

1939-1964



TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SWIMMING

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A HISTORY OF THE
MICHIGAN INTER-CLUB SWIMMING ASSOCIATION

By William P. Black
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THE BACKGROUND

As one of the pioneer sponsors of age group swimming in the United States, the Michigan Inter-Club Swimming Association was formed in the spring of 1940 after preliminary conversations among swimming coaches of clubs of the Detroit area in the late summer of 1939. It has functioned each year since then, with various changes in the list of member clubs. The year of 1964 is, thus, the 25th of the Association's operation; and the 1964 Championship Meet, in which teams from twelve clubs will participate, is the 25th annual meet of this kind.

Prime mover in the organization of the association was the late Clarence E. Pinkston, Olympic platform diving champion at Antwerp in 1920 and swimming director of the Detroit Athletic Club from 1927 to 1961. Along with his wife, Mrs. Betty Pinkston who won the women's springboard diving championship at the Paris Olympics in 1924 and the platform championship at the Amsterdam Olympics in 1928, he had also been swimming coach at the Detroit Golf Club since 1938.

Leading up to the formation of the association was a growing interest in competitive swimming by the sons and daughters of members of several Detroit area clubs, which had installed outdoor swimming pools at various times from 1928 on. The same interest was also evident at the Detroit Yacht Club, which had included an indoor pool in the new club house it had completed in 1923.

Until 1938, competitive swimming in the younger age groups at the clubs which originally made up the association had been confined to club "splash parties" and other intra-mural affairs at which

members' sons and daughters competed against each other, usually after exhibitions by older star swimmers and divers from the Detroit Athletic Club and elsewhere. In the summer of 1938, however, Junior Boys Relay Teams in the 16 and 17 age bracket from the Detroit Boat Club, the Detroit Golf Club, and the Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club swam a "home-and-home" schedule of races against each other, with the Boat Club coming out on top. In the following year, such teams from the Boat Club, the Golf Club, and the Detroit Yacht Club competed against each other in a similar schedule, with the Golf Club the winner.

After commenting on the results of this competition in 1939, the September issue of the Detroit Golf Club magazine, "The Golfer", had this to say about the idea of a more comprehensive inter-club swimming program: "Plans for next summer are being made for an interesting series of races and relays for sons and daughters of members of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, the Detroit Yacht Club, the Detroit Boat Club, the Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club and the Detroit Golf Club."

As it turned out, the Grosse Ile Golf and Country Club decided against joining the association at the beginning. However, after contacts by Mr. Pinkston with their swimming coaches in the spring of 1940, two other clubs were brought in to join the Boat Club, the Golf Club and the two yacht clubs. These were the Oakland Hills Country Club and the Flint Country Club. Thus the association started out in 1940 with six full-fledged members. Later in the summer of that year Pine Lake Country Club was invited to send some of its swimmers to

the first Championship Meet, and did so, even though it was not officially a member of the organization.

In considering the formation of the M.I.S.A., it should be borne in mind that it was primarily a project of the coaches. Swimming committee chairmen of the different clubs, of course, cooperated and furnished advice as to procedure, but it was the coaches who planned the schedule of meets, established the age groups and list of events, and set up the rules for scoring, for eligibility, and for the handling of the meets. It was the coaches, moreover, who were responsible for finding trophies for the Championship Meet, with the Pinkston Trophy for the team championship being furnished by an "anonymous" donor, who later turned out to be Fred Matthaei of the Detroit Golf Club.

As originally set up, the M.I.S.A. was a rather informally operated organization. No Articles of Incorporation were filed with the Secretary of State in Lansing, and no constitution or by-laws were drawn up. Decisions as to the handling of meets were made by the coaches on the spot, and no minutes were made of their meetings.

Besides Mr. Pinkston and his wife, Betty, for the Detroit Golf Club, the coaches of the charter member clubs in 1940 were William J. Reaume for the Detroit Boat Club, Stanley Bryda for the Detroit Yacht Club, Lloyd Senglaub for the Flint Country Club, Stanhope MacLeod for the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, and Charles Leadbetter and Clem York for the Oakland Hills Country Club. The Pine Lake Country Club swimmers, who participated in the 1940 Championship Meet, were coached by Victor Menden.

THE FIRST YEARS OF OPERATION

For the initial year of the M.I.S.A., it was decided that a series of combined meets for swimmers of the member clubs should be held throughout the summer of 1940 prior to a final Championship Meet which was scheduled at the Detroit Golf Club on September 5, 1940. At the first of these preliminary meets, which was held at the Detroit Boat Club on June 25, 1940, only teams from the Boat Club, the Golf Club and the Detroit Yacht Club participated, with the Oakland Hills team held up by a heavy rain storm and the Grosse Pointe and Flint teams not yet ready for competition. At subsequent preliminary meets later in the summer, however, swimmers from these other clubs did participate.

