



# BAHAMAS AQUATICS FEDERATION

President's Report  
2016-2020

Algernon Cargill

BAHAMAS AQUATICS FEDERATION  
PRESIDENT'S REPORT  
2016-2020  
February 13, 2021

## **BAHAMAS AQUATICS FEDERATION 2020 PRESIDENT'S REPORT**

### **2009 Elections**

The current Executive Team was elected at the 2016 Annual General and Electoral Meeting (held in 2017). This team includes the following:

Algernon Cargill, **President**  
John Bradley, **First Vice President**  
William Russell, **Second Vice President**  
Stephen Thompson, **Third Vice President**  
Alexis Wells, **Secretary**  
Rochelle Bastian, **Assistant Secretary**  
Nicholas Rees, **Treasurer**  
Erald Thompson, **Assistant Treasurer**  
Lynne Fraino, **Member at Large**

**Georgette Albury replaced Alexis Well as Secretary in 2019.**

I am extremely proud of this team and their commitment to elevating Bahamas Aquatics as a respected Federation in FINA, and certainly in The Bahamas.

Notwithstanding the challenges we have faced, the Executive Team the following are examples of the deliverables from your Executive Team:

1. Secured a contract with Cable Bahamas for sponsorship of our National Swimming Championships after Royal Bank of Canada ended a 34-year sponsorship in 2017.
2. Continued arrangement with Cable 12 for Broadcast of National Swimming Championships
3. Hosted the final CISC Championships in 2016
4. Hosted CARIFTA Aquatics in 2017
5. Won CARIFTA Swimming Championships for 3 consecutive years in 2019 and won CARIFTA 5 out of the last 6 years.
6. Won CARIFTA Water Polo, all Divisions in 2017 and 3 consecutive CARIFTA U17 titles in 2019.
7. Invited to participate in Water Polo Junior Pan Ams and Junior Worlds
8. Extended relationship with Bahamas Government and now have 12 athletes on Subvention at varying levels.
9. Have appointed 6 Bahamians to FINA Referee and Starter positions, some holding both positions.

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10. Mancer Roberts elected to the CCCAN and UANA Technical Swimming Committee
11. Algernon Cargill elected on the FINA Bureau, representing CCCAN
12. Algernon Cargill elected as a UNA Representative, representing CCCAN
13. Produce Professionally Prepared Financial Statements and deliver same to Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture.
14. Appointed Neville Wilchcombe as Legal Advisor and subsequently D'Andre Brice as our Legal Advisor.
15. Several Bahamians on swimming and water polo scholarships at global universities
16. Opened a Bahamas Aquatics Physical Office
17. Secured more than \$100,000 in grants from FINA for the development of our facilities.

Our focus remains to promote a swimmer friendly Federation and to increase the profile and results of Aquatics in The Bahamas through a sharp focus on ensuring that every person who wants to maximize their potential in swimming or water polo has a positive and swimmer friendly Federation that supports this dream. A key phrase adopted in 2003 that is still a widely held belief: *Swimmers/Athletes first, Federation Second, and Parents Third!* continues to be the mantra of the Federation's executives.

### **Bahamas Aquatics Constitution**

At the 2016 AGM, several amendments were passed to the Bahamas Aquatics Constitution, including the rebranding of the Federation from Bahamas Swimming Federation to Bahamas Aquatics Federation. Swim. The revised constitution has been formalized and is currently at the final review phase with FINA. The focus was to eliminate the rules that sought to penalize swimmers and instead replace them with rules that promoted the growth of the Federation. The strategic outlook is to further amend the Constitution so that each sport has its own organization and these report to the parent organization, Bahamas Aquatics Federation.

The rules proposed this year are attached to this report for review, discussion and vote by our members.

### **Focus**

Notwithstanding the economic challenges we face, we have maintained an excellent brand in the community resulting in Bahamas Aquatics being able to continue long term sponsorship arrangements with Cable Bahamas and Subway. We have also been fortunate to earn the respect of CIBC FirstCaribbean, Royal Bank of Canada, Bahamas Olympic Committee, Morley Realty, Tent-The-Event, John Bull Group of Companies, Nassau Agencies Ltd, Rubis Bahamas Ltd, Sun Oil Bahamas Ltd, Commonwealth Bank Ltd, Bahamas First, and many other local companies who recognize the hard work our athletes are injecting into the sport and the Corporate Governance displayed by your Executives.

