AGENDA ITEMS FOR VSI BOARD MEETING

Friday, February 1, 2013

- We now have 26 Club Safe Sport Coordinators assigned. I have requested remaining clubs to assign one and they are complying. These exclude college teams registered with VSI.
- A set of responsibilities for Club Safe Sport Coordinators has been distributed to assigned club coordinators. I have arranged with Mary to send each board member a copy.
- The committee plans to implement a campaign to have club members (coaches, parents and athletes) take Safe Sport on-line courses offered by USA Swimming.
 Some members have already completed these courses and the athlete course is not yet available, but should be soon. The committee will request progress reports from the club coordinators. This information might be available from USA Swimming, but this would still have to be worked out.
- David Strider and SS committee member Laurie Hynes just returned from a USA Swimming Leadership Conference on Safe Sport and David will be able to comment on that event. I am hopeful that future committee initiatives will result from this conference.
- The committee membership is to be composed of 12 persons: 3 athletes (need one), three coaches (complete), three officials (complete) and three parents (need two).
 Obviously, in many cases parents and officials are interchangeable.
- At a recent local meet there was an incident of a parent taking photographs of his daughter behind the block in clear violation of VSI meet rules and posted signs. The individual was approached by meet officials and asked to stop immediately. This had the potential of escalating, but after a post-meet investigation, including consultation with Susan Woessner, USA Swimming's Safe Sport Coordinator, David Strider communicated with all concerned and the matter was settled in a satisfactory manner. This rule of no photography behind the blocks came from the Safety Committee years ago, before Safe Sport achieved its current high profile, but its implications are even more clear today. Meet hosts should be reminded to carefully review the USA Swimming Safe Sport photography restrictions as well as those of Virginia Swimming. It should be noted that USA Swimming has no specific prohibitions against photography behind the blocks.
- With regard to the incident, Marshals and Officials should be commended for their alert and professional response.