In these meets, each club was limited to a single entry in the individual events; and the same rule held for the first Championship Meet at the Detroit Golf Club on September 5, 1940. The age groups were: 11 and under for boys and girls; 12 and 13 for boys; 12, 13 and 14 for girls; 14 and 15 for boys; 15 and over for girls; and 16 and over for boys. There were seventeen events, including four relays.

The initial list of events called for generally shorter distances than those swum in the most nearly comparable age groups of today's M.I.S.A. meets. This list consisted of 25-meter freestyle races for 11-and-under boys and girls, 12-and-13 boys, and 12-13-14 girls; 50-meter freestyle races for 14-and-15 boys, 15-and-over girls, and 16-and-over boys; 25-meter backstroke and breaststroke races for 14-and-15 boys and 12-13-14 girls; 75-meter individual

medley races for 16-and-over boys and 15-and-over girls; 100-meter freestyle relay races for boys (total age 56 years) and girls (total age 54 years); and 75-meter medley relay races for boys (total age 43 years) and girls (total age 42 years).

The final standings for the first Championship Meet were: the Detroit Golf Club, 99 points; the Detroit Boat Club, 74-1/2; the Flint Country Club, 65; the Detroit Yacht Club, 62; the Oakland Hills Country Club, 36; the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, 25; and the Pine Lake Country Club, 23-1/2. Besides the Pinkston Trophy for the overall team championship, there were also trophies for boys' and girls' team championships, for the freestyle relays, and for the medley relays.

Winning times for the various races of this meet were slow by today's standards, but were highly commendable in that era before the later general use of flip turns, regular winter indoor swimming, and intensive daily workouts and training by most of the better M.I.S.A. swimmers. The times included 29.6 seconds by Hugh Clark of the Boat Club in the 50-meter 16-and-over boys freestyle (compared with the current M.I.S.A. record of 25.4 for the 50-meter 15-and-16 boys freestyle); 34.0 seconds by Janet Ensing of the Golf Club for the 50-meter 15-and-over girls freestyle (compared with the current record of 29.7 for the 50-meter girls 15-and-16 freestyle); and 31.6 seconds by Sid O'Brien of the Boat Club for the 50-meter 14-and-15 boys freestyle (compared with the current record of 25.6 for the 50-meter boys 13-and-14 freestyle).

In the second year of the M.I.S.A. operation in 1941, teams from the six charter-member clubs again competed in combined preliminary

meets and in another Championship Meet, which was held at the Golf Club on August 28. At this meet, the Golf Club was again the winner, with the Boat Club a close second and Pine Lake not represented.

Some minor changes were made in the list of events in 1941. The total age limits for the freestyle relays were brought to 56 for both boys and girls and, for the medley relays, to 42 for both boys and girls. One more freestyle event added for girls: this was accomplished by setting up separate 25-meter races for girls in the 12-and-13 group and those in the 14-and-15 group, and changing the 50-meter freestyle race from 15-and-over to 16-and-over. The total number of events was thus brought to eighteen.

In 1942, the Detroit Yacht Club dropped out of the competition because of the call of its coach, Stanley Bryda, to service in the Navy. The other five charter-member clubs, however, continued their competition in combined preliminary meets and in the Championship Meet, which was held at and won by the Boat Club. Also won by the Boat Club was a new trophy put up for the best team showing in the preliminary meets. This is the same trophy that was later awarded to the team winning the M.I.S.A. dual meet championship; but it was not until 1945 that the dual meet series was started between teams of member clubs.

Meanwhile, the preliminary and final championship meets were continued in 1943 and 1944. Flint dropped out in the former year because of wartime transportation difficulties, but the Detroit Yacht Club team returned to the competition in 1944, under Bill Brooks as substitute coach for Stanley Bryda who was still in the Navy.

Beginning in 1941, Charles Leadbetter was the only coach at Oakland

Hills, while two years later Max Lucas had succeeded Stanhope MacLeod as coach at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

In 1943, the Boat Club was again the winner of the preliminary combined meet trophy while the Golf Club was back at the top of the standing in the Championship Meet. In 1944, however, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club was the winner of both trophies. For this, the transfer of allegiance from the Boat Club to the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club by the Shipton girls was an important contributing factor.

Other outstanding swimmers of this period included Clark Scholes Warren Babcock, and Julie Young of the Golf Club; Sid O'Brien and Alice Crabb of the Boat Club; Burwell (Bumpy) Jones of the Detroit Yacht Club; and Rita Stetson of Oakland Hills. Winning times had continued to improve from 1941 on, and new records were set in the majority of events each year. The list of events, meanwhile, had been cut to seventeen by eliminating the two individual medley races and adding a 100-meter junior mixed relay with a total age limit of 50 years.

