold Medalist
Jack Nelson	1956	200mButterfly	4thPlace
Katherine Rawls (Casino Pool)	1936	4x100 Freestyle Relay	Gold Medalist

**Jack Nelson is the only head Olympic swimming coach to have also been an Olympic athlete.*

Divers - Fort Lauderdale Dive Team

Dave Burgering	2008	Coach	.
Jevon Tarantino	2008	3m Synchro	.
Tim O'Brien	2000	Coach	.
Michelle Davison	2000	3m Springboard; 3m Synchro	.
Scott Donie	1992	3m Springboard	Silver Medalist
Mary Ellen Clark	1992	10m Platform	Bronze Medalist
Mary Ellen Clark	1996	10m Platform	Bronze Medalist
Kent Ferguson	1992	3m Springboard	.
Karen LaFace	1992	3m Springboard	.
Jenny Keim	1996	3m Springboard	.
Dr. Ron O'Brien	1992	Coach	.
Dr. Ron O'Brien	1996	Coach	.
Elbert Roon (Casino Pool)	1936	10m Platform	Silver Medalist
Katherine Rawls (Casino Pool)	1936	3m Springboard	Silver Medalist
Katherine Rawls (Casino Pool)	1932	3m Springboard	Silver Medalist

World Records

Since its opening, ten world records have been set at the Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex. Two were broken in one day on August 13, 1991, during the Phillips 66/US National Swimming Championships. Two more were broken within 48 hours in August 2002.

For other world records, see the following chart:

Swimmer	Country	Event	Time	Date
Catie Ball	USA	100m Breaststroke	1:15.60	12/28/66
Pam Kruse	USA	400m Freestyle	4:36.80	06/30/67
Andy Coan	USA	100m Freestyle	51.11	08/03/75
Mary T. Meagher	USA	200M Butterfly	2:08.41	08/16/79
Mary T. Meagher	USA	200M Butterfly	2:07.01	08/16/79
Kim Linehan	USA	1500m Freestyle	16:04.49	08/19/79
Martin Zubero	ESP	200m Backstroke	1:57.30	08/13/91
Mike Barrowman	USA	200m Breaststroke	2:10.60	08/13/91
Natalie Coughlin	USA	100m Backstroke	0:59.58	08/13/02
Michael Phelps	US	400m Individual Medley	4:11.09	08/15/02

The Fort Lauderdale Aquatic Complex is home to U.S. National Team Champions, the Fort Lauderdale Dive Team (FLDT), and Swim Fort Lauderdale (SFTL). Swim Fort Lauderdale is an award-winning USA Swimming and U.S. Masters Swimming team. In 2012, SFTL earned USA Swimming Level 3 club honors and was recognized by USA Swimming as a Silver Medal National Club of Excellence.

Dave Burgering, 2008 USA Olympic Coach, member of the 1980 USA Olympic team, and Past President of USA Diving directs the diving team. With over 70 years of combined experience, highly acclaimed coaches Jennifer and Dave Gibson are the head age group coaches for Swim Fort Lauderdale. Marty Hendrick, who led Fort Lauderdale swimmers to the 2010 U.S. Masters National team championship title is the head coach of the adult Masters team.

The aquatic complex is an active facility and hosts an average of 50 events each year over an impressive 100 days. The pool's legacy includes the Annual College Swim Forum; U.S. National Swimming Championships; YMCA National Swimming & Diving Championships; U.S. Masters National Swimming Championships; NCAA National Water Polo Championships; the FINA/U.S. International Diving Invitational and national and international synchronized swimming competitions.

As a training site for many national and international teams, the complex is unique in that it is also a public facility, operated by the City's Parks and Recreation Department. Citizens and visitors of Fort Lauderdale have an opportunity to swim in the same pool that Olympic and World Champions train and ten world records have been set.