

Virginia Swimming, Inc.
BoD Meeting
February 12, 2024
Executive Director Report

2024 Registrations as of 1/31/2024

Athletes: 5443
Flex: 687 (inc. 102 upgrades)
Outreach: 69
Ind. Season: 178 (inc. 20 upgrades)
Total: 6377
Non-Athletes: 942
Administrators: 69
Clubs: 51

2023 Registrations as of 1/31/2023

Athletes: 5236
Flex: 731 (inc. approx. 105 upgrades)
Outreach: 38
Ind. Season: 245 (inc. approx. 30 upgrades)
Total: 6250
Non-Athletes: 842
Administrators: 62
Clubs: 39

Registration Summary: As you can see, our athlete registrations are about 100 higher than last year at this point. It's still too early to draw any inferences from this but some teams have indicated that their numbers are higher than last year.

CORE Education Requirement for Coaches: Coaches who completed the original Foundations course, the Foundations 101 and 201 series, or were grandfathered because they began coaching prior 2000 (est. date) are exempt from the CORE requirement. However, any other coach is required to complete the five CORE modules withing 365 days of the date they first registration as a coach. Until recently USA Swimming waived the 365 day deadline but has now started enforcing the requirement. Basically this means is that any coach who registered for the first time between September 1, 2022, and today's date in 2023, must have completed all of the CORE modules to be in good standing. The CORE modules must only be completed once and do not have an expiration date. The same is true for the Rules and Regulations course for coaches. That is, the course must be completed within 365 days of the original coach registration date by any coach except those who completed the original Foundations course or were grandfathered as explained above.

Records: Records are now updated on the website. Because of the format of the report that is currently available from SWIMS, posting a printable version was not reasonable and it was a very time consuming task to get it to that point. However, we now have the records in a format that can be easily updated and posted so it will not be a time intensive in the future.

Swimmer of the Year Gifts: There was an electronic glitch with the order that we placed shortly after our last meeting but the towels have now been ordered. We will receive them prior to Senior Champs and be able to distribute them at that point as well as Age Group Champs.

Athlete Scholarship: We received a total of 33 applications which have been forwarded on to the Scholarship Committee for evaluation. As a reminder, the recipients will be announced just prior to Friday night Finals at Senior Champs.

Graduating Senior Recognition: We have contacted clubs to request the names and group photos of graduating seniors. As in the past, this recognition will be done at Senior Champs just prior to

finals on Saturday night. We plan to follow the same procedures that we have for the past two years – create a slide show from group pictures submitted by the clubs as well as recognize the athletes by club as a group instead of announcing each athlete individually. Athletes will receive a “Graduating Senior” keepsake bag tag.

High School Season: Championship meets are in full swing! At this point I have received 46 requests for observations which is just a few more than last year. Loading the meets into SWIMS continues to be less time-consuming than in the past with missing birthdates being the main error that causes a record to be flagged. Information was sent to our clubs as well as the hosts of the observed meets specifying the athlete information that needs to be included in the entry file and that appears to have helped. Because I haven’t received many questions from teams about times that have not loaded into their TU, TM, or Commit, I believe the times are matching better there, too.

EZ Speedo Sectionals: Because of over-subscription concerns that the meet that will be hosted in Christiansburg, it was a mutual decision between the EZ Directors, HOKI, and VSI that a second SC meet would be added. The meet will be held at Brown University. OME for the meets opened this past Tuesday and to date has just under 250 athletes entries either submitted or in process.

OME: We are using OME for Senior Champs and Age Group Champs as well as Sectionals. Because there is no longer an option to pay by check, all fees are listed as \$0 in OME and the Teams will be submitting payment by check or through PayPal for these meets.