

## The Ontario Master Swimmers (TOMS)

There were less than a dozen Ontario swimmers who attended the 2000 World Championships in Munich. There was no pre-organization, they found out who was there when they got there, if they saw them, in a crowd of 7000. A number of participants complained about several aspects of the meet, also felt that it would have been more fun, if like many other places, they had swum as a team or at least sat together.

This was discussed by a number of people at our 2001 Provincials, a number of people said they were thinking of going to New Zealand in 2002, but would like to see it better organized on some kind of provincial basis.

TOMS evolved from this discussion. Of the 25 Ontario Swimmers participating in Christchurch, 21 swam for TOMS and 4 for ROW. We all sat together, we swam together and we partied together. We had a lot of fun. We also swam well, breaking numerous provincial, national and a few world records. We made some good friends from other parts of Ontario. We believe that there was unanimous agreement that TOMS was a success.

It has been suggested by several of the participants that we resurrect TOMS for Riccione in 2004.

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