

Virginia Swimming, Inc.
BoD Meeting
January 30, 2023
Executive Director Report

2023 Registrations as of 1/28/23

Athletes: 5222
Flex: 722 (inc 105 upgrades)
Outreach: 38
Individual Season: 243 (inc 30 upgrades)
Total: 6225
Non-Athletes: 845
Administrators: 62
Clubs: 43

2022 Registrations as of 1/28/2022

Athletes: 5782
Flex: 1227 (inc. 201 upgrades)
Outreach: 68
Individual Season: N/A
Total: 7077
Non-Athletes: 967 + 18 Life
Administrators: NA
Clubs: 39

Registration Summary: As you can see, our registrations are down (approximately 12% for athletes). Because of variations in registrations during the Quad, we need to compare this with 2018, the second registration year after the Olympics. 2018 athlete registrations as of 1/31/2018 totaled 6425 so our numbers are slightly down from then, too.

SWIMS 3.0: The functionality of the new system continues to improve but there are still tasks that Emily and I perform that require significantly more time than in previous years. Handling meet recons as well as verifying/reconciling registration numbers and financial reports are two of the main areas requiring additional effort. We are still needing to assist some folks with registration issues and strongly recommend that anyone experiencing problems of any sort with SWIMS 3.0 contact us for assistance first. We will respond quickly and in many cases can remedy the issue at that point.

Athlete Protection Training Issues: During the fall many individuals were experiencing problems with the appropriate course being available in their accounts as well as matching once completed. This has improved to a large extent. HOWEVER, there are still instances where the appropriate course does not populate in the members account. If this occurs, the member should contact Emily or me for assistance and we will contact the appropriate individual at USA-S to correct the problem. As a reminder, members should log into their account and navigate to the Education – Course Catalog page. Under All Courses the appropriate Athlete Protection Training course should be found. If it isn't there, Emily or I should be notified.

2023 Swimposium: We have received confirmation that Leland Brown, USA Swimming's DEI Program Director, as well as Beth Winkowski, Eastern Zone Team Services Director, will be joining us for this event which is planned for the weekend of September 16-17. We have the opportunity to invite additional speakers and will need to decide soon on the sessions to offered.

Athlete Scholarship: The submission deadline is January 31st so applications and accompanying documents are steadily coming in! We will be following the same process as in previous years. Emily and I will prepare the applications for review and provide the rubric for evaluation to the

committee members. We will then compile the results of their evaluations and identify the recipients who will be announced at Senior Champs just prior to finals on Friday night.

Graduating Senior Recognition: We will soon be contacting clubs to send us the names of their graduating seniors. As in the past, this recognition will be done at Senior Champs just prior to finals on Friday night. Starting in 2021 we created a slide show of the graduates and plan to continue it again this year. Last year we changed things up a bit by just announcing the team and not the individual athletes which worked well. We will do the same again this year.

High School Season: As National Times Coordinator I have approved 31 observation requests for high school invitational or end of season championship meets at this point. Thus far loading the meets into SWIMS seems 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's information that needs to be included in the entry file. Some clubs and meet hosts are doing a better job of that than others.

Earlier this month we made the decision to add District level championships to the end of season meets that we observe. In the past PVS has observed District meets that were held in VSI territory where the preponderance of the athletes attending were PVS athletes. In effect, this meant that some VSI athletes were able to have their swims observed but others were not. Adding District championship meets to the list that we observe provides an equal opportunity for all of our athletes across the LSC.

Loading the times of observed meets into SWIMS has proven to be easier than in previous years. However, the same is not true for uploading the times into a team's meet management software. This is significant this year because we will not be using OME for Senior Champs or Age Group Champs. During the past two weeks I have worked various individuals and developed guidelines to assist teams in getting the times from the high school meets integrated into their team management software. An email was sent to all coaches on the 28th that included a document with instructions for Team Unify users (the vast majority of our teams use TU). I also can provide guidance for integrating the times for Team Manager users and included a statement in the email for them to contact me for assistance. In order for times to be integrated into either of these systems, coaches and athletes must ensure that the appropriate information is included in the entries for the high school meets. The athlete's legal first name, middle initial, last name, and correct birthdate must be there. If not, the times will not match to the athlete's record in their team management software.