Dear Crawfish Aquatics Families, Friends and Followers,

Welcome to 2025! This past year has been unforgettable for many reasons. Like any family or organization, we experienced our share of challenges and triumphs, both individually and collectively.

I'd like to take a moment to reflect on the positives from 2024 and share some highlights with you. Once again, I am amazed by the incredible accomplishments of our Crawfish Aquatics athletes. Beyond their achievements in the pool, I'm most grateful for the outstanding individuals they are, as shared with me by our coaching staff.

As a team, we are truly fortunate to work with such remarkable athletes and the families who support them. The connections formed here are bonds we deeply value, and it's our hope they stay with you long after your time with us.

Let's take a look back at the highlights of 2024 and celebrate the many areas in which we can all be proud!

## **COMPETITIVE TEAM**

- Won both the Senior and Age Group Short Course State Titles in February
- Won both the Senior and Age Group Short Course State Titles in July
- Athletes set 27 short course yards individual and relay team records
- Athletes set 30 long course meters individual and relay team records
- Athletes set 15 individual and relay state records
- Swim A Thon- we raised a bit over \$98,000!
- Graduated four athletes who are now swimming in college (Centenary College, Colorado Mesa University,
  Henderson State and University of Kentucky) with several current juniors and seniors who already in the process to
  pick a school where to attend and compete beginning in 2025
- Hosted 8 USA Swimming sanctioned meets across our BR and Lafayette locations for our Junior/Senior division and rising AG division and HS Group swimmers.
- Hosted 7 Next Gen Meets across our BR and Lafayette locations for our developmental competitive groups,
   designed to prepare our next generation of team members for competing and expanding their meet event line up.
- Hosted the 4th Annual End of Summer Splash, a USA Swimming championship meet for non-state qualifiers from CA and other Louisiana Swimming teams.
- Hosted our 7th Annual Alumni Meet where we had more than 30 former athletes compete and even more former
  athletes and families come back for a great late afternoon of reconnecting. The Alumni were dominant, well sort
  of.... We hope to get over 50 back the pool at the 2025 Meet so we need your help spreading the word.
  Competition is always on the 26th of December.
- 2024 High School Season Produced Tremendous Results and accomplishments:
   CCSL Championship Wrap Up
   LHSAA State Championship
- Hosted non team programming to benefit more than just our CA Family
  - CCSL League (high school) in Baton Rouge had over 450 participants and a majorly successful City Meet
  - Hosted four high school meets with teams from Lafayette, Lake Charles, Baton Rouge and Thibodaux with over 1000 participants in each competition with well over 200 at our largest competition at our Lafayette location.
  - BR Middle School League had over 500 athletes athletes and large Championship Meet in November

## **LESSONS PROGRAM**

With four different locations for swim lessons, we pride ourselves in helping infants, youth, teens, and adults the ability to learn to swim. It is a lifelong skill and the value of knowing how to swim can never be overstated. It is a 'Gift For Life.' Many of these new swimmers become members of our team and family.

- 1,615 lessons taught in Baton Rouge at swim team site
- 984 lessons taught in Lafayette
- 86 outreach lessons provided at no cost to the participants.
- Over 3,600 people were enrolled through the Swim School Programs at the Siegen and Bayou Oaks locations this vear!
- We partnered with BREC to provide lessons to 427 summer campers in 2024 and will again do so in 2025 with even more campers!

## **FINAL THOUGHTS**

In 2025 we were blessed to continue upgrades to our facilities. New starting blocks were added with wedges at our Bluebonnet site allowing the competition blocks from BR to be installed at our Lafayette indoor facility. Stairs were fixed at our Lafayette pavilion early in the year. The entire filtration system was replaced on the outdoor pool in Baton Rouge. Those were just some of the larger projects done. In 2025, we have a few projects in mind to improve the quality of facility, experience and programming opportunities. While not officially set, we are in the process of determining needs and getting pricing as they will be costly projects.

As is always the case and my annual plea, help and support at competitions (both hosted and meets we attend as visitors) is essential. We always need timers to help run the meets and we NEED MORE OFFICIALS to continue hosting meets. Officials are required for us to host and conduct sanctioned meets, which provides opportunities with less travel and cost to our families. We had many new faces sign up last year and I would consider us to have a growing community of officials, which is so awesome to see. Please consider becoming a registered USA Swimming Official (you get to be in the middle of the action & meet fees are always on us). Email us at office.br@crawfishaquatics.com or office.lafayette@crawfishaquatics.com for more information.

It's worth repeating because it truly makes a difference: your vocal support and affirmation of the values your athletes gain at Crawfish Aquatics are invaluable. Word-of-mouth advertising remains our most effective way to share how much youth benefit from this sport, building connections with other great kids, and learning from excellent coaches and mentors. A positive social media post on Facebook or Instagram highlighting your experience, or a quick Google review, goes a long way in guiding interested parents our way. Please continue to encourage those you know to consider joining the program—we deeply appreciate your support!

We are committed to evolving and reinvesting in you, our valued members. We want to hear from you about what could improve your experience with us. Whether it's feedback, suggestions, or even constructive criticism, we welcome any ideas that can enhance the experience for your family and all families involved now and in the future. Please feel free to send your thoughts and comments to our main Baton Rouge office at office.br@crawfishaquatics.com. We appreciate your input as we continue to grow and improve!

As always, I want to say how blessed we are as a staff to serve you, our families, and we pray you will always find value in this sport that we all love. May your 2025 be incredible and I want to wish you all a belated Happy New Year!!

Looking forward to an amazing 2025!

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## Rate & Review us on Google!

-Crawfish Aquatics, Baton Rouge: <a href="https://g.page/r/CfigK7D87od2EBM/review">https://g.page/r/CfigK7D87od2EBM/review</a>
-Crawfish Aquatics, Lafayette: <a href="https://g.page/r/CT3GjDoFebthEBM/review">https://g.page/r/CT3GjDoFebthEBM/review</a>