We continue a very positive relationship with the Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture and continue to receive a Bahamasair Charter jet every year for our athletes to travel to CARIFTA on our National Flag

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Carrier. Equally as important, we have negotiated the continued sponsorship of 12 athletes on Bahamas Government subvention at varying levels. During the next year, the Federation will revise the rules of the Subvention recommendations so that Developmental Athletes that are subvented at the lowest level of \$12,000 annually will have to evidence progression to the next level or a recommendation will be forwarded for their removal. Equally, athletes at higher levels who are not performing at that level will also be removed from the subvention list. This strategy is keeping in line with the intent of the subvention – to progress to the global level in our sport. Members should note that in 2003 there was 1 Bahamian athlete being subvented – today, we have 12!

We have also strengthened our relationship with the National Sports Authority and while the Executives do not agree with the policy of clubs having to pay to use the National Facility, we will seek to negotiate this change in 2021, as well as the relaxation of charges to pay to have club meets at the facility. The BKKAC needs an upgrade and the Federation will partner with the National Sports Authority to execute this over the next term. We are a far way away from the early years of this facility in 2000 when the BKKAC was considered to be the best facility in the English Caribbean. Throughout the next 4 years, we have to change the deteriorating facility we now have.

We are very proud of the growth of our Water Polo Program and its excellent global reputation. A special thanks to Coach Lotty and his team for not only developing the skills of the players, but also the rapid expansion of water polo in New Providence. We challenge Coach Lotty to expand the program to the school system to the level of having interschool water polo competitions.

I am also pleased to advise that we are in discussion with the Ministry of Youth Sports and Culture to hold a National High School Swimming Championship and conditions permitting, will hold the first Championships in 2022. Ideally, it would be great to have the Championship this year; however, COVID-19 conditions may not make this possible.

SWIFT Swimming is commended for its expanded National Learn to Swim Program at several primary schools in The Bahamas and its negotiations with the Ministry of Education and Youth Sports and Culture for continued growth of its charter program, Lets Swim Bahamas. The program is now firmly established in the primary school curriculum in New Providence.

Arianna Vanderpool Wallace retired in 2016 and there are several athletes who are continuing the excellent branding of our Federation as an Aquatics Powerhouse. Bahamians are now representing both swimming and water polo at the collegiate and professional level and this augurs well for the success of our program over the next quadrennial. I am excited about the prospects of these sports and will steer our executives to introduce Synchronized Swimming as another Aquatics Sport over the next 4 years.

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We are very proud that we have more Bahamians qualified as International Judging Officials than any other local Federation. Algernon Cargill, Mancer Roberts, Dewey Taylor, Gena Culmer-Taylor and Dr. Susana Campbell represent The Bahamas as FINA Referees/Starters and they are all qualified to perform these functions at the Olympic level. Mancer Roberts continues to shine as a respected global official and represents us at the CCCAN and UANA levels and has officiated at several World Championships.

A summary of our FINA Officials is as follows:

Algernon Cargill, **FINA Referee and Starter, and FINA Open Water FINA Referee**  
Mancer Roberts, **FINA Referee and Starter, and FINA Open Water FINA Referee**  
Dewey Taylor, **FINA Referee**  
Gena Culmer-Taylor, **FINA Referee**  
Dr. Susana Campbell, **FINA Starter**  
**Kevin Armbrister – FINA Starter**

### **Membership**

Swimmer Membership has grown each year as well as the number of registered clubs and paid BAHAMAS AQUATICS members.

