

Virginia Swimming, Inc.
BoD Meeting
August 27, 2023
Executive Director Report

2023 Registrations as of 8/24/2023	2022 (8/21/22)	2018 (6/1/18)
Premium: 5997	6450	6671
Flex: 573	1076	na
Outreach: 71	76	50
Individual Season: 239	65	167
Total: 6880	7667	7014
Non-Athletes: 1074	1131	987
Clubs: 50	46	47

Total athlete numbers for the year are below numbers for 2018, the most recent comparable year in the quad.

Online Member Registration (OMR) Update:

- Earlier this month teams were given the opportunity to opt in for bulk renewing their 2023 returning members. Teams were able to select bulk renewal for athletes or non-athletes or both. The deadline for teams to opt in for bulk renewal or have their returning members self-renew was Friday August 25th. USA-S distributed information as to the pros and cons of bulk vs self-renewal as well as guides describing the process. Emily and I also held two workshops for our registrars to demonstrate the process and answer questions for clubs. If clubs elect self-renewal, parents and non-athletes will receive automatic reminders from USA-S in the fall and will be able to renew directly from their member dashboard.
- Anyone registering for the first time in 2024 or who wasn't registered in 2023 will follow the process initiated this year: the parent creates a login and registers the child directly with USA-S.
- The 2024 registration season opens on September 1st. Earlier this month I discovered a little over 100 new registrations that had been submitted by parents not realizing they were actually registering for this 2023 instead of next year. I immediately contacted clubs and USA-S about this issue. I believe our clubs took steps to remind new parents to wait until after September 1 to register but additional registrations have still been submitted. Changes are needed by TU and USA-S to keep this from happening. I have submitted the names of all the "early" registrations to USA-S and refunds have been processed promptly. I am also keeping clubs informed because parents will need to register their athletes again after September 1. The silver lining – unlike last year, these parents did not seem to have an issue with using OMR!

OME: We used OME for Age Group Champs and Senior Champs this summer. The system worked well with none of the entry or submission issues that we experienced with LC Sectionals in May. Reporting is still lacking in that I have no way to easily generate a financial report. I can and did check the financials to but it is labor intensive. At the most recent LSC Leadership meeting it was mentioned that OME 2.0 is currently in the works and will include improved reports.

LC Zones: For the first time this year Zone team registrations, team selection, and submitting entries were handled through Team Unify. Ryan and Cassondre, our lead coaches, felt that the

eligibility reports generated through TU assisted greatly in selecting events for our athletes. There were a few nuances that we learned along the way (results of swim-offs don't automatically load in TU and changing a lead-off swimmer in the relay results doesn't remove the split from the athlete originally listed) but all in all the entire process went very smoothly.

Meet Director & Meet Marshal Workshops: Emily and I will be scheduling these workshops for multiple dates in September. The requirements for Meet Safety Officer as approved at the April HOD go into effect for meets beginning October 1st.

Scholastic All-American: The application period will remain open until September 6th. Information about the requirements and application process can be found at <https://www.usaswimming.org/times/popular-resources/scholastic-all-america>. Please encourage any of your athletes who achieved a 2022 Winter Junior National qualifying time or a 2022-2023 Para Scholastic All American Standard in an individual event between 9/1/2022 – 8/31/2023 to go to the link above to initiate the application process. Emily serves as one of the SAA evaluators so please contact her with any questions or if assistance is needed.

Swimmers of the Year: The Senior and Age Group Committees are currently identifying the recipients of the awards. Single age awards are provided for males and females in the 9 – 14 year-old athletes while 15-16 and 17-18 are awarded by age group. This year the awards will be presented at each athlete's individual club practice. Details will be provided to the clubs once the recipients have been selected.

Fall Education Weekend: It's almost here! Information and registration links about the Swimposium offerings for coaches, officials, and parents can be found on our homepage. Information was emailed to all coaches, parents, and officials last week. Here's a recap of the planned activities on Saturday, September 16th:

Hilton Garden Inn (4050 Cox Road, Glen Allen)

- Officials – presentations by Matt and Pam Wilson. 9am – 3:30pm
- Parents – presentation by Beth Winkowski, USA Swimming. 10am – 11:45am
- Lunch for all – presentation by Matt Barany, University of Richmond Head Swim Coach. 11:45am – 1:15pm
- Coaches – presentation by Beth Winkowski, USA Swimming. 1:30pm – 3:30pm

Sloop John B Restaurant (1420 North Parham Road, Richmond)

- Coach and Officials Happy Hour and Awards – 4:30pm – 7:30pm

Additionally, two events are planned for athletes.

- Saturday: Second Annual Athlete Leadership Summit – 10:15am-3:00pm
 - Drive Shack, 1647 Four Rings Drive, Richmond
 - Presentation by Leland Brown, USA Swimming
- Sunday: Athlete Clinic – 8:45am – 11:15am and 12:45pm – 3:30pm
 - NOVA – Regency, 1420 N Parham Road, Richmond
 - Alex and Gretchen Walsh will be the clinicians for the event.
 - Lunch with Alex and Gretchen – our 2023 Swimmer of the Year recipients will be invited to attend this event in recognition of their achievement.

Bids for 2025 Zone Meets: Proposed dates for the EZ meets are below:

- Spring Sectionals – March 27 – 30; 2 SC & 1 LC – 3½ day format
- SC Age Group Zones – April 2 – 5
- LC Super-Sectional – must be completed 8 days prior to USA summer championship meets (mid-July)
- LC Age Group Zones – August 6 – 9
- LC Senior Zones – July 31 – August 3 or August 7-10

Action Item: Identify teams that are willing to co-host meets.