

Virginia Swimming, Inc.
BoD and HoD Meetings
April 27 & 28, 2019
Executive Director Report

Year to Date Registrations (as of 4/24/19)	2018 #
Athletes: 6320 (inc. 79 Flex who have upgraded to Premium)	6558
Flex: 716 (507 New)	
Outreach: 56	50
Seasonal: 13	69
Non-Athletes: 962 (inc. 16 Life)	942
Clubs: 46	46

Member Data Validation Service (MDVS): Several teams are now submitting registration files using this online registration feature through Team Unify and it appears to be working well. I understand that Active is in the process of testing its registration interface so it soon should be available to Team Manager users.

Fines for Late Submission of Meet Announcements: Several teams have been assessed fines since September 1 for failing to submit meet announcements according to current policies. To simplify identifying the due date for a meet, a change to the current policy has been proposed to change the due date from the current wording of 60 days prior to a scheduled meet to 2 months prior to a scheduled meet. If this change is approved, meet announcements must be submitted two months prior to the last day of the meet to avoid a fine.

LEAP 2 Update: Our renewal is almost complete. There is some last minute work that will need to be done after the meeting but it should be finalized by May 1. The proposed legislation on which we will be voting this weekend impacts our final product. Because of this we may be granted 'provisional' approval at first to give us a little more time to ensure what is submitted reflects any legislation that is approved on Sunday.

Athlete Election: Virginia Swimming just held its first electronic election for Junior Athlete Representative! During February and March, athletes were provided the opportunity to register to vote in the election by means of a Google form. Information about the registration and voting process was emailed to every head coach, team contact, and team president. It was also posted on the website with flyers posted at Senior Champs and Region Champs as well. Originally scheduled to end on March 15th, the registration period was extended to accept additional applications. All applications were vetted to ensure that only currently registered athletes who were at least 13 years of age were included. Voters were provided a unique code by text and email allowing them access to the ballot and vote. A reminder to vote was also sent several days prior to the close of the election. Now the numbers: of the 171 eligible voters who registered, 142 ballots were submitted. While there are over 2900 eligible athletes, the

number voting is not tremendously different this year than in previous years when the election was held at Sr. Champs. Items to note:

- We re-opened voter registration to encourage more participation. **We will not do this next year.** We learned that we did not need as much time to vet the voter registrations and prepare the ballots as anticipated so we can extend the period closer to the start of the election. This will alleviate the need to extend the registration period.
- Athletes need to ensure that the information entered on the registration form is accurate including cell phone numbers (not landlines) and email addresses. Also, some notifications sent school email addresses bounced so we recommend entering another email address if it is available. (Because used two methods of notification, of the 9 identified as undeliverable, it appears that every voter received at least one notification.)
- Athletes need to complete the application, not parents or coaches. At the very least, the athletes information needs to be submitted on the form not the parents because we are verifying current athlete registration and age.
- Athletes will need to register to vote every year.

Coach Registering as Athlete: For the first time this year, a coach registering as an athlete (or vice versa) does not need to pay the registrations fee for both categories. A non-athlete registration form as well as an athlete registration needs to be submitted but the team will only be charged the athlete registration fee. Remember, a registered athlete who is 16-17 years old can be registered as a Jr. Coach and assist at practices under the direct supervision of a certified coach. The Jr. Coach must meet all coach certification requirements with exception of the BG check prior to being on deck in a coaching capacity. Once s/he turns 18, a BG check must be completed within 30 days.

Changes to APT: As you are probably aware, changes to the APT were put in place at the beginning of February. The APT must now be completed annually and will expire 12 months from the day the course is completed as opposed to how it was handled in the past. That is, if I renew my APT on May 1, 2019, it will expire on May 1, 2020. One thing to note – current expiration dates are not affected at this point. That is, if your APT was current prior to the beginning of February, your expiration date will remain what it was at that point.

Mandatory Reporting Requirement: Remember that all non-athlete members of USA Swimming are now mandatory reporters of first hand knowledge of misconduct or credible information has been received from a victim or knowledgeable third party about an occurrence of child abuse.

Awards Celebration & Athlete Clinic: In August we decide that these events will be held September 21-22. I have been in contact with Breakout Swim Clinics to secure an Olympian for the events. I have also learned from my contact at Kings Dominion that their Fall Events are scheduled to be available on the 21st but not the 22nd so I recommend holding the Awards Celebration on the 21st and the Athlete Clinic on the 22nd.

Information from the Recent Eastern Zone Meeting: The EZ Spring meeting was held April 12-13 in Bethlehem, PA. John Stanley, Sara Gaston, and I attended. The following items were approved at the meeting:

- Budgets for 2018-2019 and 2019-2020: While we have had budget guidelines in the past, there has never been a formal budget. A highlight of this year's budget is the suspension of dues for the 2019-2020 season which will result in a savings of approximately \$1700 to VSI.
- The SC Age Group Zones meet will now include only 14 & Y athletes. With this change, additional bonus events were allowed (an athlete who qualifies for the meet is guaranteed at least 4 events) and a consolation heat was added to finals.
- The order of events for the Sectional meets was revised to include moving the distance freestyle from Saturday back to Sunday.
- Qualification Times for 2019 LC Zones were approved and are now available at www.easternzoneswimming.org.