DUAL MEET COMPETITION IS STARTED

Informal dual meets, which had no bearing on the scoring for the preliminary combined meet championship trophy, were held between teams of the Boat Club, the Golf Club, and the Detroit Yacht Club in 1944; but the regular round robin series of such meets between M.I.S.A. member clubs, as held today, was not started until the summer of 1945. In these meets, two entries in the individual races were allowed each team, and the same schedule of seventeen events that had made up the 1944 Championship Meet program was followed.

In order to equalize the competition and make up for the lesser manpower available at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Oakland Hills Country Club, these two clubs were allowed to swim a contestant in four events as compared with only two events per contestant for the other three clubs in meets between them. In meets between the three larger clubs, however, the usual limit of four races for any one contestant, which had been in effect for the Championship Meet, was continued.

Winner of the initial dual meet competition was the Detroit Golf Club, which also won the 1945 Championship Meet by a wide margin over its nearest competitor, the Boat Club. The Golf Club continued to dominate the league in 1946 in winning both the dual meet and Championship Meet competition. It again won the Championship Meets in 1947 and 1948; but its hold on the dual meet trophy was broken by the Detroit Yacht Club in 1947 and by the Boat Club in 1948.

In running up its string of four successive Championship Meet victories from 1945 through 1948 the Golf Club was strongly aided by Clark Scholes, subsequent winner of the gold medal in the 100-meter freestyle at the Helsinki Olympic games in 1952. Julie Young and Warren Babcock also continued as important point winners for the club.

In 1948, the handicapping advantage for the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Oakland Hills Country Club was extended to add the privilege of canceling any three individual events and two relays when swimming against the Boat Club, the Golf Club, or the Detroit Yacht Club. This helped the Grosse Pointe and Oakland Hills clubs score occasional dual meet victories over the other three during the immediately succeeding years.

In the Championship Meets, the string of Detroit Golf Club wins was finally broken by the Detroit Boat Club in 1949 when it scored 99 points against 72 for the Detroit Yacht Club, 66 for the Detroit Golf Club, 46 for the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, and 39 for Oakland Hills Country Club. Aiding the Boat Club were two new members, Emily Hardy and Paul Elvidge. Winner of the dual meet competition that year was the Detroit Yacht Club.

The season of 1949 was the last of a series of twelve for the Pinkstons as coaches at the Detroit Golf Club. They were succeeded in 1950 by George H. Cairns. Meanwhile, Stanley Bryda had returned in 1946 to his coaching duties at the Detroit Yacht Club where Walter Dierkes had coached in 1945; while Bill Reaume continued to coach at the Boat Club. Max Lucas at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Charles Leadbetter at Oakland Hills Country Club.

Presidents of the association during its first decade of operation had included George E. Tomkinson of the Golf Club, G. Russell French of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, William C. Knight of the Boat Club, and A. A. Appleford of Oakland Hills Country Club. However, through the 1949 season, the coaches had continued to carry most of the responsibility for the operation of the association and the handling of the dual and Championship Meet programs.

In 1950, with Clarence Pinkston no longer active in the association and with T. F. O'Connell of Oakland Hills Country Club assuming the presidency, the swimming committee chairmen and vice chairmen of the various clubs began to take over the management of the M.I.S.A. operations. In that year, the Golf Club was back at the top in the Championship Meet, while the Boat Club was the winner of

the dual meet series, with the same events swum as in 1949 but with some minor changes made in dual meet scoring and procedures.

During Mr. O'Connell's second term as president in 1951, the first set of written M.I.S.A. by-laws or "Rules and Regulations" was drawn up and adopted. These described the purpose of the association as "to promote friendly swimming competition and sociability among the boys and girls of the member clubs" and spelled out the procedures to be followed, the list of events to be swum, and the rules for scoring, eligibility, handicapping, starts, and strokes for the different races. Included was the provision that each club was to have but one vote at meetings, with this to be cast by the aquatic chairman or his representative, as opposed to the former practice of voting privileges for coaches as well.

Distances for the 1951 season were lengthened from 25 to 50 meters in five events, the 14-and-15-year boys back and breaststrokes, and the 14-and-15 girls freestyle and back and breaststrokes. A senior mixed 200-meter freestyle relay was added for boys and girls in the 16-to-18 age group to bring the total number of events to eighteen, while the former privilege of "up-grading" or allowing swimmers of a younger age group to compete in older age group events was terminated.

At the beginning of the 1951 season, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club announced its inability to compete in the dual or Championship meets because of a lack of sufficient swimmers. This left a four-club competition, with the Boat Club again winning the dual meet series and the Golf Club the Championship Meet. Robert O. Ringel had succeeded George Cairns as coach of the Golf Club because of the

latter's call to service in the Navy, but no changes were made in the coaches of the other clubs.

