Preparation of Junior swimmers

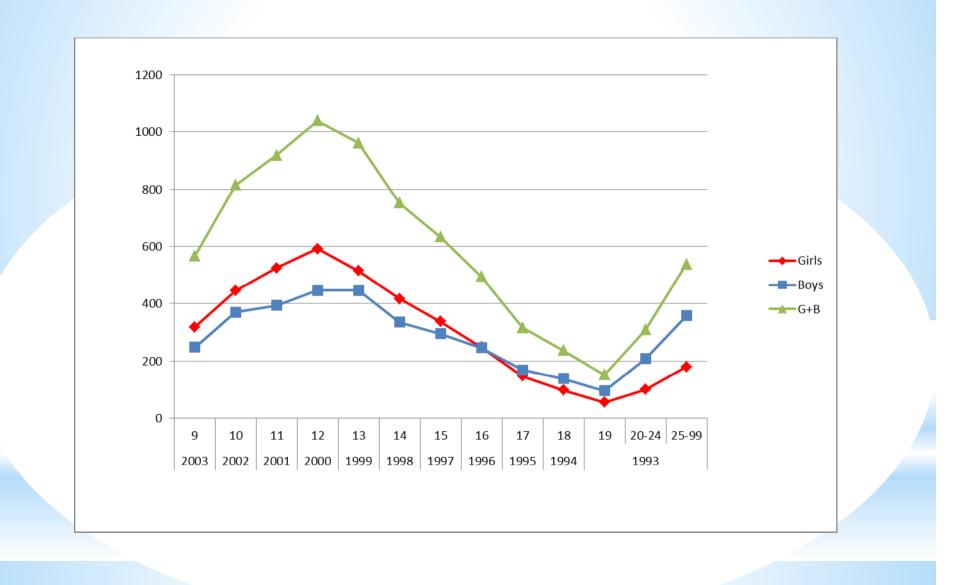
In Denmark

A little background information about Denmark

Population5,5 millSwimming3rd biggest sport

240 membership clubs 140 does competitive swimming 136500 members 8500 swimmers holds a licence Age group - 1400 Junior - 900 Senior - 1200





Age group - Boys 14-16 Girls 13-15

Many years many different systems, from points score FINA, time standards to finally the medal winners/top 3 rankings in Olympic events at National age group championships + # 4&5 from the IM

The biggest change has been the last two seasons/years where the season changed from 3 to 2 parts, in order to change the too early specialization.

This still has to be worked on, as many clubs don't have a complete system going on. A lot of agegroupers trains as if they were seniors ⊗

The season: Divided into two cycles with two important competitions in each cycle.

National championships:

Short course championships in January -> 80-90 swimmers Long course championships in July -> 80-90 swimmers (app. 60% the same as January)



Camps

2 weekends 80-90 swimmers after the championships One 5 days camp in the spring (24-30 swimmers) Focus: Teambuilding/relations - training - landskills - waterskills - antropometrics



International competitions:

During the spring and summer we select 24 swimmers to compete in the Nordic agegroup championships – same date as EJCh

Every second summer EYOF - not an agegroup friendly competition (early developed) Selections from a multidisciplinary system (the sum of two events 100+200 free)

Junior - Boys 17-18 Girls 15-17

Many years the same system;

EJCh time standards +1 sec/100 m \longrightarrow bruttogroup 20-24 swimmers selected in august.

3 important inter-/national competitions:

Autumn = Danish Short course -> NJC Spring = Danish Open -> EJC Summer = EJC/Danish Championships

Camps

10 days in the fall - testing
10 days Nordic skiing in the beginning of January - aerobic
2 weeks in the middle of February - aerobic + volume
1 weekend after Danish Open (kick off EJCh) - testing
3 weeks in the end of May, beginning of June - altitude + volume

Testing with the help of experts:

- Team Denmark experts
- Rein Haljand

Skinfolds, height and weigth

Physilogical development
3000 m endurance test
10x200 m steptest

• trainingspeed in different velocities (categories calculated from the La)

Biomechanical/technique Feedback to coaches and swimmers

Time standards:

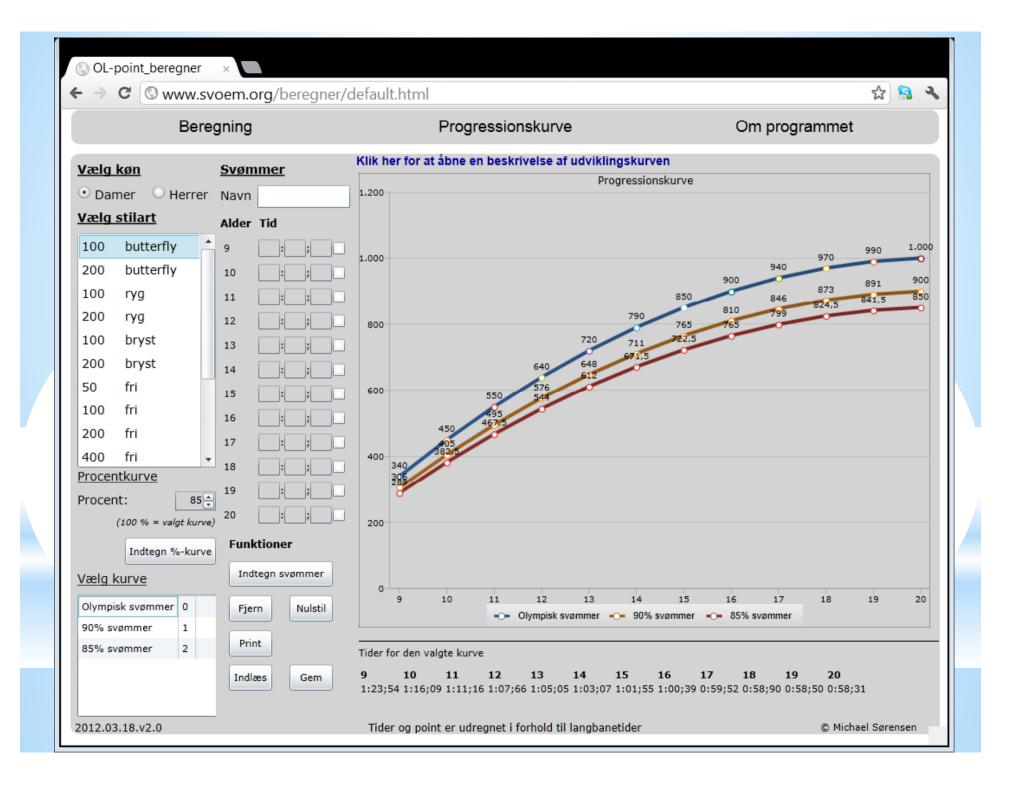
Nordic Junior Championships - multi disciplinary same system as agegroup

