

**Potomac Valley Swimming
Competition Committee Meeting
January 9, 2024
Conference Call/Zoom**

- Call to Order; The meeting was called to order at 7:01 pm by Age Group Chair, Erik Collins
- As a reminder the purpose of the Competition Committee Meeting is to be the voice of the coaches, a place to share ideas, ask questions and express concerns and plan for the competition in PVS.
- Approval of CCM Fall 2023 minutes-
 - **Motion to accept the minutes from the Fall 2023 Competition Committee Meeting, seconded and approved.**
- Board Reports:
 - Athletes – Samantha Gilbert reported that the athletes are continuing their plans for a Swim-a-thon in the spring. They are aiming for early April. At this time they are looking for a facility or two where the space can be ideally donated. The goal of this fundraiser is to provide support to various causes, they are still currently looking an appropriate cause to support. Please reach out to the athlete representatives if you have any questions, comments or what to help.
 - Admin Chair – nothing to report.
 - Sr Chair: Aaron Dean reported; He has worked to simplify the submission process for Athlete travel reimbursement.
 - Currently there have been 14 submissions for Juniors and 16 for the Open. Checks are being processed and mailed out.
 - As a reminder of the upcoming meets, OW Nationals (\$700), Paralympic Nationals and Paralympic Trials (\$700), Olympic Trials (\$1400) and Summer Champs (\$800), submissions are due within 30 days of the conclusion of the meet.
 - Coach Awards: he will be working on setting up the various coach awards; Age Group of the year, Senior coach of the year and Rising Star. He will be working on the process to recognize these coaches, so we can ensure it is an annual event.
 - AG Chair (update on Task Forces) – Erik Collins reported; he has set up two task forces; Open Water Meets Construction and Outstanding Athlete Process.
 - The PVS Open meet task force met on Monday, January 8 and the Outstanding Athlete Process task force will meet on Wednesday, January 9. Both have a second meeting scheduled for February.
 - All ideas will be passed on to the Board later in the year.
 - SafeSport Chair- Greg York reported.
 - An email has been sent to club's Safe Sport Chairs with some information. Please have your Safe Sport Chair email greg@machineaquatics.com to ensure they are on the list. As more information is released from USA Swimming, it will be passed onto the Clubs.
 - DEI – Cliff – nothing to report.
 - Coaches Reps – Nicole Erickson and Andrew Koons reported.

- They have made themselves available to all coaches. Please continue to reach out to either Nicole or Andrew to express concerns, ask questions, share ideas. They will continue to make updates to the Coaches page on the website.
 - Additional Board reports – General Chair Cherlynn Venit thanked the coaches for a great season so far. There have been several changes to the Board this year. Please continue to reach out to Cherlynn with ideas, questions, and concerns.
 - Trish Buswell – Admin Chair, nothing to report.
 - Ellen Colket – Finance Chair, nothing to report.
 - Kate Johnson – Tech Committee – As a reminder, meet announcements are due to the Technical Committee 30 days prior from when meet entries are due, not the date of the meet. If there are changes after the meet has been sanctioned, please send all changes through the Tech Committee, so they can get proper approval and then reposted.
 - Karyn McCannon is the Times Coordinator, if there are any timing issues that need to be updated, please send them to Karyn.
 - Barb Ship is the Officials Representative and Officials Chair. Reach out to Barb with any questions or concerns regarding Officials.
 - Please send all club contacts to Terri (office@pvswim.org). We are working to get updated lists of all club contacts to include Athlete reps, Official’s Chair, Admins, Head Coach and Primary Site Coaches. We want to make sure we have the proper contacts for each club.
 - Technology and Social Media Committee, is a new PVS Committee. We have currently rebooted our Instagram account. Please be sure to follow with your team accounts, we are trying to grow the following, so we can better communicate information. There are currently 8 members of the committee. If you are interested in being a part of the committee or have any ideas please email; socialmedia@pvswim.org.
 - The USA Swimming website has coach specific page; [Coaches Network](#). This page is filled with tips and ideas, a place to communicate and share ideas. There have been a number of upgrades to the USA Swimming University, bronze, silver and gold certifications.
 - PVS Registrar, Kelly Rowell, stepped down from her position as of Friday, January 5. We want to thank Kelly for everything she has done for PVS over the past couple years and all her hard work as SWIMS 3.0 was introduced. We look forward to continuing to see her on deck. All registration questions will continue to go to the registration@pvswim.org email. Terri Marlin will be handling the registration for now.
- SWIMS 3.0 Update; Nothing new to report.
- PVS Meets Update-
 - Distance Meet recap –Thank you to Matt Salerno and FXXF for running the meet.
 - Tim Husson was the Meet Referee and reported that there were 440 PVS athletes and the meet ran well.
 - Tim reported that the current Distance meet entry policy is a bit of an issue. The policy allows swimmers to enter the 1000 with a 500 time and the 1650 with a 1000 time. This makes it difficult to do a swims recon for those who enter this way. Additionally, there are quite a few coaches’ times used, this is not necessarily a bad thing, however there