New records had continued to be set each year, with important point winners for the different clubs at the beginning of the 1950 decade including Peter Dow and Paul Elvidge of the Boat Club, Mike Risdon and Tim O'Rourke of the Golf Club, Tom Wines and Kitty Kennary of the Detroit Yacht Club, Pat O'Connell and John Burleigh of Oakland Hills, and Laura Lou Smith of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

THE PERIOD OF EXPANSION

Because of the uncertainty of the return of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club to M.I.S.A. competition in 1952, an Expansion Committee was appointed in the late summer of 1951 to see if other clubs might be brought into the association, with the idea of bringing the membership up to six or seven. The Flint Golf Club was found still not interested in resuming its pre-war membership; but some interest was shown by the Inverness Club and the Sylvania Country Club of Toledo, which previously had engaged in non-league dual meets with the Boat Club and Oakland Hills Country Club, respectively. Their final decision at the end of 1951, however, was against becoming M.I.S.A. members.

With the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club again fielding a team in 1952, with the Pinkstons engaged as coaches, no further efforts to expand the association's membership were made in that year. The boys 16-to-18 freestyle race was lengthened on a trial basis from 50 to 100 meters, and the boys and girls 12-and-13 freestyle was lengthened from 25 to 50 meters. Winner of the 1952 dual meet series was the

Detroit Yacht Club, while the Boat Club finished first in the Championship Meet.

A novel experiment at the end of the season was a telephonic meet in which the best M.I.S.A. swimmers competed on a comparative time basis over an open telephone wire with the best swimmers of the six-club Connecticut Swimming Association. With the schedule of races adjusted slightly to conform to that swum in the Connecticut league, the final result showed the M.I.S.A. the winner by a score of 140-1/2 to 108-1/2. Because of the ill health of Joseph Wines of the Detroit Yacht Club, T. F. O'Connell served as M.I.S.A. president for the third year in 1952.

With more clubs of the Detroit area having built or in the process of building pools, it was voted at the M.I.S.A. annual meeting in May 1953 that letters should be sent to these clubs to inquire as to their interest in joining the association in 1954 or later. Such letters were subsequently sent out by the newly elected M.I.S.A. president, William P. Black of the Boat Club. These letters went to the Lochmoor Club, Meadowbrook Country Club, Red Run Golf Club, Plum Hollow Golf Club, Western Golf & Country Club, the Country Club of Detroit, and Orchard Lake Country Club, the last of which had started age group swimming in the lake on its property. Written or verbal replies expressing interest in becoming members of the association at some future date were received from all seven clubs, and representatives of some of them attended an M.I.S.A. dual meet or the 1953 Championship Meet as observers.

Changes in the schedule of events for 1953 were the addition of 25-meter freestyle races for 9-and-under boys and girls and the return

to a 50-meter length for the boys 16-to-18 freestyle race. Winner of both the dual and Championship Meet trophies that year was the Boat Club. Big point winners for the different clubs included George Black, Jill Taylor, and Kitty Hurton for the Boat Club; Tim O'Rourke and Mike Risdon for the Golf Club; Kitty Kennary and Tom Wines for the Detroit Yacht Club; Pat O'Connell and Pat Palmer for Oakland Hills; and Harry Huffaker and Eileen Cross for the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

Eight more new records were set in 1953. At the end of the season, the only records dating back before 1951 were 27.1 by Clark Scholes for the 16-to-18 boys 50-meter freestyle in 1947 and 14.9 by Mike Risdon for the 10-and-11 boys 25-meter freestyle in 1949.

George Cairns was back from the Navy as coach of the Golf Club team in 1953, while Charles Leadbetter was assisted by Bernie Krzywada as coach at Oakland Hills.

At the May 5, 1954 annual meeting, it was decided that the seven clubs, to which letters had been sent the year before, should be offered "associate" memberships if they did not feel ready for competition in the full M.I.S.A. program. Such memberships would not call for participation in a regular schedule of dual meets; but they would permit entry in the Championship Meet of any swimmers who had participated in two dual meets during the season, with the M.I.S.A. officers to help arrange at least two dual meets for each club. The yearly assessment for associate-member clubs, meanwhile, was to be only \$50 as compared with \$200 for the regular member clubs. Another action at the meeting was a decision to permit use of the full-fledged A.A.U. "butterfly" stroke in all M.I.S.A. "breaststroke" races

Of the seven clubs which had been approached in 1953, all but the Country Club of Detroit elected to become associate members in 1954. This made it necessary to change the Championship Meet from a one-day affair to a two-day meet, with preliminary heats for the different events on the first day to qualify the five best swimmers and relay teams for the final day. Another change was to permit each club to enter two swimmers instead of one in the Championship Meet individual races, while a change at the beginning of the dual meet season was the addition of 25 meter backstroke races for 12-and-13 boys and girls to bring the total list of events to twenty-two.

