

Potomac Valley LMSC
2021 Spring Meeting
Tuesday, April 6, 2021, 7:30pm eastern

Meeting ~~Agenda~~ Minutes

Called to order 7:35pm

I. INTRODUCTIONS

Attendees:

ALEX: Stephanie Gauzens, Ray Novitske

ANCM: David Harmon, Jeff Roddin

Daleview: Jeff Hopkins

DCAC: Kevin Majoros

DCRP: Juliette-Marie daSousa

DCWW: Luis Salazar

GERM: David Robinson, Mark Walterse

GMUP: Tim Taylor, Paul Grecco

JCCNV: Tom Fleck, Joe Kasimer

L4/NextWave: Tom Black

NCYM: Peter Lee

TERR: Mollie Grover, Natalie Taylor, Jeff Strahota, Courtney Randolph, Angela Fu

MASH: Will Ferris

RMST: William "Bill" Cimino

Tsunami: Art Vera

II. APPROVE ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES

<https://pvmasters.org/admin/min20-3.pdf>

III. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

- Chair – Stephanie Gauzens
- Treasurer – Tim Timmons
- Secretary – Jeff Strahota
- Registrar/Membership Coordinator – Jeff Roddin
- Top Ten – Mollie Grover
- Vice Chair/Rules – Dave Robinson
- Sanctions – Stephanie Gauzens
- Officials – Natalie Taylor
- Newsletter – Cheryl Wagner
- Awards – Angela Fu
- Fitness – Christina West
- Long Distance/Open Water – Paul Grecco
- Coaches – Frank Marcinkowski
- Webmaster – Ray Novitske
- Communications – Courtney Randolph

IV. OTHER AND NEW BUSINESS

- OLD: Club Registration
- NEW: PV Website Domain Renewal
- NEW: discussion of summer meets
- Schedule Next (Summer) Meeting

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chair – Stephanie Gauzens

Stephanie will elaborate in person. There have not been a whole lot of goings on these days, but there is much going on behind the scenes.

Treasurer – Tim Timmons

As of 15 Mar 21, we had a total of \$75,222.93 in our checking and savings accounts combined. This is an increase of \$9808.51 over our 1 Jan 21 balance. Our finances are more than good. We've had very little activity this year to date and only one team, JCC, has asked for and received financial assistance under our COVID-19 Assistance program in 2021.

Again, our primary question this year should be how to best spend our additional money. Some new and some old ideas on spending our money to help our teams:

- Make it a policy for PVLMSC to pay the annual team registration fees for all renewing teams.
- Fully fund scholarships for coaches' clinics and ALTS classes.
- Fully fund rooms for conventions and other national meetings.
- Increase the limit on our Club Assistant Fee reimbursements to clubs sponsoring meets.
- At the end of the year, take all the money donated to us by swimmers and donate that amount to a USMS charity.
- Run and sponsor a Long Haul meet each year, maybe expand the meet in the future; host a second LMSC-sponsored meet.

I'll give any updates to these numbers on our conference call.

// SIGNED //

TIMOTHY T. TIMMONS
Treasurer, PVLMSC

Call update: \$1,048 dollars better than what we have in here. Sitting at about \$76k

Secretary – Jeff Strahota

Link to draft minutes of the 2020 Annual Meeting were sent with meeting reminders for this meeting and included above. Redline comments are additions from the meeting itself.

MSA: Approve minutes from our Annual meeting (Robinson, Timmons). Passes unanimously.

Membership Coordinator – Jeff Roddin

Please continue to review your club listings on the PV website (<http://pvmasters.org/newsite/index.php/clubs/>) and let Ray or I know if anything needs updating.

Club updates:

- Currently have 32 registered clubs vs 34 last year
- Three new clubs:
 - o ERSC (Elite Rays Swim Club) – rejoined us. They were last registered in 2018.
 - o NCAP (Nation's Capital Swim Club) – rejoined us. They were last registered in 2015. At present time they are swimming in outdoor heated pools in Potomac.

- DVM (Daleview Masters) – community pool summer program
- Five clubs did not renew:
 - STARS (Aquatic Stars, 1 member last year)
 - CANDO (C and O Aquatics, 1 member last year)
 - MSSC (Maryland Suburban Swim Club, 5 members last year)
 - LMAC (Life Time Swim Mid-Atlantic, 3 members last year)
 - SH (SSLF Grant Program – Sport & Health, 0 members last year)

We finished 2020 with 1958 members as compared with 2351 in 2019. See graph later in this report for our registration history since 1982. We are the smallest of the 52 LMSCs in the country from a geographic standpoint and we are tied for fourth (with New England) in terms of registered swimmers. We are behind Pacific, Southern Pacific and Florida.

At our last board meeting we approved paying the registration fee for PV clubs to renew for 2021 if they sent us a paper renewal form so I could process it manually (otherwise they have to pay directly to USMS with a credit card). There were 26 clubs who took advantage of this opportunity and 3 clubs who paid USMS with a credit card. Furthermore there were 2 clubs who renewed for 2021 who were registered prior to 2020 who paid the dues. I suggest we reimburse these 5 clubs as part of our renewal fee agreement. I would like to also discuss paying for all club registration fees, and not just renewal fees (i.e. new clubs).

