Masters Swim Coach's Corner

Head Coach: Chris Morgan



Chris Morgan brings over 20 years of coaching experience to the Boston University Masters Swim Team. Most recently, Morgan served as Head Coach of the YMCA of the North Shore and prior to that, was the Varsity Assistant Coach for the Harvard Women's Team.

Morgan spent the 2011-12 as a member of the Stanford coaching staff, helping the Cardinal to a fourth-place finish at the NCAA Championships. Stanford won national titles in the 200 free relay and 400 free relay at the meet, and earned 33 All-America honors after taking second at the Pac-12 Championships.

Morgan coached in Switzerland from 1997-2011. His international coaching experience has also included the 2008 Olympics in Beijing, the 2010 European Championships in Hungary, the 2009 World Championships in Rome, the European Short Course Championships in Croatia in 2008 and in Hungary in 2007, and three World University Games in Thailand in 2007, Turkey in 2005 and South Korea in 2003.

A 1994 graduate of UC Davis with a degree in biological sciences, Morgan earned his Masters in human movement and sports sciences from the University of Geneva in 2002. While at UC Davis, Morgan was a conference champion in the 100 fly his junior season in 1992.

Morgan began his coaching career as a volunteer assistant at Stanford under the late Richard Quick from 1994-97. In 1995-96 he was the assistant women's coach at San Jose State, and prior to that he was a high school coach at Palo Alto's Gunn High School (1994-97) for both the boy's and girl's programs. His first coaching job was as a JV coach at Los Altos High in 1993-94.

Assistant Coach: Erik Linnane



Erik Linnane joins the coaching staff with over 25 years of coaching and teaching experience. He has coached masters, college, high school, and age group swimmers at the Belmont Hill Club, Providence College, Boston College, Boston University, the Babson Recreation Center, and in the Acton-Boxborough system. Long, long ago, he was a scholarship-winning swimmer at Providence College where he competed in the breaststroke, IM, and fly events. Erik earned his BA in Psychology from Providence College and an MA in Counseling Psychology from Boston College (no fears BUMS - a true Friar, Erik has no love for the Eagles). Outside of coaching, Erik works full time at the BU School of Management as the Associate Director of the undergraduate program.

Assistant Coach: Clara Van Allen

Clara Van Allen graduated from Boston University in May 2011 with a degree in Elementary Education and a sub-concentration is Special Education. During her four years at BU, Clara was a member of the Varsity Swim and Dive team, specializing in Distance Freestyle, IM and Breaststroke. Clara was on the scoring team at the America East Conferences all four years (two of which BUSD won the AE Conference) and is a team record holder in the 800 Freestyle Relay.

While Clara has been swimming for 15+ years, she has just begun her coaching career. After joining the BU Aquatics staff in March of 2011, Clara became involved with the BUMS program by coaching once a week. During the following summer, she took on the role of interim head coach. After receiving a full-time position at a school in the Brookline School District, she had to step down as interim Head Coach but remains on the coaching staff coaching the Sunday morning practices.

Assistant Coach: Tony Rich



Tony Rich is a USMS certified Masters swim coach and a USAT certified triathlon coach. Tony joins the staff with over 12 years of swimming experience. He's completed over 100 long course events including 5 full Ironman distance triathlon finishes, as well as numerous 70.3's and open



water swimming events. He's one of the few known athletes that has finished an Ironman distance triathlon both outdoors and indoors.

After coaching Masters swimming and indoor triathlon at the YMCA of Greater Boston, Tony joined the BU aquatics staff in 2012. In addition to coaching Masters swimming, he has instructed swimming for triathletes, stroke improvement, beginning swim, and fitness swim programs. He is also the founder & head coach of one of the most active endurance sport teams in the nation, Event Horizon endurance sport.

Tony has personally coached athletes and groups of all abilities to a broad spectrum of event finishes from short course events, long course events, and national and world championships. He's helped several athletes attain personal records, transformations and podium finishes. When he's not coaching others Tony embarks on his personally goal to qualify and compete in the Ironman World Championship. He's also twice attempted the Guinness World Record for the fastest indoor Ironman and continues to pursue the record.

Tony is a 1996 graduate of Boston College with degrees in finance & marketing. Rich earned his Masters in investment management from the Boston University School of Management in 2001.

Although Tony is not on the permanent coaching schedule, he steps in whenever a sub is needed. Tony did an amazing job coaching in summer 2014 when we were still searching for a head coach.