

Recollections from VSI past General Chair Jerry Hayes

To All: As I have said before, it is my recollection that OCCS formed the nucleus of their team from a "satellite" team of PWSC. These were all Prince William county residents. Dave Tonnesen was the coach and eventually the team owner. They practiced initially at Mount Vernon. When Chinn Center opened OCCS procured as much practice time as they could and that continues to this day. In spite of the fact that most (if not all) of the OCCS swimmers are residents of Prince William county and Dave Tonnesen has always been a resident of PW county, they were able to join PV based on having a PO box in Fairfax County. Tom Terry was General Chair and Ernie Dash was Admin VP shortly after OCCS became a team. Tom complained to USA Swimming at the Pittsburg convention and got no results. I was at the convention, but not at the meeting Tom attended. It is my recollection that he got no satisfaction whatsoever. When Tom resigned, Ernie became Acting General Chair. I was Tech Planning Chair during this entire time. I do not recall any more action concerning OCCS until Walter became General Chair and I was Admin Vice Chair. Walter and I met with the PV General Chair who preceded Thirl Crudup. We met at the Hampton Inn in Manassas and I think Thirl might have been there. We requested that OCCS be required to leave PV and join VSI. PV declined to act on this. I recall that the PV GC asked us to relinquish Loudoun County (Leesburg) as part of VSI. There was no quid pro quo so we did not even discuss this proposal. Nothing more was heard about border problems until the current issue came up.

This is my recollection of events. Best regards.
Jerry