# UNITY AND GROWTH

The purpose of the **José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation ( JCAF)** is to support water polo and swim teams, improving the competitiveness of their athletes and fostering unity among teams. The JCAF was established in memory of José Cerdá and its mission was inspired by José's strong desire for self-improvement and that of fellow athletes, great camaraderie and his practice of giving selflessly to others. Jose's sudden passing in 2010 brought sport teams and team members closer together 'as one', exhibiting respect, support, commitment and integrity.

The JCAF wishes to maintain the magic of that moment, in which the best elements of humanity were exhibited, and to exemplify the qualities of José Cerdá and his practice of giving selflessly to others.

The José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation is proud to provide:

- Life-long benefits to our youth. The programs help participants renew their confidence in their abilities to achieve the goals they set for themselves - a skill for life.
- Community Leadership. We are a local organization with deep roots in the community. The Board of Trustees and the Committees deciding on programs funding have representation of parents with swimmers or water polo players at the high school level.
- Responsible Stewardship. All donations are solely invested in the sport programs. All administrative aspects are managed by volunteers.

The **José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation** is a tax-exempt non-profit organization under section 501(c)(3) since December 28<sup>th</sup>, 2010.

# **JOSE CERDA**

José Cerdá passed away suddenly on October 26th, 2010; the day of his 18th birthday from an arrhythmia while swimming. As a Senior at Sycamore High School, José was the first backstroker for the Varsity Swim team and played the 2-meter center position for the Varsity Water Polo team wearing Cap # 3.



José lived life to its fullest, letting everyone know how happy he truly was by the huge grin he always had in his face. His sense of humor was a source of joy for everyone around. He was a friend to everyone and had a positive impact in all the lives he touched.

José's agreeable nature and happy disposition greatly contributed to his team's camaraderie. He showed great dedication and passion for his water polo and swim teams. He always had words of encouragement for fellow players.

Swimming provided José the discipline, work ethic and opportunity to develop his character, social skills and lifestyle; in essence the foundation to form the outstanding citizen he became in and out of the pool.

José had a strong desire for self-improvement throughout his life. At the time of his death, he was training to make cuts in the State swimming competition. He not only set goals for himself but also challenged his fellow teammates. José devoted himself to everything he loved and always found ways to have fun even during tough challenges.



The José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation is a non-profit organization that supports water polo and swim sports, fostering unity among teams and improving the competitiveness of their athletes.

#### **Beneficiaries Preferred Eligibility**

High School swimmers or water polo players and exceptional junior high school athletes with a desire to improve their skills in these sports.

The Foundation seeks beneficiaries characterized by their dedication to their team and camaraderie with team mates who are in good academic standing.

Beneficiaries in prior years are not excluded from participating in future programs sponsored by the Foundation.

Programs that promote swimming and water polo sports in the State of Ohio and develop their athletes; such as camps, clinics, tournaments, etc.

Other related 501(c)(3) organizations, which may in turn donate to qualified individuals to help advance their progress.

### **Contact and Donation Information**



Search for the José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation.

Web site: <a href="http://www.joseito.webs.com">http://www.joseito.webs.com</a>

E-mail jcnfoundation@cinci.rr.com or write to

P.O. Box 12918 Cincinnati, OH 45212



#### **Water Polo Tournament**

The first USAWP-sanctioned U-18 Club Tournament in Ohio was hosted at the Montgomery Swim and Tennis Club, where José Cerdá worked as a lifeguard, on July 22-23, 2011 with teams from Illinois, Georgia and Ohio. The second Tournament was held on July 14-15, 2012 with teams from Atlanta, Chicago, St. Louis, Columbus and Cincinnati.

Directors: Nick Hellwig, Sycamore High School WP Head Men's Coach and Paul Splitt, Moose Water Polo-Coach.

# **Ohio Water Polo Camp**

Hosted at the Keating Aquatic Complex in the University of Cincinnati on August 13-14, 2011 and July 27-29, 2012. Overnight campers stay at UC dorms. Attendees are exposed to D1 & D3 College Water Polo coaches and former Varsity and Collegiate Club players.

Camp Directors: Mike Jones, Ohio Squirrels WPC and Referee and Alexis Blaxberg, former Sycamore High School WP Head Women's coach.

# **HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

Donations help defray the cost of the swimming and water polo programs to make them more affordable or free of charge to participants. A donation of:

**\$60** covers the cost of a swimmer to attend a Clinic. **\$250** covers the cost of a player to attend the WP camp.

Check donations should be made payable to José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation and addressed to P.O. Box 12918 Cincinnati, OH 45212

**Credit card donations** can be made on line via Pay Pal on the Foundation section of the website dedicated to Jose's life:

http://www.joseito.webs.com

This website also has information on the **Fund-raising Dinner Gala** event held annually to support yearly water polo and swimming programs.

If interested in volunteering your talent and time to the Foundation, please send a message to jcnfoundation@cinci.rr.com

The José Cerdá Navarro Aquatic Foundation is very grateful to all supporters.

**Corporate Sponsors** 

American Heritage Insurance Group, Hilton Garden Inn, iTracks, J P Morgan Chase, James Hunt Construction, Kast-A-Way Swimwear, Ohio HS Water Polo Association, Oscar Event Center, Ovations Catering-Duke Convention Center, Prestige, Reed Elsevier, Subway Siddrah LLC, Sparked Imaginations, St. X. High School, Sycamore Flying Fish, The Phoenix, Ursuline Academy, Walmart.

# SWIMMING



# **Swim Clinic**

Hosted at the pool of the Sports Center of Xavier University on October 8, 2011 and at the Keating Aquatic Center of the University of Cincinnati on October 27, 2012. Designed to help high school and elite junior high school swimmers reach the next level of competition with water instruction and classroom presentations.

Program Director: Chris Wolford, Cincinnati Marlins Head Coach. Participation of Coaches from The Ohio State University, Xavier University, University of Cincinnati, Sycamore High School and Club teams.

During the Swim clinic parents also receive information regarding parenting elite swimmers on topics such as nutrition, the mental and social issues of high-level athletes and the College recruiting process. New in 2012, world-class swimmers also shared their personal experiences in the sport.