are always a few that instances where the swimmer is quite a bit slower than the entry time and this can be an issue.

- Tim requests that the CCM look at the policy. Does it still work? If so, we should be stricter on the policy, with the backing of the committee and board.
 - There was a discussion on the policy, implications and ideas
 - It was noted that the policy is appropriate, when a swimmer doesn't meet the time standard, then there needs to either be proof of time or an appeal process, which is a better option than an inappropriate coaches' time. .
 - Times officer can run a meet recon for the various distances...the event in the database is a different distance.
 - Swimmer should have at least a true 500 time before entering the distance meet.
- PVS Club Meet Bids for 2024-2025; List of meets presented to the body for review.
 - **Motion to endorse the PVS Club meets for 2024-2025 season as presented, seconded and approved.**
 - Clubs will be able to add new meets or make changes to the current endorsed schedule at the May CCM, prior to final Board Approval.
 - PVS SCY Championship Meet preview.
 - Time Standards for SC Junior Champs, SC Senior Champs and 14 & U SC Champs were released on December 1, 2023.
 - A number of the girls' standards were softened as an attempt to get more girls in the meet.
 - There have been a number of format suggestions from coaches and there will be some minor changes to the way the meet is run.
 - There is a policy on the start times for Championship meets,
 - Senior Chair, Aaron Dean has a proposal to change P&P to a preferred start time and provide flexibility for the Senior Chair and Meet Director to make changes to start times of the meet if changes are necessary after the entries are received.
 - **Motion to change to the start time of Championship meets in P&P, based on the size of the Senior Championship meet sessions should allow for a minimum of two hours between the finish of prelims and the start of finals warm up, except on Sunday (or day with distance events). The Senior Chair along with the meet director will determine the start times based on the anticipated meet size and may adjust if needed after entries are submitted in conjunction with the meet hosts. The preferred starting times are: Thursday Timed Finals to remain as they are currently. Prelims warm up 7:00am, meet start 8:30 am, with Finals warm up 3:30 pm, meet start 5:00 pm, seconded and approved.**
 - Aaron also looked at the number of heats in finals for Junior and Senior Champs. Currently the number of heats for Junior Champs is top 16 and top 24 for Senior Champs. He would like the body to consider changing the Junior Champ finals to the top 24 and then lower the number of finalists for the 500 Freestyle and 400 IM in Senior Champs to 16.

