

Potomac Valley LMSC
2017 Annual Meeting
Sunday, October 29, 2017
Agenda
2pm

George Mason University

Location: room adjacent to the competition pool where the hospitality snacks are during the meet.

The Meeting was called to order at 2:16pm by Chair Jeff Strahota

Motions Passed:

- Motion to approve the July Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously
- Motion to approved Edits to the Bylaws were approved unanimously
- Jeff Strahota (Chair), Tim Timmons (Treasurer), Debbie Malafsky (Secretary) were approved to continue in their respective positions by acclamation.
- Motion to change Workout Group Fees to \$50 was approve unanimously
- Motion to approve Veterans on the Rise and Disabled Veterans for \$1500 and \$1000 respectively passed 9-4 with 4 abstaining
- Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:06 was approved unanimously.

Attendees:

Alexandria Masters- Stephanie Gauzens, Ray Novitske
Arlington Masters- Ana Duarte and Dan Summers
DCAC-Christina West
GERM-Dave Robinson
L4-Debbie Malafsky
ANCM-Jeff Roddin
NCYM-Peter Lee
GMUP- Tim Timmons and Cheryl Ward
RMST-Brian Evans
DUFF-Anne Duffy
UMAC-Jeff Strahota, Cheryl Wagner, Angela Fu, Mollie Grover
WAVA-Charlie Tupitza

MINUTES/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Chair – Jeff Strahota

All, thanks for attending this year's annual meeting.

We have had a good year so far. We started off 2017 with our 2nd year with a booth at the NBC4 Health and Fitness Expo, had a bunch of meets, found a couple of new delegates to attend convention this year, had our LMSC Picnic last week and will be wrapping up 2017 with the GMUP Sprint Classic and GERM Solstice meet (plus of course this meeting). All in all, strong.

Convention-wise, there is not a whole lot to report back. The most controversial item was regarding the ability of swimmers to hold on to a boat during an open water event. This is not something typically permitted, but future race directors will be given the option on whether they will permit this or not. Debate was very fierce – there is certainly a safety aspect to this, as well as an inclusion argument to grow the sport.

The other controversial piece was to add 25s to the list of conforming events. This has come up a few times before, and once again was voted down by the house of delegates. A meet may include any non-conforming event (such as 25s, Germantown's crescendo relay, Alexandria's coconut relay) so long as it is run in a safe manner, but individual events like the 25s are subject to the 6 events per day event limit.

Treasurer – Tim Timmons

Our financial situation remains very solid. As of October 15, 2017, we had a total combined balance of \$61,946.34 in our checking and savings accounts. This amount is \$3,419.43 less than that reported for July 30, 2017 which is what we expected. Our income during the late summer and early fall of each year is relatively small while our expenditures tend to grow, mainly due to our convention expenses.

For the calendar year 2017 through October 15, we have realized \$12,531.25 in income and have had \$12,066.00 in expenditures. This gives us a net of \$465.25 for the year to date. Two notes here: 1) our income from USMS is decremented each month by sanction fees we pay USMS, and 2) we realized a gain of \$1,095.47 when we closed out our bulk mailing account with the US Postal Service.

The last quarter of each year is normally our most active financially. During this time frame, we receive larger checks from USMS as our clubs and members begin to register for next year and we pay monies to our clubs that attended meetings or hosted meets, plus we pay our Registrar. Since we have raised our dues by \$5 to \$50, and USMS will begin to take out an additional \$2 per registration, we should remain on very solid ground.

With all that being said, from a purely financial point of view, at this time we can afford to fund the requests that have been made to us and will be discussed later in this meeting.

// SIGNED //
TIMOTHY T. TIMMONS
PVLMSC Treasurer

Secretary – Debbie Malafsky

Thank you to Tim Timmons and Christina West for continued quick diligence to call for committee reports!

Registrar – Jeff Roddin

Please continue to review your club listings on the PV website (www.pvmasters.org/clubs.htm) and let me know if anything needs updating.

Individual Membership totals for this time of year:

- October 31, 2014 – 2960
- October 31, 2015 - 2847
- October 31, 2016 – 2830
- October 29, 2017 – 2705 [SJ1](downward trend continues)

During discussion, we talked about national trends with USMS registration. 2017's registrations are about 1,800 fewer than last 2016, and USMS was budgeting for a continued increase. Generally, USMS is getting older and not replacing lost members with younger members. The trend is similar in PV, where we have significantly aged in the last 5 years and seen a significant drop in 18-34 swimmers.

We have 33 registered clubs (vs 35 last year).

