



Board of Directors Meeting
September 19, 2022
Zoom: 7:00 PM

- Attendance:
 - Voting Board Members: Tim Husson, Cherlynn Venit, Evan Stiles, Erik Collins, JD Foster, Jessica Fry-Mack, Trish Buswell, Aaron Dean, Jorge Zamora, Samantha Gilbert, JP Vanderloo, Andrew Char (Not in attendance: Tom Ugast, Greg York)
 - Non-Voting Board Members and Guests: Kim Bullers, Kelly Rowell
- Roll Call to establish Quorum – There are a sufficient number of voting board members to conduct business.
- Mission Statement: **PVS supports and promotes excellence for all through competition, education, inclusion and leadership in a safe and equitable environment.**
 - As members of the Board, we are representing all members of Potomac Valley Swimming and not our clubs. We must work with the best interest of the association in mind.
- Consent Agenda: Approval of Submitted Reports and Minutes of July 18 Meeting – **The submitted reports and July 18 meeting minutes were approved.**
 - General Chair
 - Age Group Chair
 - Athlete Rep
- Additional Agenda Items & Approval of the Agenda – nothing additional submitted.
- Welcome to new Board members
 - Tim welcomed the new Board Members:
 - Andrew Char is joining the Board as the Athlete At-Large.
 - Samantha Gilbert is now the Junior Athlete Representative
 - Cherlynn Venit is joining the Board as the Admin Vice-Chair
 - Tom Ugast is returning to the Board as the Operations Chair
 - Greg York is returning to the Board as Safe Sport Chair
 - Aaron is joining the Board as the Junior Coaches Representative
- Athletes Update
 - JP Vanderloo submitted a report with his plans to expand Open Water competitions in PVS.
 - All three Athletes attended the Eastern Zone meetings over the weekend.
 - Samantha reported that she is currently working on the Official's Recognition Initiative. She sent emails to the Officials Committee asking for Officials to interview.
- Finance
 - End of Year Report – JD Foster reported that he and Kim Bullers are finalizing the 2021-2022 Financial Report. There are a few outstanding items they are working to resolve. Once complete a report will be submitted to the Board.
- Action Items

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POTOMAC VALLEY
SWIMMING

- Change in Pre-Meet Recon Policy due to SWIMS 3.0 – Kelly Rowell has been working as the Registrar with the clubs and athletes to navigate SWIMS 3.0. Other LSC are reporting that with all the changes, the pre-meet recon is more difficult and time consuming than it was before. Additionally, if there are any unregistered athletes, it will now be up to the parent to submit the registration, which will add another step in the process. Due to these changes and difficulties, she is proposing a change to the pre-meet recon policy.
 - The current policy has the pre-meet recon due the Monday prior to the meet. Kelly is requesting to change the deadline for the initial back up be due the Thursday, one week prior to the meet.
 - Motion to have the pre-meet backups for all meets be submitted on the Thursday, one week prior to the start of the meet to conduct the pre meet recon, seconded,
 - It was asked if the policy can be changed for the 2022-2023 season and then reconsidered.
 - Motion to add the 2022-2023 season only to the initial motion, seconded and approved.
 - **Motion to have the pre-meet back up for all meets be due for submission on the Thursday, one week prior to the start of the meet for the 2022-2023 season, seconded and approved.**
- Officials Travel Reimbursement for the 2022-2023 season – According to the policy the Officials Committee submits a list of the approved meets and amount reimbursable for the upcoming season. The list was sent to Operations Chair, Tom Ugast today for consideration. See attached
 - **Motion to accept the list of 2022-2023 eligible Meets for Officials Travel Reimbursement as presented, seconded and approved.**
- Officials Registration Reimbursement policy – Historically, PVS has paid the Official's registration fee for any official who has worked at least 10 sessions in PVS sanctioned meets, during the calendar year. Due to the changes to SWIMS 3.0, each individual Official must register themselves and pay their own registration fee, PVS can no longer make the payment.
 - **Motion, for the 2023 USA Swimming registration year, PVS will reimburse Officials the 2023 USA Swimming Registration fee for returning Officials who officiate a minimum of 10 sessions, at PVS sanctioned meets, in the 2022 calendar year. Once registered and paid, the Official will submit a reimbursement request to the Official's Chair, who will then review, confirm the number of sessions and then request the reimbursement for the 2023 USA Swimming registration from the PVS treasurer, seconded and approved.**
- Board Meeting Schedule – See the attached Board Meeting Schedule
 - Board meetings held via Zoom have far greater attendance than in-person meetings and will continue as the norm this year.
 - **Motion to accept the PVS Board Meeting Schedule as proposed, holding meetings on the third Tuesday of each month, with no meetings in December or August, seconded and approved.**
- Discussion Items

