

PVS Officials Committee Report

May, 2011

The PVS Officials Committee currently consists of 20 appointed members and 2 *ex officio* members. The Committee is specifically charged with:

- Recruiting and training officials;
- Planning and conducting the certification program;
- Monitoring and raising the overall quality of officiating;
- Staffing National Certification meets for which PVS is responsible.

Notable Statistics

- Current number of certified PVS officials – **382** (see Appendix 1 for more detail)
- Number of officials clinics held this season (since September, 2010) – **28**
- Officials Qualifying Meets within our LSC (since this time last year) – **3**
- **80** PVS officials currently hold National Certification (N2 or N3).
- **57** PVS officials successfully underwent formal evaluation this year under the national certification program; many officials were evaluated for more than one position, for a total of **87** evaluations.
- **9** PVS officials were selected to work national championship meets during the past year, one in a leadership position (Deck Referee).

Of Note

- A number of officials opted not to undergo the background check process, causing their USA Swimming membership to lapse. Fortunately, this was offset by an increase in newly recruited officials.
- The Committee has begun to certify officials for the position of Chief Judge. Potomac Valley is one of the first LSCs in the country to devise a training program and to establish a formal certification for this position. Our officials have been very enthusiastic about the program. Several other LSCs have requested information and are considering implementing similar programs.
- The Committee has appointed several Club Officials Chairs Liaisons. These committee members serve as mentors and resources to assist your Club Officials Chair in recruiting, supporting, developing, and retaining officials.

- 13 officials were invited by the Committee this year to start the process for certification as a PVS referee. This is a lengthy and rigorous process of study, practice, and evaluation; it includes certification in all officiating positions, including timing system and HyTek operator. Several of these officials have already completed the process, and most have made significant progress at fulfilling all the requirements.
- Revisions have been made to several training documents for officials, and new training materials continue to be developed. Most notably, thanks to the efforts of Jim Thompson, we have added new Guidelines for Meet Referees.
- Boots Hall was awarded Lifetime Membership by USA Swimming at the 2010 Convention, in recognition of her many contributions to the organization, especially those in support of officials.

A Concern

- The Committee continues to be concerned that due to the growing number of meets and sessions, some of which are not being adequately staffed, our meets may not be conducted as fairly and safely as we would like. We expect that an appropriate number of certified officials will be on deck during all sessions regardless of the level of the meet or the age of the swimmers—this is the responsibility of the host club and a condition of sanction. We continue to ask clubs to ensure that marshals are present at all sessions to help address safety concerns.

Finally

- Please take the time to thank your club's officials. PVS officials are extraordinarily dedicated volunteers. Standing on deck for hours is just one part of it: officials attend clinics and workshops; they conscientiously review the rules before each and every session; they regularly take tests on the rules and interpretations; they undergo frequent evaluations; they actively mentor new officials. These folks are dedicated and committed: please let them know they're appreciated.

Appendix 1

Officials by Club

Club	No. of Officials	No. of Referees
All Star Aquatics	5	
Arlington Aquatic	10	1
Blue Wave	10	1
Best Times Swim Club		
Central Chesapeake (PEAK)	3	
CODS		
Curl-Burke	53	9
DCPR	14	
Dream Sharks		
Elite Rays		
Fairland Aquatic	10	
FISH	15	1
Flying Gull	4	2
Fort Belvoir	7	
Herndon Aquatic	12	3
Joe Flaherty Dolphins	3	
Machine Aquatics	37	4
Mason Makos	11	1
MSSC	10	1
Occoquan Swimming	7	
Patuxent Aquatics Club		
PG Kings		
Potomac Marlins	21	3
Riptide	2	
RMSC	72	12
Sea Devils Swimming	19	3
Shark Tank	3	
Snow Swimming	17	1
Streamline Swimming		
Tiburones	5	2
Tollefson Swimming		
York Swim Club	16	2
Unattached	16	10
TOTAL	382	56