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A summary is as follows:

|      | Swimmer<br>Registrations | Masters | Total | BAF<br>Registered<br>Clubs |                            |
|------|--------------------------|---------|-------|----------------------------|----------------------------|
| 2003 |                          |         |       | 6                          | 2020 Registered Clubs      |
| 2004 | 387                      |         | 387   | 7                          | 1 Abaco Swim Club          |
| 2005 | 478                      |         | 478   | 9                          | 2 Alpha Aquatics           |
| 2006 | 514                      | 25      | 539   | 8                          | 3 Barracudas Swim Club     |
| 2007 | 538                      | 38      | 576   | 8                          | 4 Blue Waves               |
| 2008 | 601                      | 42      | 643   | 8                          | Dolphins Swim              |
| 2009 | 663                      | 48      | 711   | 10                         | 5 Club                     |
| 2010 | 694                      | 52      | 746   | 11                         | 6 Freeport Aquatics Club   |
| 2011 | 709                      | 56      | 765   | 11                         | 7 Lyford Cay Swim Club     |
| 2012 | 732                      | 61      | 793   | 12                         | Mantas Swim and Water Polo |
| 2013 | 748                      | 59      | 807   | 12                         | 8 Club                     |
| 2014 | 761                      | 62      | 823   | 12                         | 9 MAKO                     |
| 2015 | 785                      | 60      | 845   | 12                         | 10 Orcas Swim Club         |
| 2016 | 792                      | 71      | 863   | 13                         | 11 Sea Waves Aquatics Team |
| 2017 | 797                      | 61      | 858   | 13                         | 12 SWIFT Swimming          |
| 2018 | 815                      | 45      | 860   | 13                         |                            |
| 2019 | 815                      | 15      | 830   | 12                         |                            |
| 2020 | 677                      | 17      | 684   | 12                         |                            |

### International and Regional Competitions

The following tables show The Bahamas' representation in international championships and medals won/best performances.

We continue to enjoy considerable success at the Junior levels and are continuing to focus our strategies on translating this success to the international senior level.

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The declined medal performances at CISC/CCCAN are a direct result of the Bahamas deciding to field smaller teams with only qualified athletes and practically no relays at these championships.

We achieved our goal to three-peat as CARIFTA Swimming and Water Polo Champions in 2019 and due to Covid-19 the 2020 Championships were canceled, and the 2021 Championships delayed.

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| MEDAL SUMMARY - 2003-2020 |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
|---------------------------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|------|--|
|                           | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 | 2014 | 2015 | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2020 |  |
| CARIFTA                   | 35   | 33   | 65   | 65   | 79   | 50   | 49   | 35   | 41   | 45   | 29   | 56   | 54   | 56   | 60   | 56   | 73   |      |      |  |
| CISC                      |      | 30   |      | 52   |      | 42   |      | 39   |      | 28   |      | 46   |      | 79   |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| CCAN                      | 3    |      | 8    |      | 22   |      | 10   |      | 28   |      | 20   |      | DNC  |      | 18   | 48   | 29   |      |      |  |
| CAC                       |      |      |      | 5    |      |      |      | 8    |      |      |      | 6    |      |      |      | 6    |      |      |      |  |
| Y. Olym                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| World U                   | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| Pan Am                    |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 2    |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| Comm.                     |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| Comm Jr                   |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 3    |      |      |  |
| World SC                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 1    |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| World LC                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |
| JANA                      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      | 14   |      | 17   | 17   |  |
| Olympics                  |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |      |  |

| 2003    | G  | S | B  | T  |
|---------|----|---|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 13 | 7 | 10 | 35 |
| CCAN    |    | 1 | 2  | 3  |
| WORLDU  |    |   | 1  | 1  |

| 2008    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 22 | 18 | 10 | 50 |
| CISC    | 15 | 17 | 10 | 42 |

| 2013    | G | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|---|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 8 | 10 | 11 | 29 |
| CCAN    | 6 | 7  | 7  | 20 |

| 2004    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 13 | 12 | 8  | 33 |
| CISC    | 10 | 9  | 11 | 30 |

| 2009    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 18 | 17 | 14 | 49 |
| CCAN    | 2  | 3  | 5  | 10 |

| 2014    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 24 | 22 | 22 | 56 |
| CISC    | 14 | 15 | 17 | 46 |
| CAC     | 4  | 2  | 2  | 8  |
| Y. Oly  |    |    |    |    |
| Comm.   | 1  | 1  | 2  |    |

| 2005    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 24 | 20 | 21 | 65 |
| CCAN    | 1  | 3  | 4  | 8  |

| 2010    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 8  | 13 | 14 | 35 |
| CISC    | 12 | 14 | 13 | 39 |
| CAC     | 2  | 3  | 3  | 8  |

| 2015    | G  | S  | B | T  |
|---------|----|----|---|----|
| CARIFTA | 21 | 15 | 5 | 41 |
| CCAN*   | D  | N  | N | N  |
| Pan Am  | 1  | 2  | 2 | 5  |