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- General Chairs Updates –
 - Committee Chairs, please send Tim a list of committee members, so he can post on the website. Athletes must make up 20% of each committee, if you need athlete members, let the athlete reps know and they will help recruit members.
 - A fourth site has been secured for the November Open at Dulles South.
 - February 18 & Under Qualifier has been canceled, due to no club volunteering to host.
 - UMD and GMU-Fairfax will both be shut down for the summer of 2023. The LC Open Champs and 13 & Over Champs will be held at GMU Freedom Center, Manassas, VA..
 - Tim shared a registration analysis (link in the attached General Chair's Report) and while PVS membership took a hit during COVID, our registration numbers have rebounded nicely this year. This is good news for PVS.
 - Last year we had 25 clubs that were Safe Sport recognized, currently there are only 15 clubs that are still considered Safe Sport Recognized. Clubs must renew every two years. There is a current pause in the processing due to the changes in SWIMS 3.0 but clubs can still work on meeting the requirements.
 - The Eastern Zone (EZ) meeting was yesterday (9/18). In addition to Tim, the Athlete Reps and Age Group Chair were in attendance. The dates and locations for the 2024 EZ meets have been posted. All of the Qualifying Times for the 2023 EZ Meets remain unchanged from this year
- SWIMS 3.0 – Our Registrar (Kelly Rowell) and all the coaches are working hard to figure it out and are working through the issues. USA Swimming is continuing to work on it and everyone is thanked for their patience.
 - Feel free to contact Kelly if there are questions regarding SWIMS 3.0, she will try to help the best she can to answer your questions. USA Swimming is overwhelmed with questions at this time.
- USA-S Annual Business Meeting (ABM) and House of Delegates (HOD) – The meeting is scheduled for Saturday September 24. All are welcome to attend, but you need to register by today. Our voting delegates are: JD Foster (non-coach), Evan Stiles, Erik Collins and Trish Buswell (coach delegates).
 - There is pending legislation, be sure to read and be informed. Tonight at 8:30 there is a meeting to hear more about the pending legislation.
 - Over the past week, USA Swimming has held various committee meetings. Many of which Tim has attended. He will submit a report after the ABM.
- Competition Committee Meeting - Sept 27 – The link is on the website.
- Spring 2023 Zone Workshop - Apr 20-22, 2023. This year, USA-S will invite the Official Chairs and Safe Sport Chairs.
- Board Orientation - New Board members are recommended to review their job description in the P&P. Last year, Tim started a project, to have each Board Member to update their job description, as well as specific duties and timelines. That project will be continued this year.
 - All Board Members and employees are required to complete the Conflict of Interest form and send it to Cherlynn Venit, the Admin Chair prior to the October meeting. The form can be found on the PVS website: https://www.pvswim.org/admin/PVS_Ethics_and_Conflict_of_Interest.pdf.

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- Committees - Responsibilities & Membership – if you have a committee, be sure to have 20% athlete participation in your committee. Members of the committee must be members in good standing of USA Swimming.
- Board Member Goals for this year – Each member will be asked to state at least one goal for the 2022-2023 season at the October Board Meeting.
- Meet Director Clinic – there were two meetings held last week for PVS Meet Directors. The Saturday meeting was recorded and can be shared for those who were unable to attend. There may be a few new requirements updated/added, depending on what happens at the USA-S HOD.
 - There is a proposal for a rule requiring all Meet Directors to vet all meet volunteers, including timers and marshals, for each meet. There will be more information provided if this passes at HOD this weekend.
- Next Scheduled Meeting: October 18
- The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 PM and the Board went into a closed Executive Session.

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General Chair's Report September 2022 Board Meeting

Welcome to New Board Members - The following are new members to the Board beginning their terms this month.

Administrative Vice Chair - Cherlynn Venit
Operations Vice Chair - Tom Ugast
Safe Sport Chair - Greg York
At-Large Athlete Representative - Andrew Char

Athlete Representatives - The PVS athletes held the election for their new representatives in July/August. Thanks to Athlete Representative JP Vanderloo for managing that process. The new Junior Athlete Representative (two-year term) is Samantha Gilbert. The new At-Large Athlete Representative is Andrew Char (one-year term).

PVS Committees - If you chair a PVS committee, please report your committee membership for this coming year to me so it can be posted. If you need to fill any athlete member positions on the committee (must fill at least 20% of the committee membership), the Senior Athlete Representative JP Vanderloo can help recruit.

USA Swimming Annual Business Meeting (ABM) - The USA-S ABM will be held from September 22-24. This will conclude with the Annual HOD on September 24. The schedule for the ABM can be found on the [USA Swimming website](#). All are welcome to attend the virtual meetings, but all (including voting delegates) are required to register in advance. [Registration](#) must be completed by September 19. Additional information including the [nominees for the USA-S Board](#) and the [proposed legislation](#) are available on the [USA Swimming website](#). Many of the USA-S committees are holding open meetings in the two weeks prior to the ABM. Check out the [schedule and registration links](#) on the USA Swimming website and I encourage you to attend those that are of interest to you.

