

Potomac Valley LMSC  
 2022 Annual (fall) Meeting  
 Sunday, November 20, 2022 2:00pm eastern

## Minutes

Called to order 2:03

I. INTRODUCTIONS

II. COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

III. OTHER AND NEW BUSINESS

- ELECTIONS – All positions (Chair, Treasurer, Secretary)
- Other New Business
- Schedule Next Meeting?

Attendees:

<u>Alex</u>	<u>ARMS</u>	<u>DCAC</u>	<u>DCRP</u>	<u>DCWW</u>	<u>GERM</u>	<u>L4</u>	<u>ANCM</u>	<u>GMUP</u>	<u>TSJ</u>	<u>TERR</u>	<u>Reston</u>	<u>XXX</u>
Stephanie Gauzens		Christina West		Luis Salazar		Tom Black (NXWV)	Jeff Roddin	Tim Timmons		Jeff Strahota		Will Ferris (MASH)
Ray Novitske				Marvin Blount			Cathy Gainor	Paul Grecco		Mollie Grover		
										Courtney Randolph		
										Brett Laplante		
										Natalie Taylor		

## COMMITTEE REPORTS:

### Chair – Stephanie Gauzens

I have termed out of the chair position and we have at least one nominee to take over. Thank you to all who have worked with me these last 4 years.

Please Clap.

### Treasurer – Tim Timmons

As of 10 Nov 22, we had a total of \$88,090.43 in our checking and savings accounts combined. This is an increase of \$9,384.15 over our 1 Jan 22 balance. I anticipate our profit to grow slightly by the end of the year – we will owe the host teams of our two remaining meets this year reimbursement of their meet registration fees but will receive a sizeable sum of money from USMS in early December for November's individual swimmer registrations. Our finances are solid.

Looking ahead to next year, our finances should continue to look good since the amount of money we receive for each individual membership from USMS will slightly increase. We have implemented most of the additional expenditures voted on at last year's annual meeting. Additionally, having a hybrid USMS annual convention cuts down on LMSC expenses.

At last December's meeting we voted to pass along the money we receive as donations to a charity. We also decided that we would designate which charity to give that money to at our next meeting. This is that next meeting.

Finally, I would like to stay on as Treasurer for one more two-year term and then retire from the position. During that two-year period, if we could identify someone interested in the job, I could brief them up on the ins and outs of the job so they could hit the job running instead of walking.

**// SIGNED //**

**TIMOTHY T. TIMMONS**

**Treasurer, PVLMSC**

Other notes:

We have not gotten a final bill for the 2<sup>nd</sup> half of money we owe TSJ from the summer meet. We should owe them \$2k total. A \$1000 deposit was paid at the time of hosting and was just cashed last month.

### Secretary – Jeff Strahota

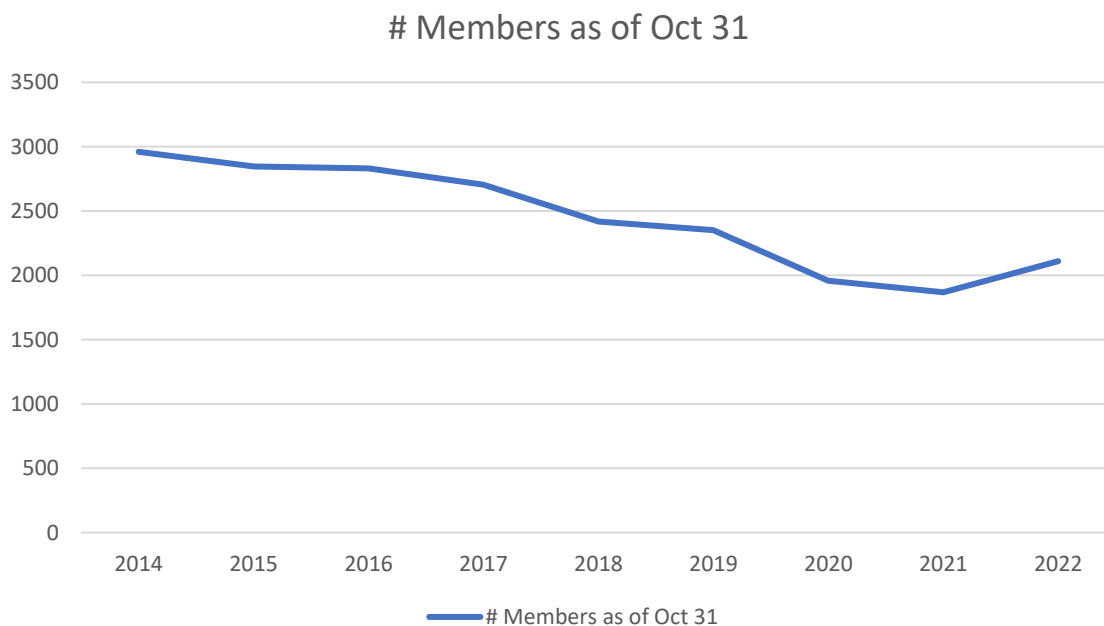
Our last meeting was the 2021 annual meeting, and minutes were approved electronically in April.

