

Year End Report

Riley Eaton, Sr. Chair

I feel that the Potomac Valley short Course season went very well. I'm sure the excitement produced by an unbelievable performance by the United States Olympic Team fueled much of the early part of the season and helped to encourage a number of new athletes into the sport.

Many teams saw a boost in registration due to the Olympic performances. Much of this growth was in our age group division, but clubs also saw growth in the number of older athlete's participation.

I was especially pleased with the restructuring of the Championship Season in March. PVS now has a true championship for all of our older athletes. By re-establishing Junior Champs it was possible to modify the 18 & Under Championship meet and Senior Championship meets. It was difficult to determine appropriate time standards for each of these meets due a number circumstances, but, overall I feel we have a good basis for our next short course season.

Without question I think it is a positive step to have established our championships in a stepping stone fashion. By giving athletes an opportunity to move "up" from one level to the next we encourage our athletes to succeed. Also, we have created a more elite level Senior Championship that can be run in a single course facility and still maintain a reasonable timeline. Although Junior Champs was relatively small, for being a new meet on the calendar, it certainly acted as an appropriate step from 18 & Under Champs and to Sr. Champs. Since USA Swimming has moved its championships to December and will no longer hold a spring meet it will become more and more important for athletes to have an appropriate championship.

PVS was also the site for the Eastern Zone Southern Sectional, held at the Germantown Indoor Swim Center. This meet, hosted by RMSC, drew a number of clubs to our LSC to participate. Potomac Valley Swimming is extremely fortunate to have a number of facilities in which competition of this caliber can be held.