The PVS delegates to the USA-S House of Delegates are: JD Foster (non-coach), Evan Stiles (coach), Erik Collins (coach), and Trish Buswell (coach). As Eastern Zone Non-Coach Director, I will also be a delegate.

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General Chair's Report September 2022 Board Meeting

USA Swimming Committees - The selection of new committee members will be made this fall. If you wish to apply for a committee position, you must fill out the application (not yet available) no later than October TBD. You can check out the list of committees and the current committee members on the [USA Swimming website](#).

2021-2022 USA-S Virtual Club Championship - Top PVS clubs in the 2021-2022 Virtual Club Championship: https://www.pvswim.org/misc/2021-2022_Virtual_Club_Championship.pdf

USA Swimming Women Coaches in Governance Program - PVS/NCAP Coach Jessica Fry-Mack was accepted into the program. This program was developed by women coach leaders in our sport, geared towards identifying, educating, supporting and mentoring women coaches who wish to be more involved in organizational governance.

Registration & Splash Analysis - I took a look at the number of athlete members and number of meets/splashes for the past seven seasons.

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10abhDeb5OBrmu78nGE2uVJBFSNwSoyTJ8Ew1UUqEWno/edit?usp=sharing>

While the number of splashes for the 2021-2022 season are still significantly lower than the peak years of 2016-2019, the registration numbers have rebounded to almost near the peak in 2019. The numbers also show the tremendous hit PVS took in 12&U memberships in 2021 due to COVID-19, but the trend in 2021-2022 is very encouraging.

Stay safe! Stay healthy!

Tim Husson
General Chair
GeneralChair@pvswim.org

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August/September AG Chair Report

August saw the PVS AG Zone Team swim very well up at the AG Championships in Ithaca. Dory Halbe (Team Manager) and Stephen Clendennin (Head Coach) were both outstanding in their roles, and made sure that every aspect of the meet was tended to. Dory's attention to the logistics set a high bar for future Team Managers, and Stephen's reviews of the assistant coaches was thorough & insightful.

Following the meet, all stipends were paid out by PVS, and we immediately began advertising for next year's Team Manager position (Dory is not interested in serving again). We advertised through an LSC-wide Flash Mail and by word of mouth among coaches. After several coaches and one PVS official expressed their interest in the position, I interviewed two candidates by ZOOM with Tim. I'm happy to announce that Henry Tollefson will be the PVS Zone Team Manager for the 2023 EZ AG Zone Championship Meet. That meet will be held in Richmond, VA (Collegiate School) next August, and will be a Team Travel meet for the PVS Team. Henry is already at work on hotel reservations and securing a bus charter to & from the meet. I'll check in with him monthly to gauge his progress on setting up those logistics.

September has gotten off to a busy start as well, with multiple ZOOM's for USA Swimming and the Eastern Zone. The USA Swimming ABM is this coming weekend, along with several Committee Meetings. The EZ Fall Meeting was this past weekend (via ZOOM); highlights included two new pools securing bids for meets in 2024 (Colby College and Hampton Roads), while the qualifying times for the Zone Championship meets are expected to remain unchanged for 2023.

Thanks to everybody on the Board & within the LSC who contributed to the LSC Championship meets this past Summer, and are helping to get our 2023 SCY season off to a good start; there is an awful lot going on with the implementation of the new 3.0 platform, so thanks to everybody who is helping us figure it out.

Erik Collins
PVS Age Group Chairperson

PVS Athlete Rep Open Water Swim Project

Background

Open water swimming is a unique aspect of the sport that provides a pathway to world competition, including the Olympic Games and Worlds.

The US open water swimming program is significantly lagging compared to other countries. For example, in the 2021 Open Water National Nationals, 16 US swimmers qualified / entered. However, 3 of them scratched, and 4 additional swimmers did not finish the race, almost 44% failure rate. By comparison, the French open water swimmers performed well, and won both the womens and mens 10K events. Similarly in 2022, a non-US swimmer won the men's competition, while a repeat of 4 US men's swimmers did not finish, and 3 scratched. [2022 Open Water Nationals Results](#)

I believe the lag in the US open water swimming is due to several factors. First, open water is not widely considered to be a separate, specialized type of competition, with focused coaching / training for open water. Second, the qualifying times for open water competitions are solely based on pool swims, which do not fully correlate to the conditions and distances of open water events.

In April 2022, PVS began to explore open water opportunities. **See Appendix A**. This proposal is an extension of those discussions.