Membership totals for this time of year (as of April 1):

April 1, 2014 – 2485

April 1, 2015 - 2427

April 1, 2016 – 2339

April 1, 2017 – 2268

April 1, 2018 – 2135

April 1, 2019 – 2004

April 1, 2020 – 1815

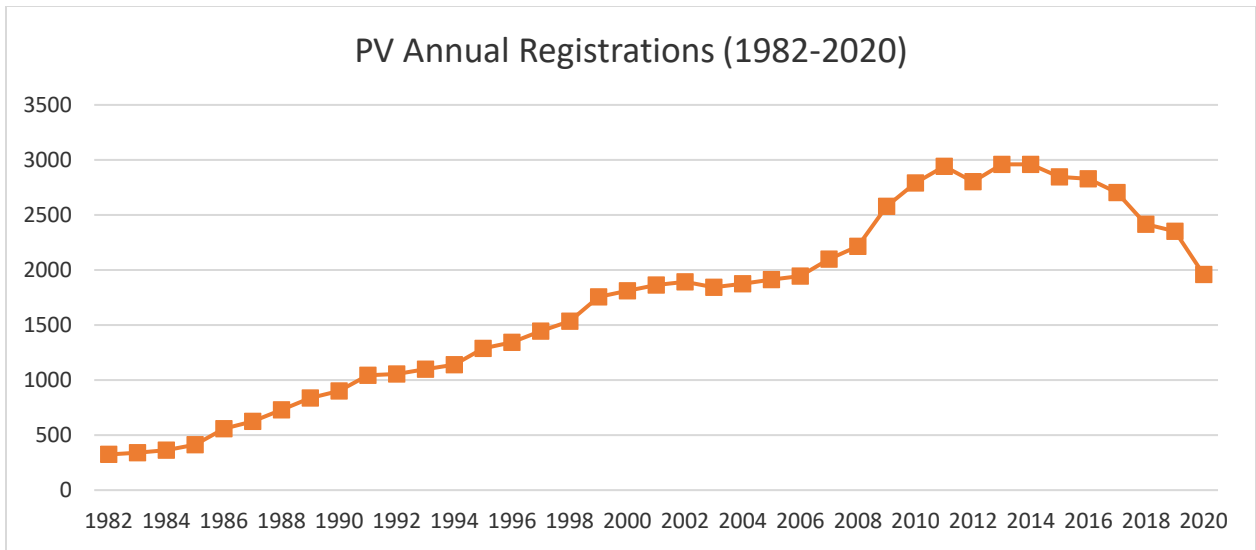
March 25, 2021 – 1164 * update since 4/1 report.

This past registration year Potomac Valley swimmers donated \$4270 to the Swimming Saves Lives Foundation (SSLF) and \$376 to the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF), which is \$4646 in total donations vs \$4037 in 2019. In addition to those donations, Potomac Valley swimmers donated \$892 directly back to the Potomac Valley LMSC. Thus far we have not allocated the PV donations toward anything but our general operating expenses.

For the Potomac Valley LMSC donors, I send them a confirmation letter suitable to file with their taxes in the mail if they donate \$15 or more. Periodically I send emails to all donors asking if they would like a PDF or letter receipt for their donation (very few do). We are only legally required to send confirmation letters to those who donate \$250 or more (which hasn't happened yet).

Geographical breakdown of our 2020 membership by state:

- Virginia: 51%
- Maryland: 29%
- District of Columbia: 17%
- Other: 3%



[Our membership is at 63% of last year \(Nationally is 69%\)](#)

Top Ten – Mollie Grover

For 2020 SCM season, only Albatross was conducted, and those results were submitted for Top Ten Consideration. SCM had 554 individual swims, 51 relays submitted, 7 individual national records, 2 relay national records.

As of now, the seasons for each course are not changing.

Note from 2020, remaining relevant: When we get back to having meets, please make sure meet directors are aware of all of the required wording that must be listed on sanctions for pool events. There are pool measurement statements required (these have been required for a few years now), and come 2021, there will be timing system statements required as well (see 2020 Legislation proposal L-7).

Rules – Dave Robinson

No Report

Sanctions – Stephanie Gauzens

Nothing to report

Officials – Natalie Taylor

We have not had meets for adults, but there have been a few for age group teams in the area.

Newsletter – Cheryl Wagner

The March 2021 newsletter was available online on March 2, 2021.

The next newsletter is on schedule for May.

Awards – Angela Fu

No report

Fitness – Christina West

USMS is continuing their Fitness Challenge. The summer challenge is a 2K swim or dryland workout that takes place between June 1-15. This is the second event in the Swim.com USMS Fitness Series. During the COVID-19 pandemic, many swimmers have had an extended break from the water. For those who now have access to swim safely, they hope this event provides motivation and a fun way to check your fitness level while supporting a great cause. The net proceeds go to USMS Adult Learn-to-Swim grants supported by the USA Swimming Foundation. The Summer Fitness Challenge can be done in any manner desired: in a pool or open water, straight through, as a member of a relay, or even with fins. More information, including registration, is here: <https://www.usms.org/events/fitness-events/fitness-series/summer-fitness-challenge>.

