



JUDGES' COMMENTS

"Great amenities, significant increases in facility users, and a state and national presence make this a very highly rated facility."

BEST PUBLIC/NONPROFIT OUTDOOR FAMILY AQUATICS CENTER Class 12 (50,000 to 100,000 annual attendance)

North County Aquatics Center, Indian River County, Sebastian, Fla.



With the help of a few bulkheads, the competition pool at the North County Aquatics Center in Sebastian, Fla., suddenly expands from 50- to 70 meters, and slopes from 5- to 12½ feet. Two 1-meter boards and two 3-meter boards finish the pool into a state-of-the-art competition arena, drawing college swim teams from as far away as Connecticut and Penn State.

This regional, state and national recognition has brought more than just a number of colleges to the facility. The 2003 Florida High School Swimming and Diving Championships attracted more than 3,000 swimmers, divers and families, as well as \$850,000 in revenue. The State Special Olympics is in the works for the facility's next large event.

For more leisurely minded locals, there's Dancing on the Deck, Mommy & Son Luau, Middle School Splash parties, and Tropical Sundays with live bands from the community. Those more inclined toward adventure may take scuba classes or splash down the water slides in the leisure pool. Junior lifeguarding, swim lessons, early-bird swimming and water aerobics are available for those who may or may not aspire to compete in one of the facility's many events. ■

FACILITY HIGHLIGHTS Site of the 2003 Florida High School Swimming and Diving Championships, 2006 State Aquatics Championships, local teams' swim and dive meets, and college swim and dive teams. • Has a partnership with local schools to offer swim lessons and water safety sessions to physical education classes during school.

AMENITIES Water slides • Diving well • Diving boards • Movable bulkheads • Water playground equipment

PROGRAMMING Learn-to-swim • Lifesaving • Water aerobics • Water therapy • Competitive swimming • Water polo • Scuba • Adaptive aquatics