



AROUND THE DECK

POTOMAC VALLEY SWIMMING OFFICIALS

JANUARY 2014 NEWSLETTER



HAPPY NEW YEAR POTOMAC VALLEY OFFICIALS!

Before you work any meets in 2014, you need to make sure your registration and certifications are up-to-date. You cannot be on deck without being registered for 2014. If you have not yet registered for 2014, you must submit the online registration form

<https://www.emailmeform.com/builder/form/4a8bL106600422o00gXk0ae>. Note that for your registration to be processed your Background Check and Athlete Protection Training must be up-to-date. If you have submitted the registration form and you want to check your status, you can do so in the Officials Tracking System (OTS) or the USA Swimming Deck Pass app.

If your certifications expired 12/31/2013, you still have a chance to renew them in January. PVS is holding a series of clinics during the month that can be used for re-certification.

If you have registration questions, contact the PVS Registrar register@pvs swim.org. For certification questions, contact the PVS Certification Officer OfficialsCertification@pvs swim.org.



FROM THE CHAIRMAN



PVS OFFICIALS AND SAFE SPORT

As officials, we are responsible for enforcing the rules of USA Swimming. This includes the rules pertaining to Safe Sport. As the rules have been evolving over the last several years, I encourage you to review Article 304 (Code of Conduct), Article 305 (Athlete Protection Policies) and Article 306 (Sexual Misconduct Reporting Requirements). Note, that per USA Swimming rule, all deck changing is now prohibited. And per PVS policy, "the use of equipment capable of taking pictures (i.e. cell phones, cameras, PDA's etc.) are banned from behind the starting blocks during the entire meet, including warm up, competition and cool down periods". If you see a violation of these rules/policies please let your referee know so they can address it immediately.



As officials, we also need to take the lead in setting an example for others at the meets. To avoid temptation, leave your cell phone in your bag off deck. If you are on-call and must have your phone available during a session, inform your referee and please place it in vibrate mode. If you must take a call, step off the deck (after informing your chief judge or referee).

Potomac Valley Swimming and USA Swimming are committed to the safety of our athletes. As officials, we will do our part to ensure adherence to the rules.

Tim Husson
OfficialsChair@pvswim.org

OPEN WATER OFFICIALS WORKSHOP



USA Swimming will be conducting an Open Water Officials Workshop April 11-13, 2014 in conjunction with the Open Water Festival in Ft. Myers, FL. USA Swimming will provide the hotel and meals. PVS will pay the transportation costs. USA Swimming is interested in officials that have some open water experience but have not been to a clinic in the last two years. However, PVS will consider nominating any official that shows interest. If you wish to be considered, please contact Tim Husson <OfficialsChair@pvswim.org>.

You Make the Call!



In a senior 100 yard breaststroke event, the turn judge recommends a disqualification because the swimmer in lane 2 was not on his breast when leaving the wall at the first turn. Upon quizzing the turn judge about what was observed, the referee determines that the judge observed the following sequence of events:

- The turn judge picked up the swimmer in lane 2 as the swimmer was headed away from the wall
- The turn judge saw that the swimmer was not on his breast
- The turn judge shifted her eyes to the feet of the swimmer and saw that they were off the wall
- The turn judge raised her hand.

Should the swimmer be disqualified?

UPCOMING CLINICS



Upcoming Clinics				
Date	Clinic	Location	Time	Who's Attending
Saturday January 4	Chief Judge	Overlee	8:00 - 10:00 AM	list
Saturday January 4	Referee	Overlee	10:30 AM - 12:30 PM	list
Saturday January 4	Administrative Official	Overlee	1:00 - 3:00 PM	list
Wednesday January 8	Stroke & Turn	Georgetown Prep	6:30 - 9:00 PM	list
Sunday January 19	Starter	MLK Swim Center	2:00 - 4:30 PM	list
Sunday January 26	Stroke & Turn	MLK Swim Center	2:00 - 4:30 PM	list

Upcoming Meets



January 2014				
Date	Meet	Host	Location	Notes
4-5	PVS January Distance Meet	BWST	Lee District	
5	RMSC Frosty Pentathlon (By Invitation)	RMSC	Germantown	
11-12	DC Wave Winter Invitational	DCPR	Takoma	
11-12	MAKO Winter Invitational	MAKO	GMU	
11-12	Winter Senior Meet	MSSC	Fairland	
11-12	Polar Bear Meet (By Invitation)	SDS	South Run	
17-19	Grand Prix Series (LCM)		<i>Austin, TX</i>	

18-19	PVS January Open	MACH	Audrey Moore (Wakefield Park)	Due to Fairland's closure, UMD will be used for two sites of the January Open
		RMSC	Germantown	
		FAST	UMD	
		FBST	UMD	
25-26	Snow Dude Mini Meet	PM	Mt. Vernon	
30-2	IM Xtreme Games - NE	PM	UMD	
FEBRUARY				
Date	Meet	Host	Location	Notes
4-5	PVS January Distance Meet	BWST	Lee District	
5	RMSC Frosty Pentathlon (By Invitation)	RMSC	Germantown	
11-12	DC Wave Winter Invitational	DCPR	Takoma	
11-12	MAKO Winter Invitational	MAKO	GMU	
11-12	Senior Circuit #3	AAC	Wakefield H.S.	
11-12	Winter Senior Meet	MSSC	Fairland	Meet Cancelled due to Facility Construction
11-12	Polar Bear Meet (By Invitation)	SDS	South Run	
17-19	Grand Prix Series (LCM)		Austin, TX	
18-19	PVS January Open	MACH	Audrey Moore (Wakefield Park)	IMPORTANT Parking Information for University of Maryland
		RMSC	Germantown	
		FAST	UMD	
		FBST	UMD	
25-26	Snow Dude Mini Meet	PM	Mt. Vernon	Update: Warm up 12:45, Events 1:25
30-2	IM Xtreme Games - NE	PM	UMD	

You Make the Call Resolution



The swimmer should not be disqualified. The rule requires that "From the beginning of the first arm stroke after the start and after each turn, the body shall

be kept on the breast". In the sequence that was described, it is possible that the swimmer's feet were still on the wall when the turn judge observed the swimmer not on the breast. By the time the turn judge's eyes had shifted to the feet of the swimmer, the swimmer had left the wall. To give the swimmer the benefit of the doubt, the turn judge must first observe the swimmer leave the wall and then check the position of the shoulders. Applicable Rules 101.2.2



One Last Thing

HAPPY NEW YEAR!

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.

BENEFIT OF THE DOUBT GOES TO THE SWIMMER

Call what you see and see what you call