



Columbus to Host 2014 USA Diving Winter National Championships

*Ohio State's McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion to Host 125 of the Top Divers
in the United States for 10 Titles Over Six Days*

COLUMBUS (March 12, 2014) - The top divers in the United States will be headed back to Columbus in December as USA Diving holds the 2014 Winter National Championships at The Ohio State University's (OSU) McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion December 16-21.

"Ohio State and the McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion are excited to again host the USA Diving Winter National Championships," said **OSU Assistant Director of Aquatic Events Christine Thompson**. "This event brings together more than 100 of the nation's top divers and these elite athletes compete in one of the best aquatic facilities in the country."

The Winter National Diving Championships regularly draw approximately 125 of the top divers in the United States, with 10 national titles up for grabs at the six-day event. The 2014 Winter Nationals are expected to play a role in selecting athletes for the 2015 Grand Prix events and 2016 U.S. Olympic Team Trials – Diving, although participation will not be the only step of the qualification process.

"We are proud to work with USA Diving again and add to Columbus' heritage in the sport by hosting the Winter National Championships," said **Greater Columbus Sports Commission Executive Director Linda Logan**. "This will begin a four-year span where the McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion will host numerous marque events in both diving and swimming."

USA Diving returns to Ohio State after the facility successfully hosted the 2010 USA Diving Winter National Championships. This event will continue a significant regional and national schedule for the McCorkle Aquatic Pavilion, which will host NCAA Zone Diving this weekend and in 2015; the 2015 Big Ten Women's Swimming & Diving Championships; the 2015 USA Synchronized Swimming National Championships; the 2018 Big Ten Women's Swimming & Diving Championships; and the 2018 NCAA Division I Women's Swimming & Diving Championships. In 2008, 2010 and 2012, McCorkle hosted the USA Swimming Grand Prix.

Featuring America's best divers, **USA Diving** is the national governing body for the sport of diving. Headquartered in Indianapolis, USA Diving offers diversified programs geared toward the broadest number of diving enthusiasts, from novices to world champions. USA Diving conducts approximately 40 regional and national events annually and is responsible for training and selecting teams that represent the United States at international events such as the Olympic Games, World Championships and World Cup. For more information, visit www.usadiving.org.

The **Greater Columbus Sports Commission** is a catalyst, driving the collaborative efforts of the Central Ohio region in attracting and hosting a wide variety of sporting events. The Sports Commission provides the experience and expertise in sports marketing and event management that has established our region as a premier sports destination, hosting more than 240 new sporting events since 2002, which have generated close to an estimated \$500 million in visitor spending. For more information, visit www.columbusports.org.

USA DIVING RELEASE: <http://www.usadiving.org/2013/10/28/2014-winter-national-championships-to-be-held-at-ohio-state/>

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