In the eleven-club Championship Meet that year, the Golf Club was the winner with 97 points, while the highest score for any of the new member clubs was 17 for Red Run. The new clubs, however, produced three winners - Peggy Wirth of Red Run in the girls 9-and-under freestyle, Russ Hibbard of Orchard Lake in the boys 16-to-18 freestyle and Jack Cherry of Plum Hollow in the boys 14-and-15 freestyle. Winner of the 1954 dual meet series was also the Golf Club. Coaches of the associate member clubs were Jack Mathews for Lochmoor, Ray Mondro for Meadowbrook, Desmond Boyce for Orchard Lake, Sam Madden for Plum Hollow, Robert Ringel for Red Run, and Anthony Sande for Western, while Bernie Krzywada had become head coach at Oakland Hills.

After the end of the season, Orchard Lake made it known that it did not desire to continue its associate membership in 1955; but, at a special meeting of the association on October 5, 1954, the other five associate member clubs were voted in as regular members for 1955. It was agreed that the league should be divided into two divisions for the dual meet program in 1955, and a committee was appointed to

make recommendations on the handicapping regulations for this program. Voted down at this meeting was a proposal that the association change its age groupings to conform with those of the A.A.U.'s Junior Olympic program.

THE BEGINNING OF A TWO-DIVISION LEAGUE

At the 1955 annual meeting, V. R. Bates of Oakland Hills was elected president. Also elected was an executive committee consisting of the president, treasurer, secretary and two other members. This committee was to have the authority to make operating decisions between full M.I.S.A. membership meetings.

It was then agreed that the split into two divisions for the dual meet program should be on a geographical basis, with the five clubs located east of Woodward Avenue to be known as the American Division and the five west of Woodward as the National Division. Each club would swim against the other four in its division plus one club in the other division, with a "swim-off" dual meet at the end of the season between the winners of the two divisions.

To equalize competitive conditions, the league was divided into three classifications, with the Boat Club, the Golf Club, and the Detroit Yacht Club placed in an "A" or scratch group, Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Oakland Hills in a "B" or intermediate group, and the five newer member clubs in a "C" group. The last group would have the right to cancel three individual events and two relays, to use swimmers in four as against two events and to "up-grade" their swimmers from a younger to an older age group when swimming against the "A" or "B" clubs. In meets between "A" and "B" clubs, the latter

were to have the right to cancel three individual events and two relays. The four-event limit per swimmer was retained for dual meets between clubs of the same group, for dual meets between "A" and "B" clubs, and for the Championship Meet.

Another action at the 1955 annual meeting was a lowering of the yearly assessment for regular member clubs from \$200 to \$150 and continuance of the \$50 assessment for any associate member clubs. Shortly after the annual meeting, the Birmingham Country Club applied for and was granted an associate membership. Its coach was Jay Myers.

New coaches at other clubs in 1955 were Bernie Krzywada for the Golf Club, James Gilster for Oakland Hills, Owen Oktavec for Meadowbrook, and Wally Laury for Western.

In the dual meet competition, the Boat Club was the winner of the American Division and the Golf Club the winner of the National Division, while the Boat Club won the "swim-off" between these two teams. The Boat Club also finished first in the 1955 Championship Meet, with the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club showing the results of the Pinkston coaching by placing second and Red Run placing fifth ahead of Oakland Hills. Red Run was also the only one of the newer member clubs to finish the dual meet series with more wins than losses.

Starting with the 1955 season, it was decided by the executive committee that only times recorded at the Championship Meet would be recognized as M.I.S.A. records; and seven such records were set at the 1955 meet. High scorers for the different clubs during the year included Jim Carne and Belle Roney of the Boat Club, Sharon Crawford of the Golf Club, Tim and Tom Kennedy of the Detroit Yacht Club and Eileen Cross of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club.

At the 1956 annual meeting, the Country Club of Detroit was admitted as an associate member; and it was agreed that two or three dual meets would be arranged for it and Birmingham Country Club, which continued its associate membership. Because of their good showings at the 1955 Championship Meets, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club was moved up from the "B" to the "A" group and Red Run from the "C" to the "B" group for dual meet handicapping purposes.

It was then decided to run the dual meet series in 1956 as a single division, with all "A" clubs to meet each other plus one "B" and one "C" club, the "B" clubs to meet each other plus two "A" and two "C" clubs, and all the "C" clubs to meet each other plus one "A" and one "B" club. Other actions at the annual meeting were votes to shift to the Junior Olympic age groupings plus a 17-and-18 group in 1957, and to limit contestants to three instead of four events in the 1956 Championship Meet.

