



AROUND THE DECK

POTOMAC VALLEY SWIMMING OFFICIALS

OCTOBER 2013 NEWSLETTER



Welcome Back from Bill Marlin our new General Chair

Hello everyone and welcome back!

As I take over for Riley Eaton as the PVS General Chair, I wanted to start off by thanking two people. First off, a big Thank You goes out to Jack Neill for all his volunteer hours over the years and for serving the past four years as the PVS Officials Committee Chair. Jack has given PVS many hours of his time on deck and in the meeting rooms to mentor Officials and to try to make PVS the best LSC in the country. Hopefully, PVS will continue to benefit from his experience in the years to come. Please join me in thanking Jack for his years of service.

I also want to say thank you to Riley for leading us all the past two years and his open willingness to help me get up to speed with all matters concerning PVS.

I would also like to welcome Tim Husson as the newly appointed PVS Officials Chair. I'm sure Tim will bring his own flare and professionalism to the position and will do an excellent job. I have the utmost confidence in Tim to keep PVS in the forefront of Officiating in USA Swimming.

I would like to mention a few words on my vision for PVS moving forward. As many of you know, I am big on education and celebration. If there is a need or desire for Officials Clinics, please let Tim and I know. If we can swing it, we'll do our best to make it happen. I have already set up a Hy-Tek MM 5.0 clinic with Bob Matlack, the Head of Technical Support for Hy-Tek. Bob has agreed to come into PVS on September 28th to run a 2-2.5 hour Meet Manager 5.0 clinic. I would like to extend an invitation to any Officials that work the table as I feel this would be beneficial to our championship meet crew.

2013-14 is going to be a great year! Many of you will see me on deck so don't be a stranger, stop by and say hello and if we've never met, please, introduce yourself. If you think you have a good idea, let Tim know. Also, if you have issues or concerns, please bring them up with Tim. Unless he knows about it, he can't do anything.

In closing, I do want to encourage everyone to continue to work on recruiting new Officials from your club teams and to thank all of you for everything you do for this LSC. Whether you still have kids swimming or you do this because your wife just wants you out of the house on the weekend, Thank You!

Welcome Tim!

Here is a little background on our new Committee Chair. Tim swam two years in college at Manhattan College. He has worked for the past 35 years as an Electronics Engineer for the Naval Research Laboratory. Tim is married to Barbara and they have two children that swam in PVS and has been a USA Swimming Official in PVS for 17 years and served as a member of the PVS Officials Committee for 8 years. He also serves on the USA Swimming Times & Recognition Committee as well as the Webmaster for PVS and the Eastern Zone.



From the Chairman



2014 Registration

The USA Swimming Registration for 2014 is now available. Everyone is required to submit an online registration form this year. The online form is at <https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/4a8bL106600422o00gXk0ae>.

If your Athlete Protection Training (APT) and/or your Background check expire in 2013, please renew them before submitting the application. Your application for registration cannot be processed until both these items are up to date. You must submit the registration form no later than December 20th to ensure you are registered for the start of 2014.

PVS has once again agreed to pay the registration fee for officials who have worked the required number of sessions in calendar year 2013. The minimum is ten sessions at PVS-sanctioned meets. This does not include observed meets (e.g. H.S. and college meets), approved meets (e.g. DCPR Black History Meet) or meets in other LSCs. Every currently-registered official should have received an email from me last week giving their status towards the PVS-paid registration. Some of the email addresses in the USA Swimming database are not up-to-date, so if you didn't receive the email, please let me know and I will re-send your status.

If you haven't met the minimum number of sessions for a PVS-paid registration, there are still 28 more meets in 2013 at which you can work towards completing the requirement. It is my hope that all PVS Officials will qualify. If your PVS certification expires on 12/31/2013, please renew prior to the end of the year so you are all set for 2014. The re-certification requirements can be found at http://www.pvswim.org/official/recertification_requirements.html.

The 2013-2014 competition season was well supported by PVS Officials and I thank you for that. I look forward to working with all of you again in the coming season.



You Make the Call!

1. There are no provisions in the USA Swimming rulebook for swimmers with a disability. True or False?
2. What are the major categories of disabilities as described in USA Swimming rules?
3. LSCs cannot make special rules for swimmers with a disability. True or False?
4. A swimmer with a disability wishes to swim in a USA Swimming meet but does not have the qualifying time for that meet. Is there anything that can be done to permit the athlete to participate?