- Comments/Ideas.
 - After a brief discussion, it was decided to make all finals top 24 for both Junior Champs and Senior Champs.
- Bonus Swims for Senior and Junior Champs ideas:
 - make one, get one bonus event (no standard)
 - make two, get two bonus events (no standard)
 - make 3+ get 1 bones event (no standard)
 - Some think this may have this will have a negative effect on Junior Champs. If a swimmer gets 4 or more events in Senior Champs, they may be less likely to swim in the Junior Champ meet. But there is no data to support that.
 - Others like the bonus events for Junior Champs, it will encourage more swimmers and give them more opportunities to swim.
 - The only way to get a bonus in the distance events is to have a qualifying time in the other distance.
- What about adding awards? Both team and/or awards?
 - Not sure it will make a difference.
- Summer Zones Update- Gaby Trainor, Zone Team Manager-
 - This summer LC Age Group Zone meet will be individual travel. Zone Team Manager, Gabi Trainor has been working on getting things set up. Hotels blocks are setup and she is now working on van rental for the coaches. .
 - The meet is August 7-10 in Hampson, VA.
- Nomination/Election of PVS Zone Team Head Coach –
 - Only one person interested in Head Coach – Steven Clendenin from NCAP.
 - Any other candidates for Head Coach? No additional nominations were received.
 - There will be 6 additional coaches added in the Spring. One coach per age group, per gender
 - **Motion to close the nomination, for the 2024 LC Age Group Eastern Zone Team second and approved.**
 - **Motion to accept Steven Clendenin, by acclamation, as PVS Zone coach for the LC Age Group Zone Champs, seconded and approved.**
- 2025 PVS Budget- The Board is beginning to prepare for the 2024-2025 PVS budget. If there are any additions or ideas, please talk to the Finance Chair or another Board Member.
- Old/New Business
- No Old Business
- Which HS meets will be recognized by PVS? Will Districts be recognized?
 - For the last couple years, PVS has allowed Districts be Observed, along with Regionals and other season culminating meets.
 - They must apply and have an adequate number of PVS approved Officials on site.
 - How does this affect teams that are not swimming in PVS territory?
 - Virginia Swimming has recently changed their policy and they will now issue Observations for District level High School meets.

- Have all the MD meets been applied for?
 - State Meets have been approved; however regionals have not yet been applied for.
 - 12 & U LC Champs – Tom Ugast has been approached by some coaches, asking if there are any facilities available that would allow for continuous warm up/cool down lanes during 12 & Under LC Champs. After some investigating, with a few changes, we can make this happen. Currently 12 & Under LC Champs is scheduled for Claude Moore July 11-14 and 13 & Over at UMD, July 18-20.
 - Jeff Rouse Swim and Sports Center is available.
 - Tom Ugast suggests making the following change; Move 12 & Under Champs to July 18-20 at UMD and moving 13 & Over to Jeff Rouse the same weekend (July 18-20).
 - The CCM body request this change be presented to the BOD for final approval.
 - Is there any interest/effort to looking at why there seems to be more boys than girls swimming?
 - Nationally it is being looked at from grass roots to higher level and part of a larger conversation.
 - It was asked if there are simply more boys swimming or are we losing girls? There does seem to be a trend of fewer girls at meets.
 - Athletes do not necessarily seem to feel the disparity is as big as it appears.
 - Did the Eastern Zone find a host for the Southern Zone Sectional? According to Tim Husson, there will likely be a LC Zone meet in the summer in Buffalo.
- Set Date of Spring 2024 CCM – **Tuesday May 7, seconded and approved.**
- Adjourn

Club	Name
AAC	Evan Stiles
APEX	Ailynn Parks
ASA	Bob Walker
ASTS	Dominique Banks
BWST	Gabriel Ibanez
CSC	Russ Ramey
DRAG	Kevin Pan
ERSC	Anise Foreman
FAA	Andrew Killian
FAST	Manga Dalizu
FISH	Bruce Andersen
FISH/PVS	Nicole Erickson
FXFX	Matt Salerno
FXFX	Julia Koczot
HACC	Matt Lear
JFD	Joseph Flaherty
LIFE	Dan Rhinehart
MACH	Greg York
MACH	Paris Jacobs
MACH	Jason Cochran
MACH	Corey Wallace
MACH	Dan Jacobs
MAKO	Heather Haddock
MAKO	Mike Cook
NCAP	Tom Ugast
NCAP	Bryce Bohman
NCAP	Trish Buswell
NCAP	Tim Kelly
OCCS	Aaron Dean
OCCS	Matt Mast
PAC	Georgia Reitzel
PAC	John Venit
PM	Bill Marlin
PVS	Tim Husson
PVS	Samantha Gilbert
PVS	Cherlynn Venit
PVS/MAKO	Erik Collins
RIPS	Shandra Richardson
RMSC	Mark Eldridge
RMSC	Kent Williams
RY	Patty Wilson
SA	David Miller
SA	Justin Eppard

SDS	Ian Handerhan
STJS	Jessie Bricker
TANK	Priya Aurora
TIBU	Jorge Silva
TRA	Moon Cha
TRA	Erika Kim
WEA	Jared Miller
WSH	Maryna MacDonald
YORK	Mat Campet
YORK/PVS	Andrew Koons