The dual meet series in 1956 was unexpectedly won by Oakland Hills, while the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club won the Championship Meet by a two-point margin over the Boat Club. In this meet, the long-standing 27.1 record of Clark Scholes in the 16-to-18-year 50-meter freestyle was finally broken by George Black of the Boat Club with 26.9 and Harry Huffaker of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club with 27.0. New coaches during the year were Byrne Marshall for Meadowbrook, George Cairns for Plum Hollow, and James Shepard for the Country Club of Detroit.

With Paul Roth of the Detroit Yacht Club succeeding V. R. Bates as president, the Dearborn Country Club was voted in as a regular member and the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club as an associate member at the

1957 annual meeting. At the same time, the resignations of Meadowbrook as a regular member and Birmingham as an associate member were accepted.

The planned shift to Junior Olympic age groupings for individual races was adopted; but all relays of the previous year were retained, including the 200-meter senior mixed; and a new 100-meter 10-and-under mixed relay was added. The individual races under the new program were to be boys and girls 25-meter 10-and-under freestyle, 25-meter 11-and-12 freestyle and backstroke, 50-meter 13-and-14 freestyle and backstroke, and 50-meter 15-and-16 freestyle, backstroke, and breaststroke for an overall total of twenty-three events.

The return to a two-division dual meet schedule was also voted at the annual meeting, but with the difference from 1955 that separate trophies be given for winners of an "A" division and a "C" division and that cross division meets not be counted in the standings. To accomplish this, the five original M.I.S.A. member clubs were placed in the "A" division and the five newer regular member clubs, including Dearborn, were placed in the "C" division, with the previous handicapping arrangements to apply for cross division meets. After the annual meeting, the Grosse Ile Country Club was admitted as the third associate member.

In the 1957 dual meet series, the "A" division winner was the Boat Club and the "C" division winner Red Run, while the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club repeated as winner of the thirteen-club Championship Meet. All clubs scored at least one point in this meet, with Frances Bonbright of the Country Club of Detroit providing an upset by winning the 13-and-14 girls 50-meter freestyle. Other winners included the

Kennary twins of Detroit Yacht Club, Marcy Bullock of Oakland Hills, Ricky Schoenherr and Eileen Cross of Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, and Peggy Wirth of Red Run.

New coaches in 1957 were Mike Heick for Western, Harry Speelman for Dearborn, Tony Hall for Grosse Ile, and Danny Reaume for Grosse Pointe Hunt Club.

ROUNDING OUT THE FIRST TWENTY YEARS

The same procedure used for handling the dual meet program in 1957 was followed in 1958 except that the Grosse Ile Country Club, which became a regular member, was added to the "C" division to make six teams in that group as compared with five in the "A" division. Meanwhile, the Country Club of Detroit and the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club continued as associate member clubs, with yearly dues raised to \$180 for regular and \$60 for associate member clubs. Winning teams in the dual meet series were the Golf Club in the "A" division and Red Run in the "C" division.

For the 1958 Championship Meet, it was decided that distances should be lengthened on a trial basis from 25 to 50 meters for the boys and girls 11-and-12 freestyle and backstroke races and for the four legs of the boys and girls freestyle relays, total age limit 56 years, and medley relays, total age limit 42 years. Another change for this meet was that no contestant could swim in more than two individual races and one relay, while for both the dual meets and Championship Meet the senior mixed relay was dropped in 1958 to bring the number of events down to twenty-two.

Finishing far ahead of the other teams in the latter meet were the Golf Club in first place with 117 points and the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in second place with 112 points. Swimming without any Kennarys for the first time in many years was the Detroit Yacht Club with only 5 points. In her last year of eligibility, Eileen Cross of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club won the 15-and-16 girls 50-meter freestyle and breaststroke races, while another double winner was Bob Wolf of the Golf Club in the 11-and-12 boys 50-meter freestyle and backstroke races.

Serving as M.I.S.A. president in 1958 was Charles Leadbetter of Western - the same Leadbetter who had coached at Oakland Hills through 1953. New coaches in 1958 were Bernie Krzywada for the Boat Club, Paul Wheeler for the Golf Club, Leo Maas, Sr. for Lochmoor, Harold Jaroch for Grosse Ile and Ed Rockett for the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club.

In 1958 the M.I.S.A. became affiliated with the Michigan A.A.U. under a "closed events" arrangement which prohibited member clubs from swimming against outside teams but which would allow individual swimmers to register and swim in sanctioned A.A.U. events for any outside club of their choice. The problem had arisen in connection with the A.A.U.'s previous stand against some of the M.I.S.A. girls swimming for such clubs as the Turners and Women's City Club in A.A.U. meets as well as for their M.I.S.A. clubs in association meets.