## 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.

Attached are the final club membership statistics for 2022. Here are the final individual Membership totals (see graph below):

- October 31, 2014 – 2960
- October 31, 2015 - 2847
- October 31, 2016 – 2830
- October 31, 2017 – 2704
- October 31, 2018 – 2417
- October 31, 2019 – 2351
- October 31, 2020 – 1958
- October 31, 2021 – 1868
- October 31, 2022 – 2110



We have 28 registered 2023 clubs (vs 31 2022 clubs). The following clubs did not renew for 2023 as of 11/6/2022: DC Trip Club (7 members in 2022 – they lost their program during the pandemic) National Capital Masters (1 member in 2022) Wave One Open Water (9 members in 2022)

Individual registration fees for 2023 have increased from \$60 to \$65 and will go to \$70 starting on 1/1/2023 (in other words, there is a \$5 discount if you renew prior to 1/1).

Club registration fees for 2023 increased from \$60 to \$65 for the month of October but are now at \$70 for the rest of the registration year. Like last year, PV agreed to cover the renewal costs for those clubs who submitted a renewal form directly to us by October 15 (as opposed to renewing online). Twenty-eight clubs took advantage of the scholarship offer during the month of October.

This past registration year Potomac Valley swimmers donated \$4087 to the USA Swimming Foundation and \$483 to the International Swimming Hall of Fame (ISHOF), which is \$4570 in total donations vs \$4510 in 2021. In addition to those donations, Potomac Valley swimmers donated \$1593 directly back to the Potomac Valley LMSC vs \$1510 in 2021. 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. In January I send emails to all donors from the previous year 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 2022 membership by state:

- Virginia: 47%
- Maryland: 29%
- District of Columbia: 20%
- Other: 4%

Other Notes:

Jessica @ National Office has been in contact with reps about getting paper copy of rulebooks if they need one.

## Top Ten – Mollie Grover

There have been fewer meets this year than pre-pandemic times.

January's Tropical Splash was in the 2021-22 Short Course Yards season that concluded in May.

Times from Albatross and Solstice are both for the Short Course Meters season which will conclude on 31 December 2022, and is due Jan 26 2023

We had one LCM meet this summer at The St. James, and these have been submitted to USMS for inclusion in the 2022 Top Ten. Reminder, that due to the pandemic shifting of nationals last year, times from 2021 LCM Nationals last October count for 2021 and not 2022. There 214 individual swims (no relays, no national records).

The Sweater Weather meet @ TSJ will be in the 2022-23 Yards season.

## Rules – Dave Robinson

The USMS House of Delegates met in September. Two major rule changes of note:

- Top Ten seasons may be adjusted in the instance of Nationals shifting (as it did in 2021) to accommodate meets held before or after the traditional window. Non-national meets in these years would shift seasons with Nationals as well.
- A very swimmer-friendly rule was passed that if a swimmer swims in an incorrect lane, as long as they start and finish in the same lane and did not prevent someone else from swimming, they will no longer be DQ'd. For anyone who has ever had last-second absent mindedness behind the blocks when there are plenty of no-shows, this is a great change!

Legislative changes included:

- Explicitly outline that the Board of Directors has the power to call annual meetings (this was previously ambiguous, but never a problem until our annual meetings occurred outside of United States Aquatic Sports meetings).
- Streamline future rules, long distance, and legislation meetings to permit small housekeeping items to be addressed outside of the annual meeting and during the year.
- Two national committees (Membership; Sports Medicine and Science) were retired. Their functions are primarily being implemented by professional staff.
- USMS Equal Opportunity statement updated.

For more information, please see: <https://www.usms.org/volunteer-central/annual-meeting/2022-annual-meeting>

## Sanctions – Stephanie Gauzens

We are starting to get traction around local events. Between the events mentioned in Mollie's report and the open water races hosted by Reston and DCAC, events are returning.

We are looking for BOTH new clubs and new sites to host events. Jeff has reached out to a few of you about this. The LMSC is here to help everywhere possible.

A recognition request was denied due to 202.1.2D.

## Officials – Natalie Taylor

There were a couple Officials trainings held by PV over the summer highly appreciated by attendees.

The Sweater Weather meet next month could use some officials to help. As they are a newer club and new to hosting events, it would be great to support them. Please reach out to officials on your team to sign up via the link below. For questions, please reach out to Nancy Bailey directly – [Nancy.Bailey@thestjames.com](mailto:Nancy.Bailey@thestjames.com).

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/4090D4EA4A623A1F85-stjames>

## Communications – Courtney Randolph

We are sunsetting the newsletter in favor of more modern communications on Facebook and Instagram. Please subscribe to the pages:

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

We are aiming to do an end-of-year recap, so if you have any event news, team news, anything you would like to be included, please let me know! [PVCommunications@usms.org](mailto:PVCommunications@usms.org).