For 2018, USMS has raised their portion of individual membership fees by \$2 (from \$41 to \$43). We have agreed to bump the total registration fee from \$45 to \$50 to accommodate this increase (i.e. the LMSC fee will be \$7). Our last increase was in 2014 when we raised the fee from \$40 to \$45 (in 2014 the split was \$35 to USMS and \$10 to PV).

For 2018, USMS has raised their portion of club membership dues from \$41 to \$43. We have reduced the PV portion by \$2 per club to maintain the same overall fee to clubs (i.e. PV clubs won't notice the dues increase).

I would like to discuss changing the WOG fee from \$100 to \$50. The reason the club fee is set at \$100 is to allow for a \$50 rebate to clubs who host a sanctioned event or attend a PVLMS board meeting. We would expect the parent club to be entitled to this rebate and not each WOG. So I propose we change the WOG fee from \$100 to \$50 (the USMS fee for WOGs is \$43).

As of Oct. 29, these clubs have renewed for 2018: ALEX, ANCM, ARMS, DCAC, DCRP, DCTC, DUFF, FBST, GERM, GMUP, JCCN, L4S, MASH, MSSC, NAMI, NCYM, RIPM, RMST, SDS, TOLL, TRI3, UMAC

As of Oct. 29, these clubs have not renewed for 2018: ABSC, DCM, HAC, LMAC, MACH, MWRA, PMM, SPRY, TA, WAV1, WAVA[SJ2]

Top Ten – Mollie Grover

- For the 2017 LCM season, there were 350 individual swims and 7 relays submitted for top ten consideration. This is the first year that relays were submitted from the DCRP meet.
- I will be submitting a white paper for posting on the PV website that details what is needed from meet directors before I can post results to the USMS database. I hope to have that posted shortly after the Sprint Classic.

Rules – Dave Robinson

- Did not submit any rule proposals for national consideration; will continue to pursue some potential rule changes.

Sanctions – Peter Lee

Sanctioned Events since our July meeting:

- Patriot Masters Sprint Classic, 10/29 (applied: 7/29, approved: 8/5)
- Columbus Day Classic, DCAC, 10/7 (applied: 8/3, approved: 8/8)
- 5th Annual Solstice SCM Swim Meet, 12/2 (applied: 9/29, approved: 10/3)

Open water swimming changes:

- USMS certified referee to be present at all open water events in 2018.
- Rule change: incidental contact with a rescue craft during an open water swim allowed at the discretion of the race director (to be made in the event announcement).

Officials – Eric Nordlund

- No report
- ANCM is having difficulties finding officials for their Albatross event in March. Please make sure teams reach out to our officials chair if they are having difficulties finding officials – this is what he is here for! Also, we discussed the USMS Officials Certification Program – details can be found here: <http://www.usms.org/admin/lmschb/content/officialscert>

Governance – Stephanie Gauzens

- Shared the final edits to the bylaws (separate document). Substantive updates include
 - 1.1.2 – Updating language defining our territory to match the rulebook definition.
 - 1.2.1 B – Remove 4-member minimum to start a club. With online club registration, we have no way to enforce this, nor is it necessary.
 - 1.3.1 A(4) – Updated duties of the Treasurer to include \$5k expenditures authorization and annual bank reconciling, per requirement of LMSC Standards.
 - 1.3.1 B(3) – Updated duties of the Top Ten/Records Committee to include USMS/World Record duties, per LMSC Standards.
 - 1.3.1 B(7) – NEW – Adding Long Distance/Open Water Committee to the bylaws with definition of responsibilities, per LMSC Standards.
- Mollie Grover made a motion to approve the Bylaw edits and Christina West seconded. The motion passed unanimously

Newsletter – Cheryl Wagner

- Next newsletter is in January. Please submit articles by December 15!
- Ray talked about Cheryl winning the 2017 USMS June Krauser Communications Award.

Awards – Angela Fu

These are the awards presented at the picnic and include 2015 through 2017 SCY.

Swimmers of the Year and Top Performers

2015

2015	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
SCY	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Blake Holden	Margot Pettijohn	Jeffrey Roddin Clay Britt John Guiffre	Joan Pfinsgraff Kim Brightwell
	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
SCM	Men	Women	Men	Women

	Peter Galan	Jeanne Lappin	Michael Goodison Edwin McCleskey	Margot Pettijohn Mollie Grover
	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
LCM	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Blake Holden	Mollie Grover	Neill Williams Jeffrey Roddin	Susan Williams Margot Pettijohn

2016

2016	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
SCY	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Frank Manheim	Susan Williams	Blake Holden Cyrus Hashemi	Kim Brightwell Margot Pettijohn Margaret Conze
	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
SCM	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Neill Williams	Margot Pettijohn	Frank Manheim Scott McHenry	Courtney Randolph Mollie Grover
	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
LCM	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Frank Manheim	Margot Pettijohn	Blake Holden James Zenyuh	Mollie Grover Jeanne Lappin

2017

2017	Swimmer of the Year		Top Performers	
SCY	Men	Women	Men	Women
	Hugh Roddin	Margot Pettijohn	James Zenyuh Jeffrey Roddin	Courtney Randolph Mollie Grover

Swimmer of the Year is awarded to the individual with the highest number of points when calculated from the top ten lists for each course. Top performers are the individuals with the 2nd and 3rd place number of points for each course.