In 1959 the clubs were divided into the same two groups for the dual meet program as in 1958, but the names of the groups were changed to Red and Blue Divisions from the "A" and "C" Divisions. The same events were also swum, except that the girls and boys medley relays were changed from 75 to 100 meters to include an orthodox

breaststroke leg and the total age limit for these two races was raised from 42 to 56 years for both the dual and Championship Meets. Winner of the Red Division was the Boat Club, while the Blue Division leadership was tied by Red Run and Western.

For the 1959 Championship Meet, the distances that had been lengthened on a trial basis in 1958 for four individual events and for the legs of four relays were restored to the 25 meters that had previously been in effect. Another change was that six instead of five lanes were provided, with one point allowed for sixth place and the number of points for the other places increased proportionately.

In this meet, the Boat Club and the Golf Club tied for first place with 134 points each, with Oakland Hills third and Red Run and Western both finishing ahead of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in fourth and fifth place, respectively. New records were set in almost every race, including times of 26.2 and 31.7 by Ken Wiebeck, a new Western star, in the boys 50-meter 13-and-14 freestyle and backstroke, respectively. Other new records included 26.3 by Jack Findlater of the Golf Club in the boys 50-meter 15-and-16 freestyle, 30.3 by Cynthia Osgood of the Boat Club in the girls 50-meter 15-and-16 freestyle, and 30.5 and 35.7 by Peggy Wirth of Red Run in the girls 50-meter 13-and-14 freestyle and backstroke, respectively.

The size of the M.I.S.A. executive Board was increased from five to seven in 1959, and Edward J. Schoenherr of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club served as president. The Pinkstons resigned as coaches at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club before the beginning of the season and were replaced by William J. Reaume, formerly of the Boat Club. Jack Mathews returned as coach at Lochmoor, while new coaches were

Don Kelley at the Country Club of Detroit, Ron Gora at Oakland Hills, and Dick Pearson and George Solomen at Plum Hollow.

Lengths of the boys and girls 11-and-12 freestyle races and of the legs of the boys and girls freestyle and medley relays, total age limits 56 years, were again increased from 25 to 50 meters in 1960 for both the dual and Championship Meets, while 25-meter freestyle races for a new 8-and-under age class for boys and girls were added. This brought the total number of events to twenty-four.

In the dual meet series, which was divided into the same two groups of clubs as in 1959, the winner of the Red Division was the Detroit Boat Club and the winner of the Blue Division was Western. In the 1960 Championship Meet, the Golf Club nosed out the Boat Club by two points for first place, while the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club placed third and Western fourth.

More new records were set in this meet, including the spectacular times of 25.6 and 30.2 by Ken Wiebeck of Western in the 50-meter boys 13-and-14 freestyle and backstroke, respectively; 30.1 and 32.7 by Peggy Wirth of Red Run in the girls 15-and-16 freestyle and butterfly breaststroke, respectively; and 25.3 by Jim MacMillan of the Boat Club in the boys 15-and-16 freestyle.

President of the M.I.S.A. in 1960 was William C. Beckenhauer, Jr. of Lochmoor, while new coaches were Roy Pouliot at Lochmoor and Harold D. Willard at the Country Club of Detroit.

THE RISING TIDE OF WESTERN

In 1961, Western Golf and Country Club was moved into the upper division for the dual meet series to join the five original M.I.S.A. member clubs; while the Country Club of Detroit, which was voted in as

a regular member at the annual meeting, was placed in the lower division to make six teams in each group. The names of the two groups were changed to the Blue and White Divisions, respectively, and a handicap provision was made for the Detroit Yacht Club and the Country Club in swimming against teams of their own group. This gave them the right to cancel two girl and two boy events and to swim contestants in the usual four events against only three events for opposing teams.

Elimination of the 100-meter mixed relay, total age limit 50 years, and the addition of new 100-meter medley relays for boys and girls age 12 and under, were voted at the annual meeting for both the dual meet program and the Championship Meet, along with an increase from 25 to 50 meters in the length of the boys and girls 11-and-12 backstroke races. For the Championship Meet only, an increase from 25 to 50 meters was also voted for the boys and girls 9-and-10 freestyle races.

Another action at the annual meeting was a decision to raise dues for regular members from \$180 to \$200 in order to provide funds for paying more officials at the Championship Meet. Subsequent to the meeting, word was received from the Grosse Pointe Hunt Club that it was dropping out as an associate member because of a lack of sufficient swimmers.

Winners in the dual meet series were the Boat Club in the Blue Division and Lochmoor in the White Division; while the Boat Club also won the 1961 Championship Meet, with the Golf Club finishing 35 points back in second place and Western moving up to third place. More new records were set in the latter meet, including 29.7 and 32.3 by Peggy Wirth of Red Run in the girls 15 and-16 freestyle and butterfly

breaststroke, respectively; 28.5 by Ken Wiebeck of Western and Jim MacMillan of the Boat Club in the boys 15-and-16 butterfly breaststroke; and 30.9 by Bob Wolf of the Golf Club in the 15-and-16 boys backstroke.