## Awards – Vacant

This position is currently vacant and duties being conducted by the Chair and Vice Chair. If anyone is interested, please contact the current chair and chair elect. Meeting Update: there may be an interested party!

Primary responsibility is calculating the annual SCY, SCM, LCM male and female swimmers of the year; as well as identifying and coordinating nominations of individuals for local, zone, and/or national awards.

## Fitness – Christina West

Information on USMS Fitness events is here: <https://www.usms.org/events/fitness-events>. 2023 events are included in the USMS+ membership; if you have not registered for 2023 already and participate in these events, this is a great way to save some money and get a few added bonuses.

USMS has not yet posted the 2023 schedule for Adult Learn to Swim instructor courses (see: <https://www.usms.org/alts-central/alts-instructor-certification/alts-instructor-course-schedule>).

## Long Distance/Open Water – Paul Grecco

Reston and DCAC both ran open water events in the area (DCAC's sanctioned by Maryland LMSC) this year.

The 2023 USMS Open Water National Championships have been selected and information is available online [via this link: https://www.usms.org/events/national-championships/open-water-national-championships/2023-open-water-national-championships](https://www.usms.org/events/national-championships/open-water-national-championships/2023-open-water-national-championships).

To start, there are 3 races at three top class venues in Oregon (UltraMarathon, 2-mi Cable, Marathon) over 8 days in early July; middle distance is August 12 in Ohio; and Long-Distance and Sprint-Distance in Mission Viejo Sept 16-17.

The National Committee has been talking about use of personal swim buoys for events.

Reston is aiming to have their traditional swim on Memorial Day weekend. Nothing has been officially announced yet, but keep an eye on the website!

## Coaches – Frank Marcinkowski

USMS has restructured coach certification a bit. Level 1 class is entirely online. Level 2 and 3 are still offered via in person instruction.

Dates for 2023 classes are TBD at the moment, but as with 2022, are going to be offered regionally. If we are interested in hosting a certification here, have critical mass, and the LMSC is interested in providing funding for instructors and venue,

Information on coach certification is available here: <https://www.usms.org/coach-central/coach-certification>.

## Webmaster – Ray Novitske

The website calendar is being updated with local meets as they become available. Club contacts and workout times have been updated from coordination with Jeff Roddin. Minor tweaks and improvements continue to be made.

Jeff Roddin has a 2<sup>nd</sup> login for admin purposes, so in case something happens, we have a backup.

Event Directors: Please make sure to send results (or links to results) to [PVWebmaster@usms.org](mailto:PVWebmaster@usms.org).

The website has an email subscription where Ray is able to send out something when updates are made. Please encourage swimmers and team admin to subscribe.

## New Business

### Older New Business

#### Charitable Donations

TT: We have been getting donations from swimmers and would like to select a charity to send that to.

MSA (Ray, Will) to split the donation between the two clubs (Reston & DCAC) who conduct charity clubs. Motion passes unanimously.

### Elections – 2022 is an Election Year

#### Chair

Nominees: Brett Laplante (TERR)

#### Treasurer

Nominees: Tim Timmons (GMUP)

#### Secretary

Nominees: Jeff Strahota (TERR)

All nominees win by acclamation.

### Shiny New Business

1. We have been toying with the idea of scholarships for fixed income and/or college/post-grad swimmers. Stephanie has been toying with the idea of a per-swimmer rebate to clubs, akin to what is done in North Texas. This would provide funds to the club where the intent would be to start those programs, offset pool costs, pay

coaches, etc. in order to continue to keep costs stable (or lower) for swimmers. Consensus of the crew is this topic is worth further exploration through the creation of a focused committee.

2. In trying to get meets back, suggesting that we start running some meets as PV, but getting high school teams to time for \$1000 or something. Concern was presented that PV hosting meets will create a high burden on a small number of volunteers, whereas the current delegation of meeting hosting to member teams distributes the workload to a broader pool of organizers. We also talked about how to get meets at some of our bigger facilities. Ideas included mentorship, direct outreach. PV to investigate USMS Resources for onboarding new meet directors and the creation of a PV-specific summary.
3. MSA (Tim, Will) Renew our Annual Zoom subscription. This is \$106. Motion carries unanimously.
4. Boots Hall passed away in August. She was a longtime masters official and masters swimmer.
5. MSA (Tim, Will) Pay ~\$118 to host and run the Colonies Zone website. Motion carries unanimously. The Zone voted to rotate this responsibility to each LMSC annually.
6. Discussion of paying officials: PV already subsidizes teams hosting meets providing insurance against revenue shortfalls, such that no team will "go in the red." Further outreach and research is necessary to determine best course of action. Part of broader discussion about encouraging and fostering current and future swim meets.
7. Thank you to Stephanie for taking on the Chair for an additional year she didn't know

### Next Meeting – Spring?

Hoping for March?

MSA Adjourn (Stephanie, Jeff R) 3:26p