Distance Swimmers of the Year

2015	Men	Women
	Andrew Geiszler	Stephanie Gauzens Leah Heil
2016	Men	Women
	Paul Fetters	N/A

Distance Swimmer of the Year is calculated in the same manner as the Swimmer of the Year, but for distance events only. There were not enough women to meet the minimum criteria for 2016.

Postal Swimmer Award

This award goes to the male & female swimmer who participated in the highest number of postal swims in a given year. The requirement is that the swimmers must to participate in 2 or more postal events.

2015	Men	Women
	N/A	Jane Woo Jennifer Johnston
2016	Men	Women
	N/A	N/A

Go the Distance Award

Award goes to the male & female swimmer with the most number of miles recorded in their Go the Distance Blog.

2015	Men	Women
	Bill Shipp (599.89)	Beverly Kelley (659.27)
2016	Men	Women
	John Spicer (504.08)	Michele L Walters (657.85)

Nomination Awards

We can still do for 2017 if folks want to (they said we do); can do via online submissions before the end of the year.

LMSC Picnic

Our 2017 LMSC Picnic was held earlier this month. Cabin John was thought to be a very central location, and had great facilities for us; however, only 50 responded, and of those, only 25 came. Would be interested in hearing ideas on how to generate higher attendance.

National Awards^[SJ3]

Each year, the USMS Recognition and Awards Committee solicits nominations throughout USMS for different volunteer service contributions, and other organization awards are presented. This year's PV LMSC winners:

- The June Krauser Communications Award was presented to Cheryl Wagner for her long-time work on our LMSC Newsletter, *The Swimmer's Ear*.
- The Open Water Service Award was presented to Lynn Hazelwood for her long-time contributions locally to the Jim McDonnell Lake Swim and nationally as a long-time committee member and advocate.
- Mollie Grover received a Dorothy Donnelly Service award for her service on the USMS Rules Committee and locally as our Top Ten (and previously Sanctions) Chair.
- Jeff Strahota was awarded the Colonies Zone Dorothy Donnelly Award for service within our region.

Fitness – Christina West

- With July 2017 Board approval of scholarships for the USMS Adult Learn to Swim (ALTS) program, I advertised the availability of scholarships for the Oct. 28 ALTS certification course to be held in our area. We received several inquiries and requests for the scholarship application (approximately 5) and four completed applications, which have been approved (as of Oct. 29). I will continue to advertise the availability of ALTS scholarships for future ALTS certification courses in our area.
 - Tim and Cheryl attended yesterday's ALTS class. Tim mentioned there were at least 4 others that will likely be reaching out for scholarships.
- Looking ahead, April is USMS' Adult Learn to Swim month. I am interested in seeing if there is interest or ideas for a PV-sponsored ALTS program next April. According to USMS, there are 27 USMS ALTS certified instructors in PV LMSC. I would welcome ideas or suggestions for an event as well as others interested in helping to put something together. Peter and Cheryl indicated they would be interested in looking into this. ^[SJ4]
- We would like to find out from our existing ALTS folks if they are using this certification, what they are doing, how they are implementing? We would be interested in hearing some sort of follow-up. We are able to look up existing ALTS-certified folks here: <http://www.usms.org/alts/certifiedinstructors.php>

Long Distance/Open Water – Charlie Tupitza

- Charlie is back looking at a couple lakes in the area.

Coaches – Frank Marcinkowski

- No report

Webmaster – Ray Novitske

- Working feverishly after returning from my vacation to finalize the new site, load it up, and do a test run for review by the board meeting this weekend: which you can preview here: <http://www.pvmasters.org/newsite/>. I bought a new theme for \$60 (the free ones didn't work very well with our existing content and needs), and been using Cheryl's photos for some graphic content. Plan remains to have individual user accesses for certain sections, and will add an awards section for Angela!

Communications –

- No report.

Committee reports were completed at 2:59pm.

Old Business

- July Meeting Minutes Approved (MSA Dave Robinson, Christina West).
- Convention Expenses – Tim reminded everyone that requests for convention expense reimbursement are due to him by December 31.