Serving as president of the M.I.S.A. in 1961 was Joseph A. Vieson of the Golf Club, while new coaches were John Klang at Oakland Hills, Bob McCullough at Plum Hollow, Ted Meister at Red Run and Ray Martin at Grosse Ile.

For the 1962 season, the length of the boys and girls 9-and-10 freestyle races in the dual meet program was brought up to the 50 meters that had been in effect only for the Championship meet in 1961. The 100-meter mixed relay for 10-and-under was replaced by boys and girls 100-meter medley relays for the same age group to bring the total number of events to twenty-six.

Lochmoor moved up to the Blue Division and the Detroit Yacht Club was dropped down to the White Division for the dual meet series, while a new handicapping system was adopted. This called for all Blue Division teams to swim as equals against each other and for the Country Club of Detroit to receive a "spot" of 25 points in meets against all other White Division teams except Grosse Ile. For cross division meets, 15 to 35 point handicaps were established for the White Division.

Winners in 1962 were the Boat Club in the Blue Division and Red Run in the White Division, with home meets for the Detroit Yacht Club held for the first time in its newly completed outdoor pool.

In the 1962 Championship Meet, Western moved up to second place with 117-1/2 points, behind the Golf Club first place total of 141-1/2

points. In his last year of eligibility, Ken Wiebeck set two more records of 25.4 and 29.5 in the 15-and-16 boys freestyle and backstroke races, respectively; while other new records included 28.4 by Jim Lozelle of the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club in the 15-and-16 boys butterfly breaststroke, and 36.0 by Carol Vieson of the Golf Club in the girls 15-and-16 backstroke.

The M.I.S.A. president in 1962 was Erwin H. Haass of the Detroit Boat Club; and new coaches were Leo Maas at the Detroit Yacht Club, John Klang at the Golf Club, Bob Smith at the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club, John Hussey at Oakland Hills, and Chuck Boller at Plum Hollow.

At the 1963 annual meeting, the board of directors was enlarged to include one representative from each of the twelve member clubs, and annual dues were increased from \$200 to \$225 per club. At a meeting of the board in June, it was decided to eliminate any handicaps in meets between clubs of the same division and to allow the White Division teams 15 points in meets against Blue Division teams, with the same breakdown of clubs into the two divisions and the same list of events as in 1962. It was also recommended that there be no handicapping in 1964. (This recommendation was subsequently adopted at the 1964 annual meeting, which also voted to add boys and girls 10-and-under 50 meter backstroke races for the 1964 season and elected John S. Ecclestone of the Dearborn Country Club as president.)

Results of the 1963 dual meet series showed the Golf Club and Western tied for first place in the Blue Division and Dearborn, the Detroit Yacht Club and Red Run in a three-way tie for first place in the White Division.

In the 1963 Championship Meet, Western climaxed its steady rise under Mike Heick's coaching by finishing first with a 16-point margin over the Golf Club. The absence of the team's previous star, Ken Wiebeck, was offset by the strong showing of a number of younger members, among them Dave Wiebeck, who set a new record of 30.3 in the 11-and-12 boys freestyle. Other new records included 29.5 by Sue Stuckey of the Detroit ~~Golf Club~~ ^{YACHT CLUB} in the girls 13-and-14 freestyle, 31.9 by Jack Curtis of Red Run in the boys and 34.1 by Lisa Beckenhauer of Lochmoor in the girls 9-and-10 freestyle. Sue Stuckey ^{DYC} and Sandy Haass of the Boat Club in the girls 11-and-12 age group were the only double winners.

Serving as president of the M.I.S.A. in 1963 was Peter J. Russ, Jr. of Plum Hollow; while new coaches were Bob Kinnear at the Boat Club, Fred Lewerenz at Dearborn, and Ed Weckwert at Red Run.

A summary of the results of the first twenty-four years of competition shows the Detroit Golf Club winning the Championship Meet twelve times and tying for first place once, the Boat Club winning seven times and tying for first place once, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club winning three times and Western winning once.

The record for the top dual meet trophy, including the three years of combined preliminary meets before 1945, shows the Boat Club as the winner twelve times, the Golf Club four times plus one tie for first place, the Detroit Yacht Club three times, the Grosse Pointe Yacht Club and Oakland Hills once each, and Western one tie. In the seven years of the lower division dual meet series since 1957, the winning teams have been Red Run three times plus two ties for first place, Western once plus one tie, Lochmoor once, and the Detroit Yacht Club and Dearborn one tie each.

Since the founding of the M.I.S.A. in 1940, times have consistently improved, the distances of races have been progressively lengthened and the number of participating swimmers and spectators has steadily increased. In the 25th year of the association, however, a still unsettled question is whether it is the swimmers or their parents who have had the most pleasure from the activity.