Solutions: I further believe that the solutions to make the US swimmers more competitive in open water events include the following:

- More open water meets (5K and 10K) distances, especially those that allow qualification for open water nationals and other higher level events
- Increase in the variety of open water meet venues, including open ocean, bay swims, ginormous lakes, and river swims

By having more open water competitions, the coaches and swimmers will appreciate the true differences in open water technique, including:

- Starts (run, rope) and finishes (run, slap)
- Swimming in packs, passing and other physical contact
- Navigating and sighting while swimming
- Feeding
- Dealing with environmental conditions, including sun, wind, waves, currents, tides, water temperature, underwater obstacles, vegetation and wildlife

Goal: Increase open water swimming opportunities in PVS by expanding access to the Potomac River around and through DC

Benefits:

- Developing braggable, top-notch open water swimming and coaching skills in PVS
- Create a major, new venue for swimming in the DMV
- Become a destination for national open water swimmers
- Encourage the clean-up of the Potomac, providing community service opportunities
- Promote tourism in DMV

Issues:

- Simplify the planning and approval of swimming in the Potomac
- Address DC code related to water quality and approvals required for swims
- Identify and secure entry / exit points at the Potomac for swim beginning / ending
- Publicize / encourage swimmers to consider open water events
- Establish safety protocols for open water meets (USA Swimming standards)

Collaborators:

- PVS Board for general support - done!
- WaveOne - including its founder Denis Crean
- Washington DC local government, including staff and elected officials

Steps to Success:

- Create PVS Open Water Committee members from coaches, officials and swimmers
 - 2-3 coaches, 2-3 officials, 2-3 swimmer reps
- Meet with Denis Crean to discuss open water opportunities
- Collaborate with USA Swimming Open Water Committee to use their standards / best practices or develop those that may not yet be developed
- Meet with DC elected officials to discuss economic, social and physical benefits for routine Potomac River swimming
- Work with DC staff to determine what is needed to streamline approval protocols
- Update PVS Board

Appendix A**[PVS Notes from April 2022 Denver conference](#)**

Team Members: JP, Sam, Tim

Date: TBD → June 2023

- Summary: Begin with getting schedule out there, work on regional open water opportunities, get coaches and safety protocols, ending with a meet, set requirement to qualify for meet
- Objectives; find open water, begin practices, set requirements, hold a meet
- Needs; safety protocols and coaches, open water areas



Officials Education Travel Reimbursement

September 1, 2022 – August 31, 2023 Recommendation of Eligible Meets

A maximum of two reimbursements from the following:

Meet	Maximum Reimbursement Amount
Toyota US Open	\$700
Speedo Winter Junior Championships	\$700
TYR Pro Swim Series	\$600
Open Water Nationals	\$700
Phillips 66 International Team Trials	\$700
Futures Championships	\$600
Speedo Junior National Championships	\$700
Phillips 66 National Championships	\$700
Zone Championships	\$500
Sectional Championships	\$500
U.S. Paralympics Swimming National Championships	\$500

A third reimbursement (maximum \$500) may be received from Eastern Zone Championships, Eastern Zone Speedo Sectional Championships, and Eastern Zone Open Water Championships.



Proposed 2022-2023 PVS Board Meeting Schedule:

(third Tuesday of the month at 7:00 PM)

Tuesday, October 18

Tuesday, November 15

No meeting in December

Tuesday, January 17

Tuesday, February 21

Tuesday, March 21

Tuesday, April 18

Tuesday, May 16

Tuesday, Jun 20

Tuesday, Jul 18

No Meeting in August

At the 2022 House of Delegates (HOD) meeting, the date for the 2023 HOD was set to April 16, 2023

Tim Husson
GeneralChair@pvswim.org

**PVS Officials Travel Reimbursements
Summer 2022**

Meet	Official	Reimbursed Amount	Maximum Reimbursement
EZ Super Sectional Championships (LC)			\$500
	Blaire Cameron	\$ 500.00	
Futures Championships - Cary, NC			\$600
	Bentley Andrews	\$ 340.38	
	Morgan Hurley	\$ 600.00	
	Barb Ship	\$ 600.00	
	Linda Tucker	\$ 600.00	
Futures Championships - Geneva, OH			\$600
	Cherlynn Venit	\$ 316.27	
Phillips 66 National Championships			\$700
	Al Betts	\$ 700.00	
Speedo Junior National Championships			\$700
	Al Betts	\$ 700.00	
	Dave DiNardo	\$ 700.00	
	Jack Neill	\$ 700.00	
EZ Zone LC Age Group Championships			\$500
	Tom Allison	\$ 378.75	
	Deb Choudhury	\$ 500.00	
	Courtney Johnston	\$ 471.01	
EZ Zone LC Senior Championships			\$500
	Betsy Bajwa	\$ 500.00	
	Elizabeth Jester	\$ 500.00	
TOTAL		\$ 8,106.41	