EJCh - two different TS according to final previous year top 10 for the older group, and semifinal, top 20 for the youngest group

Times correlated with the development curve/system - we have to move forward! 90 & 85 % of the Olympic development curve. Some of the times has to be adjusted by hand, in order not to be to soft

From the time of Danish Open, to EJCh the swimmers have to progress. 16 weeks

Vis kurve: http://www.svoem.org/beregner/default.html



Time standards + progression

TS has to be hard, but obtainable.

Swimmers have to be able better the times they qualify for the meet, with approximately 15 points from Danish Open to EJCh - 16 weeks.

TS has to be obtained in the evening event during Danish Open No one qualifies in the morning!

The reality is; swim fast in the morning and faster in the evening!

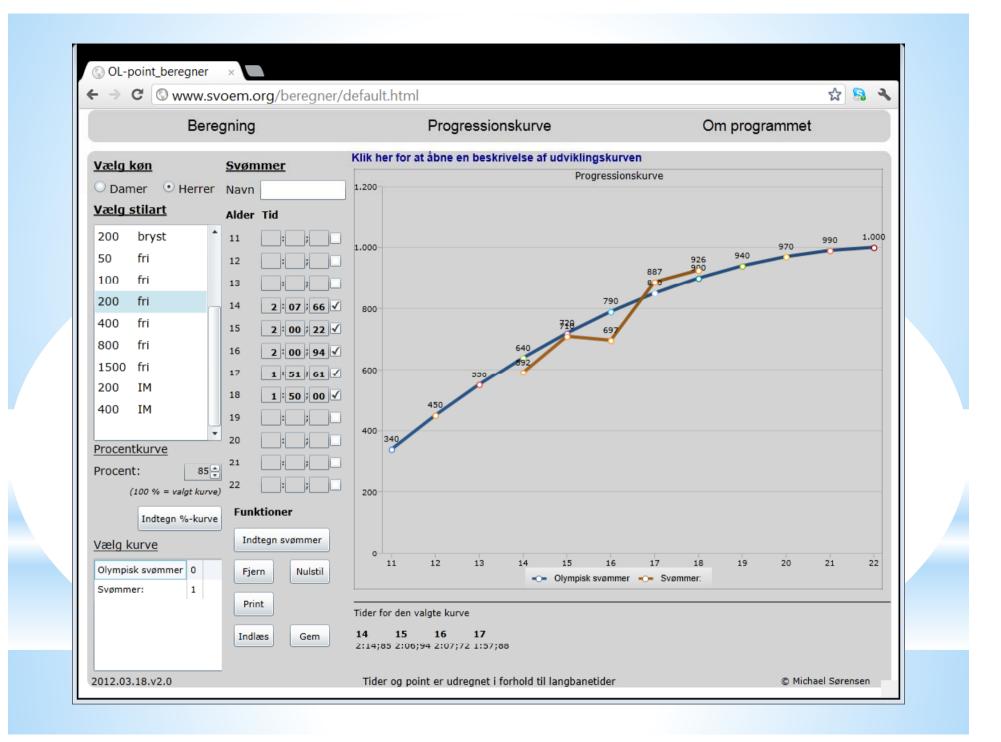
Overall goal with the system is "education of swimmers for international swimming" and to deliver 3-5 swimmers ready for the senior system.

Future seniors....?

Top 6 swimmers from EJC-finals to participate in the following ESC to keep them in the system, and still give them the opportunity to develop in a strong international competition in the first year as seniors.

Nordic championships: new competition from 2011 gives the second best/slow developers a chance to stay in contact with the system with TS between EJCh and Ecs

Fast track - we offer the best juniors to follow parts of the senior program. But do they benefit from that?



Challenges:

Clubs pulling in another direction Schools – much time away from classes Ridgid schoolsystem

The system is depending on the clubs willingness to deliver their clubcoaches as assistant coaches.

- Education
- Experience
- Whitout profit for coach or club

Nice things

- Strong swims (PB) in the morning and even better in the evening
- More finals in EJCh
- Nice relay results, figthing the big countries

Things to improve

- More entries in the longer events
- Better results in the longer events
- Bigger team (keep the swimmers in the pool after the age og 14)

The preparation of a special 16 year old girl With the strongest kick you have ever seen!



Thank you 🙂