\* Did Not compete

| 2006    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 19 | 24 | 22 | 65 |
| CISC    | 27 | 12 | 13 | 52 |
| CAC     |    | 3  | 2  | 5  |

| 2011    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 12 | 13 | 16 | 41 |
| CCAN    | 6  | 17 | 5  | 28 |
| PAN AM  | 1  | 1  | 1  | 3  |

| 2016    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 22 | 22 | 22 | 66 |
| CISC    | 33 | 23 | 22 | 78 |

| 2007    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 42 | 17 | 20 | 79 |
| CCAN    | 7  | 6  | 9  | 22 |
| Pan AM  |    |    | 1  | 1  |

| 2012    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 13 | 20 | 16 | 49 |
| CISC    | 13 | 10 | 5  | 28 |

| 2017    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 16 | 23 | 21 | 60 |
| CCAN    | 6  | 8  | 4  | 18 |

| 2018    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 23 | 22 | 11 | 56 |
| CCAN    | 20 | 13 | 15 | 48 |
| CAC     | 4  | 1  | 1  | 6  |
| JANA    | 5  | 4  | 5  | 14 |

| 2019    | G  | S  | B  | T  |
|---------|----|----|----|----|
| CARIFTA | 35 | 18 | 20 | 73 |
| CCAN    | 9  | 10 | 10 | 29 |

| 2020    | G | S | B | T  |
|---------|---|---|---|----|
| CARIFTA |   |   |   |    |
| JANA    | 7 | 4 | 6 | 17 |



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### **National Championships**

The National Championships continue to grow, and many believe that the electricity from stakeholders is that this Championships is bigger than CARIFTA.

BAHAMAS AQUATICS remains grateful to our perennial sponsor, RBC Royal Bank of Canada and thank them for 34 years of continuous service. We started a new relationship with Cable Bahamas, and they have sponsored our National Championships in 2008 and 2019 and have provided free live television coverage for more than 15 years. Our Nationals continue to attract international swimmers and have routinely been approved as FINA qualifying meets for Worlds and the Olympic Games.


Swimmers seeking to represent The Bahamas internationally and/or swimmers receiving subventions are required to compete in these championships unless they have received a written exemption from the BAHAMAS AQUATICS. Mako Aquatics has won Nationals for the past 2 consecutive years 2018-2019 and Barracudas won in 2017. There was no National Champion in 2020 as the meet was canceled because of Covid-19.

A summary of the Nationals Results (points) from 2003-2019 is below.

