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Age Group Champions Continue to be Crowned in Federal Way

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – The world's largest synchronized swimming competition got underway last weekend at the Weyerhaeuser King County Aquatic Center. The 2011 eSynchro Age Group Championships will run through July 2 and are hosted by the Pacific Northwest Association of Synchronized Swimming.

Tuesday's competition was highlighted by the finals of the solo, duet, trio and team events for the 13-15 Age Group. The newly crowned 13-15 solo champion is **Noelle St. John** of Ohio Synchro who scored a 142.349. Walnut Creek's **Grace Moran** placed second with a 141.092 while **Anita Alvarez** of the Tonawanda Aquettes scored a 138.619.

In the duet, Walnut Creek's **Natalie Fletcher** and **Elisabeth Welzien** captured a first-place finish with a 141.433. Teammates **Leah Read** and Moran took second with a 140.998. Ohio Synchro's **Elizabeth Hernandez** and St. John claimed third with a 139.521.

In the trio, Moran, Read and Welzien earned a gold medal with a 141.854. Santa Clara's **Celine Joo**, **Melissa Kim** and **Karen Li** took silver with a 139.274, while teammates **Phoebe Coffin**, **Michelle Roysental** and **Seborah Sun** took bronze with a 138.285.

In the team competition, Santa Clara's "A" Team (144.252) swam to a first-place finish while Santa Clara's "B" Team (141.633) grabbed second. The Arizona Aqua Stars swam a 139.057 which was a good enough for third place.

The competition features up-and-coming junior athletes along with several reigning age group national champions. Swimmers will compete for titles in the solo, duet, trio and team events in four age groups: 11-12, 13-15, 16-17 and 18-19.

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The 2011 eSynchro Age Group Championships mark the fourth time the event has been held in Federal Way since 1996. It is estimated that the eight day competition will carry an estimated economic impact of \$1.3 million.

Tickets can be purchased at the door for \$7 (adults). Seniors (65+) and Youth (6-12) can purchase tickets for \$5. Children 5 and under are free.

**Saturday, July 2 - 16-17 Age Group Finals
18-19 Age Group Finals**

For more information, contact Taylor Payne at taylor@usasynchro.org.

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