New Business

2017 Elections

- Jeff Strahota (Chair), Tim Timmons (Treasurer), Debbie Malafsky (Secretary) continue in positions by acclamation. (MSA Ray Novitske, Mollie Grover)

Workout Group Fees

- Discussion
- Motion to change Workout Group Fees to \$50 was made by Jeff Roddin and approved by Cheryl Wagner. The motion passed unanimously.

Discuss SSLF Grant

During the SSLF Foundation meeting at Convention, one of the follow ups was to explore opportunities through engagement with the LMSC's to raise an additional ~\$66k of funds to support the remaining programs which were deemed worthy of receiving a grant but could not be funded by SSLF. PV was asked to support two of these programs which are in our LMSC geographic region.

We asked for the following information:

- The Disabled Sports USA and Veterans on the Rise applications so that we can fully understand the usefulness and impact these programs will have in our community.
- How the Board of Trustees ranked these programs compared to the ones that received funding.
- Will this be an on going request from SSLF, ie, annually, or is this just to kick start these programs? (This is for PV budgeting purposes).
- If PV funds these programs, who will receive the credit?

The Foundations' answers are below:

- As it relates to the credit for funding these programs, SSLF is open to explore any options you wish discuss. Although Potomac Valley could fund directly, there could be insurance issues and other items of that nature, as well as administration, that could create issues. The easiest option would be for the LMSC to fund SSLF with the specific caveat that the funding be directed to those programs. SSLF lists on the USMS website the programs that receive grants. Perhaps stating that the particular programs were funded by (or with assistance of) the Potomac Valley LMSC would work. Again, all ideas and thoughts are welcome.
- With regard to this being an annual request that is a very good question. This year was a huge success in terms of the quality of Grant applications versus previous years and the goal right now is to raise funding to be able to provide or increase grants to these specific programs. That said, the long term goal is not to come to the LMSC's every year after convention and request funding in this fashion. The Foundation would rather put consistent, sustainable, and predictable mechanisms in place with the LMSC's, should they wish to do so, that can be re-addressed on a regular (annual) basis. For example, an amount per member per year has been mentioned by a few LMSC's. That way it is easier for budget reasons, consistency, etc. and can be structured in a form that works best for all parties. Whether these programs receive funding as part of this drive or not, such a dialogue is something Foundation would like to have to learn collectively what is best / makes sense.
- With regard to your question about ranking, attached is a PDF that sets for the quantitative aspects of the application scoring. Each item on the page was worth one point with the exception of the top two (ALTS Certified and Masters Program) which were worth up to two points. The most an application could get was 10 points. As you are aware, with a few exceptions, all programs with a score of 6 or more received some form of funding.
 - **Disabled Sports USA** received a score of 6 and thus received \$3,000 of funding. An amount of \$5,000 was requested which explains the \$2,000 set forth in the letter to Potomac Valley. This program does not have a Masters team and therefore did not score any points in that category. They also do not run an April is Adult Learn to Swim Month and nor a matching grant. That dropped them to a score of 6. However, they do have ALTS instructors, run an ALTS program and have a level 4 USMS Coach involved. The \$3,000 is enough for them to run a successful program. Given the limit on dollars available for grants, the decision was made to use the fund to get another program up and running successfully. Had there been additional funds to disburse, increasing funding to this program would have been near the top of the list.

- **Veterans on the Rise** received a score of 5 and therefore was just below the cut off of 6 points. It hasn't received any funding. This program does have matching grants and runs an April program. They are not established, has not received funding in the past and therefore lost two points as a result. There were 7 programs that tied with a score of 5. Their application states they wish \$5k in funding but the max amount being considered for this program is \$3k. They have a low cost per student ratio which makes them attractive.

Angela Fu made a motion to support Veterans on the Rise for \$1500 and Mollie Grover seconded. Dave Robinson made a motion to support Disabled Veterans for \$1000 and Peter Lee seconded. Both motions passed 9-4 with 4 abstentions.

2018 Coaches Clinic

- During even years, USMS hosts a coach's clinic. Last year it was in San Diego and this year it's going to be somewhere in the Mid-Atlantic and we have been asked to help support this. We will assist if we can, but due to the lack of details, we cannot blanket or blindly support. Jeff S. tasked with providing board with additional details as they are made available.

2022 Gay Games

- Christina mentioned that Washington DC was one of three finalists (Paris, Guadalajara) for the 2022 Gay Games. This would be a large, international, multi-sport event to be held in the area. Swimming would be held at the University of Maryland and would be either SCM or LCM. Exact dates TBD.

Schedule next meeting:

- March PHONE meeting. Shoot for mid-week mid-march.

A motion was made by Mollie Grover to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Christina West. The meeting adjourned at 4:06pm.