



Roanoke Valley Swimming, Inc.

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January 22, 2018

To: Virginia Swimming Inc. Board of Directors and Senior Committee

From: Doug Fonder, Head Coach Virginia Gators

Subject: Travel Reimbursement Plan for athletes and coaches could also be used for Officials

I would like to recommend to Virginia Swimming a new policy to recognize VA Swimming athletes who perform at the higher levels and to help offset some of the travel costs necessary for that participation.

These funds would be paid to the club that the athlete represents on receipt of appropriate application filed within required guidelines for the September thru December period. Receipts must be in by January 31st. For the January 1st thru March 31st the receipts must be in by April 30th. For the April 1st thru August 31st period, the receipts must be in by September 30th.

- Eligibility for Support
 - o The Swimmer must be a current athlete member of USA & Virginia Swimming Inc.
 - o Swimmers shall compete in at least one VA Swimming sanctioned meet while registered as a VA Swimming Athlete, not including dual meets or time trials during the qualifying period for which the reimbursement is being requested.
 - o The swimmer must have achieved the Qualifying Time Standard (Set by Senior Committee and Board of Directors of VA Swimming) during the qualifying time period.
 - *Note: The Winter Junior National Times used at present seem like an Excellent level of expectation for qualifying.*

- ALL TRAVEL FUNDS GO DIRECTLY TO THE TEAM FOR TEAM REIMBURSEMENT

In addition to promote and reward excellence in coaching as measured by the development of swimming talent to a National level, I recommend that coaches receive an equal share of reimbursement as an athlete. This could also be given to Officials.

As such, teams may apply for travel funds for coaches attending meets in which they have both coach and qualified athletes attending according to the following schedule:

1. 1-7 Athletes: 1 Coach

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2. 8-14 Athletes: up to 2 Coaches
3. 15 or more Athletes: 3 Coaches

There would be 3 Funding Periods:

1. September thru December 31st
2. January 1st thru March 31st
3. April 1st thru August 31st

A coach and athlete may request reimbursement for expenses for only 1 meet in each period.

Funding Levels:

More than 300 miles from Home City.	Less than 300 miles from Home City.	Within LSC or Potomac Valley Boarders.
Air +\$50 per day of Meet	\$100 + \$50 per day of Meet	Mileage+ \$50 per day of Meet

Reimbursement:

- "Air" will be determined by a VA Swimming appointee at each team requesting funding. 50 days prior to the first day of competition the appointee will use a common travel website such as Travelocity.com or Priceline to research flights departing the day before competition begins and returning the day after competition concludes. Considering only flights arriving and departing between 6am and 10 pm. The airfare amount used for funding shall be the average of the least expensive fares from each of the three least expensive airlines. In lieu of "Air" a set amount such as \$500-\$600 could be used but I think it would be less expensive using the "Air" option.
- "Meet" is considered the number of days competition is held at the event. I would add one additional day for swimmers to arrive the day before event begins.
- "Mileage" would be calculated using the guidelines set forth by VA Swimming Inc.

Last but probably the most important, the meet selections that will be requested for funding should be chosen between the athlete and his/her coach. Each coach has his own plan for his swimmers and it should be their discretion on what meets they attend. The swimmer earned the right for funding by qualifying.

Sincerely,

Doug Fonder
Head Coach, Virginia Gators



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