VSI Safety Committee Report Jan. 1, 2006

Members of the VSI Safety Committee include Rosie Schiavone (Co-Chair), Angela Howsmon, Larry Wilder, Grey Ryder, Bob Hood, Ben Hair (Athlete), Leslie Ayers (Coach), Al Thompson, and David Strider (Chair).

Marshal vests are available, if needed, for cost of \$10.00, plus \$2.00 for shipping / handling. May contact David Strider to order these.

The VSI Safety Committee will be looking at "Safety During Overhead Starts." It has been recommended by some experts that the previous swimmer in the water "hug the lane line" next to the wall, thereby moving her / him farther away from the line of water entry by the next swimmer. Will get feedback from other LSCs on this item, and discuss amongst the VSI Safety Committee before recommendation is completed.

VSI Safety Committee has placed a "Safety Tip" on the VSI Website once a month, since September. Please forward suggestions for "safety topics" to David Strider.

Between Jan. 1, 2005 and Dec. 31, 2005, there have been 30 reported injuries or acute medical situations reported on VSI / USA registered swimmers related to swim meet or swim practice.

9 of these reported events occurred during practice.

Of the entire 30 events, 2 injuries occurred from fall in bleachers, one occurred in hallway, one occurred in stairwell, 3 happened in the locker rooms, and one occurred in the parking lot adjoining the aquatic facility.

Submitted by: David Strider VSI Safety Committee Chairperson e-mail at <u>dvs7e@virginia.edu</u>