

Free swim clinics Fri, Sat, Sun July 13-15 at the PMC pool

Friday, July 13: 3 p.m. Beginners

Sat, July 14: 10 a.m. Intermediate

Sun, July 15: 10 a.m. Beginners

Instructor: Mark Warkentin, 2008 Olympic swimmer

About Mark:

Mark Warkentin (born November 14, 1979) is an American [open water swimmer](#) and swimming coach.

After graduating from San Marcos High School in 1998, Warkentin attended the [University of Southern California](#), from which he graduated in 2003 with a degree in communication. While a [Trojan](#), he was a four-time [All-American](#). He was also awarded USC's Willis Award as a freshman.

Warkentin qualified for the [2008 Summer Olympics](#) in Beijing following his performance at the 2008 [Open Water World Championships](#). In the lead-up to the Games he was noted by [Time](#) as one of its "100 Olympic Athletes To Watch."^[1] He is a two-time national champion in the open water 25-kilometer, the longest sanctioned race in the sport.^[2] The open water event at the Olympics was a 10-kilometer race, which typically lasts around two hours.^[3] Warkentin [finished in eighth place](#) with a time of 1:52:13.0,^[4] just twenty-one seconds behind winner [Maarten van der Weijden](#).^[5] Warkentin became head coach of the Santa Barbara Swim Club on December 1, 2012, returning to lead his childhood team.