USMS also offers Go the Distance (GTD). GTD is a yearly self-directed event intended to encourage members to regularly swim and track their progress. Distance is the important metric for this virtual event, not speed or time. Certain distance milestones also have prizes attached to them. More information is here: <https://www.usms.org/events/fitness-events/go-the-distance>.

Long Distance/Open Water – Paul Grecco

Reston is planning on hosting their annual event, albeit later in the year. [Discussions happening near the end of the summer. The Reston Triathlon is typically the week after Labor Day, and likely to be scheduled around that.](#)

The USMS National Championships seem to be in the process of being postponed or cancelled. Information on these is changing regularly.

The two national committees overseeing this realm (aptly named the Long Distance Committee and Open Water Committee) have agreed to combine efforts into one committee this year. While technically temporary, their missions have overlap and have a few too many synergies to continue as two distinct committees, and we expect these to officially combine, which will help streamline our volunteer operations moving forward. This doesn't have a whole lot of impact locally, aside from a single POC for our local efforts.

[This week, the Kingdom swim has been decoupled as a sanctioned event and USMS National Championship, namely due to a sudden change to the entry requirements surrounding vaccination. There are some broad discussions to be had here, but for us, will discuss in New Business.](#)

Coaches – Frank Marcinkowski

Jeff and Courtney have been posting workouts on our social medias to help encourage anyone stuck swimming on their own.

USMS has no planned in person coaching training for the year and is moving forward with some online training modules for the Level 1 & 2 paradigm that sound be available soon if not already. There will continue to be some in-person trainings offered once we can resume that.

Webmaster – Ray Novitske

Wordpress made some recent [software](#) updates that eliminated some formatting issues. Other than that, nothing to report.

Communications – Courtney Randolph

I've been working with Stephanie on our policies doc, as well as Jeff in producing the workouts for the social media sites. We've had a good amount of reach/interaction with our postings thus far this year.

We have 86 followers on Instagram and 78 likes on Facebook.

<https://www.instagram.com/potomacvalleylmsc>

<https://www.facebook.com/potomacvalleylmsc>

Members are encouraged to share practices and other announcements with me for both accounts (for example, this great post from DCAC). Direct messages for featured posts on Instagram can be sent directly to the PV account. Ideally, these will become a source for the featured stories in the Newsletter, especially once we are able to regularly attend meets again.

Old Business

Club Registration Fees - Roddin

Around the 2020 USMS Annual Meeting (not PV, USMS), we agreed to pay for club renewal fees for 2020 clubs, but I think we should discuss opening it up to include paying for all renewing clubs as well as new clubs. Are there hesitations, restrictions we should consider?

MSA – PV pay for club renewal fee for any club registration (including clubs who have been away for a time) from 2021 forward (Roddin, Timmons).

MSA – Pay for the 2 returning, but from several years ago, clubs (minus Daleview, as they are new) mentioned in Jeff's report.

New Business

PV Website Domain Renewal - Roddin

Due in July. Just wanted to have on the minutes.

Facebook group to page – Randolph

MSA - Eliminate the PV Swimmers Ear Facebook Group in favor of the PV LMSC Facebook Page (Randolph, Strahota)

Discussion of Summer meets – Gauzens

Natalie – VA may be our resource for pool space, as they have been hosting kids meets for PVS since October. They have been getting pretty good about covid-time meets. There is a covid-committee in place to approve host entry forms in addition to sanctions chairs. Have been doing a lot of these meets by age group. Participants need to attest to not having symptoms. Swimmers are coming in suited; meets have been taken place over longer periods. Additional personnel include meet marshals. Fu: No Relays on the meet program. And meet related meetings are done ahead via zoom.

Basically, everything has been “mask on unless you are in the water”. Includes PVS and USMS OW.

What from the PVS covid committee can be applied to us in USMS? PVS doing 5/lane.

USMS Covid Resources: <https://www.usms.org/events/covid-19-event-resources>

PV LMSC Might have to help hosts with rental costs.

Angela Fu can provide a list of pools in VA that have hosted meets in the last 6 months.

No consensus reached around the idea of having meets this summer. Many felt it was still too early with most teams not able to practice together and too many moving pieces with COVID restrictions. Will circle back in a month if things dramatically improve, but otherwise may not have sanctioned pool events until Sept/Oct timeframe.

Discussion of spending our funds (addendum to Treasurer's report)

We set aside \$17k for grants from last year. We spent about \$4k. We still have the offer out there to help get teams back up and running if needed.

All ideas from report still on the table. Still not really in a place to discuss much action until teams are back in the water together.

Rulebooks

if anyone needs a hard copy, please email Stephanie. She has plenty.

Next Meeting – Summer?

Stephanie would like to shoot for a summer meeting (prefer in person, outdoors with masks) in the summer. Tentatively July 18. Will circle back in a month or so.

Meeting Adjourned at 9:05pm.