

Lawrence Indoor Aquatic Center

BEST PUBLIC/NONPROFIT INDOOR FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER
(100,000 TO 200,000 ANNUAL ATTENDANCE)

Lawrence, Kan.
www.lprd.org

 BEST OF
AQUATICS
CLASS 3



Community Minded

Thanks to extraordinary outreach and programs, the community is really behind this facility

Who knew Santa had time during the busy holiday season to don his snazzy Hawaiian swimsuit and take a dip at the Lawrence Indoor Aquatic Center

in Lawrence, Kan., this year's Class 3 winner?

Well, evidently Santa knows how to pick his pools. The state-of-the-art, \$9.3 million indoor facility opened in June 2001, lets the jolly holiday man slide down waterslides, bounce off diving boards and

frolic with the boys and girls in the zero-depth play area during the Santa Splash Party — all while a competition is held in the Olympic-sized pool beyond the sectioned area.

The indoor facility, built on land donated

by the Lawrence School District, was designed to accompany the older outdoor facility, also upgraded with play features and waterslides. Together, the two offer swimming

lessons, swim teams, water polo, SCUBA program, diving, water therapy and water aerobics.

And what better way to end the summer season than sharing the great facility with a furry buddy at the annual Pooch Plunge? Every year,

dogs are invited with owners to swim in the outdoor pool the day after the outdoor season ends. This year, more than 250 dogs took a swim to bid farewell to summer. That's one big doggy paddle. **AI**

From the Judges

This is one community that's made a commitment to aquatics — impressive.

Their community outreach is a model for other facilities. Adapted aquatics programs are very strong.

Facility Highlights

➤ Renovated and recently constructed indoor and outdoor pool supported by a \$9.3 million community-approved bond measure. Indoor facility including a 50-meter competition pool; leisure pool with slides and play area; both pools heated. Outdoor area offers leisure-style pool with slides and play area.



➤ Locker rooms and pools for indoor facility are fully accessible by both ramp and lift. A submersible wheelchair is available. Two warm-water therapy pools are also offered.

➤ Facility's attendance has increased by about 150 percent in the past five years.

➤ Diverse aquatics programs include swimming lessons, swim teams, water polo, SCUBA program, diving, water therapy and water aerobics.