Upcoming Meets

Please check the Meet Announcement to find the officials contact to volunteer your services.

October 2013			
Date	Meet	Host	Location
4-5	Red & Black (by invitation)	UMAC	Univ. of MD
5-6	MAKO Fall Invitational	MAKO	GMU
5	MSSC Freestyle Meet <i>meet cancelled due to Fairland's closure</i>	MSSC	Fairland
6	PEAK Freestyle Meet	PEAK	PGS&LC
11-13	Snow Pumpkin Invitational (by invitation)	SNOW	Claude Moore
11-13	RMSC October Kickoff (by invitation)	RMSC	Germantown
12-13	Harvest Moon	HACC	Herndon
18-20	PVS October Open updated 9/20/13 Fairland site has been moved to PGS&LC on Friday and Saturday and at UMD on Sunday	PM	Lee District
		NCAP	PGS&LC and UMD
		FBST	PGS&LC and UMD
19-20	Mini Kick-Off	MACH	Univ. of MD
26-27	MSSC Fall Senior Meet	MSSC	PGCC
26-27	Speedo Eastern States Senior Circuit #1 (by invitation)	PEAK	PGS&LC

26-27	Fall Gator Mini Meet	AAC	Washington-Lee H.S
26-27	SDS Monster Mash (by invitation)	SDS	South Run
November 2013			
Date	Meet	Host	Location
2-3	National Age Group Challenge Meet (By Invitation)	RMSC	Germantown
2-3	DCPR November Distance Meet	DCPR	Takoma
8-10	PVS November Open	FISH	Cub Run
		TBA	PGS&LC
		PAC	PGS&LC
		FBST	Mt. Vernon
10	YORK Friendship Mini Meet (by invitation)	YORK	Spring Hill
14-16	<i>Grand Prix Series (SCY)</i>		<i>University of Minnesota</i>
15-17	RMSC November Invitational (by invitation)	RMSC	MLK
16-17	Odd Ball Challenge	FAST	Fairland
22-24	Swim & Rock (By Invitation)	SDS	Oak Marr
24	Pilgrim Pentathlon	NCAP	Claude Moore

Jack Neill Receives Maxwell Excellence Award



Swimming World magazine and Maxwell Medals wish to recognize an official for their outstanding contributions to local swimming. Each LSC or other governing body can submit a candidate that is deserving of recognition. One official will be selected by a sub-committee of the National Officials Committee to be recognized in Swimming World magazine every two months. The selected official will receive an attractive award from Maxwell.



Jack Neill is the hardest working official in Potomac Valley Swimming. He has been an official for 14 years and been a referee for the past nine years. He has been a long-time member of the Potomac Valley Officials Committee. In 2008, on his own initiative, Jack started a newsletter for the LSC officials. Since then, Jack has been the editor and primary writer for that newsletter producing eight newsletters a year. This has been a great communication tool for the Officials Committee in Potomac Valley. In 2009, Jack was appointed the LSC Officials Chair by the PVS General Chair. Despite the added responsibility, he continues to work more meets in the LSC than anyone. He is just as likely to show up at a mini meet as at an LSC championship meet. Jack relishes his role as a mentor to trainee officials and can be seen working as a Stroke & Turn Judge, Chief Judge or Starter as often as he is a Referee. Jack truly leads by example, and the quality of officiating in Potomac Valley is a tribute to that leadership. **A hearty**

congratulation goes out to Jack from all of the officials in Potomac Valley for his many years of leadership, mentoring and support.



Updated Officials Briefing

USA Swimming has posted an updated version of the recommended stroke briefing, including all recent changes. This the PVS recommended briefing. Follow the link to see the new briefing. http://www.usaswimming.org/Rainbow/Documents/c7dfbe7a-e30b-453a-b1e1-a996f4d9217d/Officials_Briefing_2013.pdf



Board of Directors Representative

Congratulations go out to Mike Rubin for winning his second election as our Potomac Valley Board of Directors Officials Representative. Mike represents all of us as a voting member of the Potomac Valley Swimming Board of Directors. Mike's responsibilities include representing the views of our officials as we make decisions considering the management of our LSC.



