

Meet The Coaches

Jim Wood – HEAD COACH

E-Mail: jim-wood-bac@juno.com

Primary Groups: Seniors and Juniors

Background: Jim founded Berkeley Aquatic Club and is the Head Coach. Prior to his move back to New Jersey, he was head swimming coach at the University of North Carolina. He is currently the President of USA Swimming, after having served 12 years as the Chairman of the USS Olympic International Operations Committee and most recently as Technical Vice-President. Jim graduated from Johns Hopkins University and attended graduate school at the University of North Carolina.

Tristan Formon – HEAD AGE GROUP COACH

E-Mail: tr1stan@juno.com

Primary Groups: Snappers, Juniors and Seniors

Background: Tristan, Head Age Group Coach at Berkeley began his coaching career in the UK and has been coaching at Berkeley and teaching at the Berkeley Swim School since 1996. Tristan's background includes many years as an elite level swimmer, competing at the regional and national levels as well as collegiate swimming at Loughborough University, in a swimming career that took him to the British Olympic Trials. He was named NJ Swimming Age Group Coach of the Year for 2011 and has been selected as a NJS All Star Zone Coach. Active in the NJ Swimming organization, Tristan is a member of the NJS Board of Directors serving in the capacity of NJS Age Group / Technical Planning Chair. Tristan is a member of the NJS Nominations Committee, and former NJS Treasurer and former member of the NJS Competition Committee. He received his Masters in Physical Education with a concentration in Coaching and Sports Administration from Montclair State University.

Anna Barry

E-Mail: ACCEBARRY@aol.com

Primary Group: Blues, Dolphins

Background: Anna has taught at the Berkeley Swim School for numerous years. She has also been a member of the coaching staff at Berkeley Aquatic Club for the last four years. Anna graduated from Alfred University in Alfred, New York with a major in Accounting. She received a Masters in International Business from Fairleigh Dickinson University. Anna has been selected as a coach to the New Jersey Swimming All Star Zone Team on multiple occasions.

Towney Brewster

E-Mail: towney-bac@Juno.com

Primary Group: Assists with the Developmental Program

Background: Towney graduated Hanover College with a BA in Business before earning his MA in Physical Education at Indiana University. He is the former Head Coach of Red Bank YMCA, Nelspruit South Africa and Darien YMCA. Towney served as a board member for New Jersey Swimming from 1989 through 2005. He has been selected as the New Jersey Swimming Zone Team Head Coach on ten occasions and has been the USA Swimming Junior Team Manager in Paris, Australia and Hawaii. Towney is a volunteer board member with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hunterdon, Somerset and Warren Counties. He has been the director of the Berkeley Swim School since 1989.

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Marlene Curtis

E-Mail: marlene-bac@juno.com

Primary Group: Take Your Marks, Streaks and Juniors

Background: Marlene joined the BAC staff in 1995. Marlene has more than 25 years experience as a swim instructor. She is an ASCA Level II Coach and has been selected as a NJS All Star Zone Coach. Marlene currently serves on the NJ Swimming Board of Directors as both Secretary and Safety Chair. She is an Associate Professor of Physical Education at Kean University. Marlene also coaches at Echo Lake Country Club during the summer. Marlene graduated from Calvin College with a major in Recreation and Physical Education and earned her Masters in Exercise Physiology at Columbia University. Marlene served as the Director of Aquatics at the Union YMHA.

Meredith Formon

E-Mail: meredithformon@juno.com

Primary Group: Snappers

Background: Meredith began as an instructor in the Berkeley Swim School in 2001. She joined the Berkeley coaching staff assisting with the age group program in the fall of 2008 and is an ASCA level 2 coach. Meredith was a competitive cross-country runner and swam with the Berkeley Masters Team. Meredith graduated from the College of the Holy Cross with a major in Biology and Pre-Med. Meredith currently works for Prudential as an Appeals Specialist.

Eric Fucito

E-Mail: ericf7cito@optonline.net

Primary Groups: Dolphins

Background: Eric has been with Berkeley Aquatic Club since 1994 where he started as a swim instructor with the Berkeley Swim School. Eric has been a member of the coaching staff of Berkeley Aquatic Club since 1996. He currently serves on the New Jersey Swimming Board of Directors as Treasurer. Eric also spends his time serving the community as a Fire Fighter and Emergency Medical Technician in the State of New Jersey. Eric was the 2006 recipient of the Adolf Keifer Safety Commendation Award from USA Swimming and 2007 NJS Age Group Coach of the year.

Paul Hansen

Email: paul.hansen@falconjet.com

Primary Group: Assists with the Junior and Senior Groups

Background: Prior to BAC, Paul was an assistant coach at the Cape Cod Swim Club. Before that, he and his wife Theresa co-coached the Pasquotank River Otters in Elizabeth City, NC, where the team grew from 16 to 60 swimmers during his tenure. Paul brings to BAC a keen interest in stroke mechanics, and can be seen at any practice working with the swimmers to improve their strokes and turns. Paul joined the BAC staff as a volunteer coach in 2001 after he retired from the U.S. Coast Guard. A graduate of U.S.C.G.A., he achieved All-American status as a cadet. Following several years at sea, he attended Naval Flight Training in Pensacola, FL, and served as a pilot for the remainder of his career. He currently flies as an international demonstration captain for Dassault Falcon.

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Kevin Mahoney

E-Mail: speedo72571@msn.com

Primary Group: Assists with the Developmental Program

Background: Kevin has been a member of the Berkeley Coaching staff since 1996. He is a graduate of Lycoming College where he earned a BA in Sociology. Currently, he is a student of the United States Sports Academy completing a teaching certification program in Physical Education. Kevin has been teaching for 18 years and is employed as a Physical Education teacher at St. Joseph High School in Metuchen. He has also been coaching high school swimming for 18 years and is currently the Head Coach at Mount Saint Mary Academy. Kevin is a Certified Pool Operator and manages the pool at Roxiticus Golf Club during the summer.

Kevin Petto

E-Mail: kpetto@comcast.net

Primary Group: Blues, Snappers, Streaks and Take Your Marks

Background: Kevin graduated from Warren Hills High School in 2005 and is currently enrolled at Warren County Community College working towards a liberal arts degree. Prior to joining BAC as a coach and instructor in the Berkeley Swim School, he was a counselor at the Glen Gardner Youth Center, former manager and assistant swim coach at the Easton YMCA, and worked at the Washington Borough Pool for four summers as a swim instructor and head lifeguard.

Cameron Rattray

E-Mail: swimbackfast@yahoo.com

Primary Group: Juniors, Assists with Age Group Program

Background: Cameron started coaching as an assistant at Somerset Valley YMCA with the 8 & Under group. After joining the BAC Program, he began coaching as an assistant age group coach. Cameron enjoys the challenge of working with athletes to help them reach their goals. He currently serves as an Athlete Representative on the New Jersey Swimming Board of Directors. Cameron is an athlete member of the BAC Senior Program and a USA Swimming Junior National Qualifier, New Zealand Olympic Trial Qualifier.

Elissa Ryan

E-Mail: elisslav@yahoo.com

Primary Groups: Streaks and Take Your Marks

Background: Elissa Ryan (formerly Lavorerio) has been a member of the Berkeley Aquatic Club family for over 20 years. She swam on the first Snapper team and made her way to swimming on the Senior team. She earned her varsity letter for 4 years at Watchung Hills in swimming, and was captain her junior and senior year. She went on to compete for Rutgers University, earning a BA in Political Science and lettering all four years, ending her career as captain. Currently Elissa is a teacher at Roselle Catholic High School.