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| CLUBS       | 2003 | 2004 | 2005 | 2006  | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013  | 2014   | 2015  | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 |
|-------------|------|------|------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|------|-------|--------|-------|------|------|------|------|------|
| Abaco       |      |      |      |       |      |      |      | 27   | 268  | 292  | 364   | 465    | 543.5 | 433  | 305  |      |      |      |
| Alpha       |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      | 320  | 284  | 634   | 950.5  | 994.5 | 852  | 1033 | 1073 | 1156 |      |
| Barracuda   | 1308 | 1028 | 1519 | 1858  | 2006 | 2197 | 2153 | 1802 | 1310 | 1480 | 1623  | 1235.5 | 1639  | 1616 | 1751 | 856  | 1146 |      |
| Blue Marlin |      |      |      |       |      |      |      | 165  | 91   | 135  | 121   | 67     | 120   | 225  | 21   | 41   |      |      |
| Blue Waves  |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |        |       |      | 86   | 120  | 290  |      |
| Dolphins    | 1128 | 990  | 966  | 771   | 688  | 681  | 746  | 1186 | 486  | 610  | 418   | 329    | 303   | 415  | 470  | 434  | 147  |      |
| FAC         | 670  | 659  | 525  | 275.5 | 161  | 96.5 | 29   | 264  | 229  | 366  | 394.5 | 709.5  | 658.5 | 753  | 645  | 535  | 337  |      |
| Flamingos   | 106  | 53   | -    | -     | 17   | 4    | 2    |      |      |      |       |        |       |      |      |      |      |      |
| GB Tritons  |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |        |       |      | 857  | 864  |      |      |
| Lyford Cay  |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      | 2     | 55     | 24    | 68   | 121  | 267  | 365  |      |
| MAKO        |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |        |       |      | 1863 | 2076 |      |      |
| Mantas      |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      | 26   | 42    | 14     | 44    | 0    | 1    | 77   | 141  |      |
| ORCA        |      |      |      |       |      |      |      | 40   | 135  | 128  | 158   | 296    | 307   | 454  | 369  | 217  | 182  |      |
| Sea Bees    | 434  | 509  | 813  | 1168  | 1293 | 967  | 1369 | 680  | 1604 | 733  | 301.5 | 243.5  | 182   |      |      |      |      |      |
| Sea Waves   |      |      |      | 20    | 20   | 48   |      |      |      | 2    | 31    | 10     | 20    | 44   | 63   | 73   | 94   | 47   |
| St. Anne's  |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |        |       |      | 6    |      |      |      |
| Swift       |      |      | 1680 | 1032  | 1529 | 1447 | 1326 | 1719 | 2153 | 2187 | 2285  | 2337   | 1993  | 1782 |      |      |      |      |
| TPAC        | 365  | 303  |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      |       |        |       |      |      |      |      |      |
| Unatt       |      |      |      |       |      |      |      |      |      |      | 14    | 67     |       |      |      |      |      |      |
| YMCA        | 164  | 328  | 395  | 578   | 474  | 689  | 369  | 219  |      |      |       |        |       |      |      |      | 1458 |      |
|             | 3212 | 2730 | 3009 | 2904  | 2872 | 2979 | 2929 | 5882 | 6597 | 6271 | 6367  | 6789   | 6852  | 6667 | 7595 | 6654 | 5269 | 0    |

0

 DID NOT PARTICIPATE

## Local/Club Meets

These continue to be the highlight of the year with the larger crowds until 2020. The Global Covid-19 has resulted in new Safety Protocols and while competition has resumed in 2021, we do not permit spectators in the stands at the meets where the younger swimmers participate. A special thanks to Mancor Roberts for taking the lead on deck as the Referee at the majority of these meets. Equally, thanks to Kendrick Albury for leading the setup for all local meets and steady service in the Computer Room as a Meet Operator.

We need more volunteers for our Swim Meets to run more efficiently. Contact any Bahamas Aquatics Executive to volunteer!

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**Water Polo**

A special thanks to Chris Illing for leading the Water Polo program and securing the financial support needed for its continuance. Of course, Coach Laszlo Borbely (Lotty), particularly through his aim in rebuilding the program should also be congratulated for his stewardship.

The program does require more funding and parental support and the Federation will refocus on building this program as it is critical to our continued development and should not be allowed to falter.

The Water Polo program is promoted as a complementary program to competitive swimming and also an opportunity for swimmers who may not have attained one of the top qualifying times to continue to contribute to the Federation by participating in this alternative sport at the international level.

Chris and Lotty are very much appreciated by the Water Polo Community and we are grateful for their commitment.

**Bahamas Olympic Association**

A special thanks to the Bahamas Olympic Association for its continued direct sponsorship of our Federation through the provision of Olympic Solidarity Funding for senior athletes and support throughout this quadrennial

I thank everyone for their continued contribution to the development of Aquatics in The Bahamas and will continue to focus on the expansion of Aquatics in The Bahamas and the creation of more opportunities for everyone.

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There are many persons who contribute to the success of the program and I thank everyone for their continued support and ask them all for their continued support and shared vision.

We are here to serve and whatever we can do to improve the experiences and performances of our swimmers, we are committed to do this.

Thank you for the opportunity to serve as your President and I appreciate the confidence you continue to bestow in the Executive Team.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Algernon Cargill', is displayed on a light gray rectangular background.

Algernon Cargill  
President  
BAHAMAS AQUATICS