Officiating Disability Swimming Opportunity

There is an upcoming opportunity to become involved in officiating at disability meets. The 2013 Fred Lamback Disability Meet is being held October 19-20 in Augusta, GA. There will be a U.S. Paralympics Officials Course held in conjunction with the meet on Friday October, 18.

Meet Information, including the meet announcement and an application to officiate can be found at <<http://www.swimasl.com/SubTabGeneric.jsp?team=gsasl&stabilid=67014>>. Officiating at a disability meet can be a rewarding experience, so if you are so inclined, please check it out.



From the Eastern Zone



Congratulations to Bob Vincent on being selected as the Eastern Zone Officials Chair during the Eastern Zone meeting at the USA Swimming National Convention this year. Bob will be working

with each of the LSC Officials Chairs and our two Zone Directors to staff Zone and Sectional meets with Meet Referees.



UPCOMING CLINICS

Upcoming Clinics				
Date	Clinic	Location	Time	Who's Attending
Tuesday September 24	Administrative Official	Fairland	7:00 - 9:00 PM	list
Saturday September 28	Stroke & Turn	Madeira School	8:00 - 10:30 AM	list
Saturday September 28 (date change)	Stroke & Turn	GMU	8:00 - 10:30 AM	list
Saturday September 28	Stroke & Turn	Freedom Center	8:00 - 10:30 AM	list
Saturday September 28	Starter	Freedom Center	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	list
Sunday September 29	Stroke & Turn	MLK Swim Center	8:00 - 10:30 AM	list
Sunday September 29	Starter	MLK Swim Center	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	list
Sunday September 29	New Referee	Overlee	11:00 AM - 1:00 PM	By Invitation
Sunday September 29	Referee	Overlee	1:00 - 3:00 PM	list
Sunday September	Chief Judge	MLK Swim Center	1:30 - 3:30 PM	list

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Tuesday October 1	Administrative Official	Overlee	7:00 - 9:00 PM	list
Thursday October 3	Stroke & Turn	PGCC	6:30 - 9:00 PM	list
Sunday October 6	Hy-Tek Computer Operator	MLK Swim Center	10:00 AM - NOON	list
Sunday October 6	Colorado Timing System Operator	MLK Swim Center	NOON - 2:00 PM	list
Saturday October 12	Starter	Herndon Community Center	8:00 - 10:00 AM	list
Saturday October 12	Stroke and Turn	Herndon Community Center	10:00 AM - 12:30 PM	list
Sunday October 13	Colorado Timing System Operator	Herndon Community Center	9:00 - 11:00 AM	list
Sunday October 13	Hy-Tek Computer Operator	Herndon Community Center	NOON - 2:00 PM	list
Tuesday October 15	Stroke & Turn	Fairland	6:30 - 9:00 PM	list
Tuesday October 22	Starter	Fairland	7:00 - 9:00 PM	list
Saturday October 26	Stroke & Turn	Takoma	10:00 - 12:30 PM	list
Sunday October 27	Hy-Tek Computer Operator	KSAC (formerly MAC)	9:00 - 11:00 AM	list
Sunday October 27	Colorado Timing System Operator	KSAC (formerly MAC)	11:00 AM - 1:30 PM	list



You Make the Call Resolution

1. False. USA Swimming Rules & Regulations state the Referee "may modify any rule for a competitive swimmer who has a disability. Such modification shall be in accordance with Article 105 of this rulebook." Applicable Rules: 102.13.8, part 105.

2. There are four major categories of disabilities: • Blind and Visually Impaired • Deaf and Hard of Hearing • Mentally Impaired • Physical Disabilities. Applicable Rules: part 105.

3. False. Section 202.2.13 states: "LSC's may develop special administrative standards and conditions to encourage athletes with disabilities to participate in their meets. Such conditions shall be included in the meet information." Applicable Rules: 202.2.13

4. The LSC can do the following: • The meet time standards could be waived for swimmers with a disability. • Special time standards, based on a percentage of the normal standards, could be established. Applicable Rules: 202.2.13



One Last Thing

If you have any stories or pictures about experiences you have had concerning any of our officials please send them to [Bob Vincent](#) so that we can get them in the newsletter. Thanks again to Jack Neill for his many years of work in providing a newsletter for our officials. See you all on deck, and remember:

BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT GOES TO THE SWIMMER

Call what you see and see what you call