

PVS Coaches Representative Report House of Delegates Meeting

May 2011

PVS Open Meet Changes – Following the November Open, numerous coaches expressed concern about allowing non-PVS teams to participate in our Open meets. Many felt that the addition of these teams added to already long timelines, and negatively impacted our swimmers and their experiences. In order to further cut down on the open meet timelines, coaches expressed a desire for PVS to eliminate the inclusion of the non-freestyle 50s and decrease the maximum number of events the athletes can compete in. PVS has routinely had 12 & under Open meet sessions take longer than 4 hours and these changes are all designed to make us more compliant and improve our athlete's meet experiences.

PVS Senior / Junior Champs – The combination of Senior and Junior Champs was generally very well received by almost every coach I spoke to that weekend. Many of the potential problems with combining the meets worked out fine. Coaches were happy with session timelines, and the fact that they could prepare the majority of their senior swimmers for one weekend instead of two. One suggestion for next year was that PVS eliminate the "B" heat of Junior Champs in order to add a "C" heat for Senior Champs.

PVS Junior Olympics – This was the second year in a row that PVS has run three separate preliminary sessions in an attempt to accommodate our growing numbers at the JO level. The positives of this set-up include quick preliminary sessions and the ability for each coach to focus on one age group at a time. Negatives include the early morning start times for the 13-14 age group (especially after a late finals' session) and a short turnaround for the 10 & under swimmers between their prelims and finals. It was noted that the air quality at Fairland was significantly better this year than in year's past.

Athlete Travel Reimbursement – In an attempt to present a balanced budget for the fiscal year of 2011-2012, it was suggested that PVS reduce the amount of money allocated to athlete travel reimbursement for Junior Nationals, Senior Nationals, and in particular for next year, US Olympic Trials. I feel strongly that PVS should look to other means for reducing our expenditures, and that we should continue to support our national-level athletes. This continued support is backed by USA Swimming, and demonstrates PVS' commitment to elite swimming. I believe that the intangible qualities these athletes bring to their respective teams and our LSC as a whole, justify any expenses we incur as a result of their participation at the premier meets our sport has to offer.

Yuri Suguiyama