

For Discussion at the October 10, 2007 meeting of the PVS Board of Directors.

The Administrative Division of the LSC has access to information that is useful for monitoring and ensuring compliance with a variety of rules pertaining to whether an individual has current status as a registered/insured USA Swimming athlete or coach (practices/meets). The PVS website contains similar information on officials (meets). Monitoring is fairly straightforward but compliance measures including enforcement by fines and other measures have been more difficult and complicated. My thought is that if a summary informational memo can be distributed to all clubs before the October Open then any enforcement actions will be based on clear prior notice. The other purpose of this discussion is to maximize pre-meet action that can be taken by information provided by the Division to the Meet Directors and Coaches to minimize additional responsibilities on meet officials.

Registered Status:

Coaches—Current registered coaches are in compliance with background check and basic requirements to file the form and make payment. One reason is the registration is through the end of the year. A large number (more than 100) are now going through re-certification processes on safety/first aid and CPR requirements so they are not current. My thought—for those registering new coaches-- is to remind clubs that a “coach” is not a coach without the background check (at least the receipt if not the check is not complete at the time of a meet) and proof which is the current ID card. Further, the memo can indicate that the clubs are assumed to know which coaches are not current on certs but that they can contact the Registrar with any questions. If we are able to announce and provide re-cert opportunities for the coaches in the next month, then I would like the Board to consider posting on the website those coaches who do not have their certs current 10 days prior to the November Open. I also think the memo should indicate that meet management will assume that every club at the October Open (or other early Meet) has all “coaches” registered and at least one coach on deck at all sessions with all certs current and in position (line of sight) to supervise all the club’s athletes. Further if they can’t guarantee this they should arrange with another club to take dual responsibility for the kids at those sessions. This way there should be no need for meet directors to check everyone there. (Sumie can provide a list of those who are currently registered and those with expired certs to meet directors if that is preferred. However then meet management has to go into policing/enforcement mode.)

Athletes—Current procedure allows for deck registration of athletes at meets. I have checked with a couple of other LSC’s. North Carolina does not allow for this. The Registrar uses the pre-meet recon to figure out who does not have forms and money in and it is either worked out with the coach before the meet or the swimmer does not participate. Illinois allows deck registrations but the form and money have to be collected and forwarded to the Registrar same day as collected. I believe this is intended to satisfy the legal notion of “check in the mail” equals payment for insurance coverage. Personally I believe we should drop all deck registrations as the coach can work this out with the Registrar ahead of time. If it does occur it should be a meet director option and they should follow the same procedure as Illinois. Some LSC’s require athletes to carry ID with them but it seems to me that the pre-meet recon should take care of this—other than those who show up as deck entries at the meet. Those can be handled on site. Finally, any club that violates the registration rules should be penalized with the right

to appeal of course. If the Board so wishes the Admin Division can issue these as summary penalties (i.e., no advance notice they are coming). I believe they will be rare.

Officials- We currently post status of officials and I don't see a need for any changes. Obviously at least the Referee and one other need to have their registration and education requirements current and everyone else should have the current ID. I would like some discussion on whether coaches who have a re-cert requirement lacking is the same on deck as an official who did not go to a clinic and has lapsed on their educational (Re-cert) requirements. Do you consider these the same? I do intend to remind the clubs of the PVS policy on the minimum number of officials requirement and the applicable penalties. For those already in a penalty status I intend to remind them of this as well in addition to the end of year look-back recalculation that will compare then-current officials numbers to the prior registered swimmers numbers to allow them to catch-up with the requirements.

These are the primary items I want to cover in a brief email notice to the clubs but only if the Board shows a consensus position. If there is any confusion on what is intended please keep in mind that this is a fairly quickly drafted discussion memo. This is intended for (brief I hope) discussion at the meeting.

Thanks.

Art Davis

Administrative Division Vice-Chair