

## Wendy Neely Chosen PNA Coach of the Year

Long-standing swim coach Wendy Neely has been selected as PNA's Coach of the Year. Neely has been coaching Blue Wave Aquatics for 20 years and has been head coach since 2004. She evolved the team from Federal Way Masters and now offers 22 different workout opportunities a week.

Neely not only coaches Masters swimmers, but also teaches coach certification classes. She is newly certified in the USMS Adult Learn to Swim program as an ALTS instructor and recently taught an ALTS training course for local coaches.

Congratulations Wendy Neely on being chosen PNA's Coach of the Year.



*Jennifer Mesler accepts the 2017 Coach of the Year award for Wendy Neely with Meet Director Steve Freeborn and newly elected PNA President Sally Dillon. Photo by Angela Turley.*

## Colella Named A Top 12 Masters Swimmer



Olympian and legendary Masters Swimmer Rick Colella has been named one of the 2016 Top 12 World Masters Swimmers of the Year by *Swimming World Magazine*.

Colella's parents put him in swim lessons at a young age to help him get over his fear of the water. He joined a swim team not long after and then started swimming year-round with Cascade Swim Club. Colella's third-place finish at Nationals in the 200-meter breast made him aspire to compete at the Olympics and he achieved that goal at the 1972 games. He then went on to take a bronze medal at the 1976 Montreal Olympics.

Puget Sound Masters swimmers are used to seeing Colella at meets and many know his swimming motto: "Fun, friends, and fitness."



See Colella's feature in *Swimming World Magazine* [here](#) and read a July 2016 *WetSet* feature interview with him [here](#).