

VSI Safety Committee Report March 1, 2007

Members of the VSI Safety Committee now include David Strider, Rosie Schiavone, Doug Childress, Bob Hood, Rachel Brown (athlete rep.), Scott Baldwin (Coach Rep.), and Steve Woolfolk (Current Chair). We still need at least 2 more members to have a full committee. Anyone interested being on the committee should contact Steve Woolfolk at woolfolks@aol.com.

The first 2 months of 2008 there have been a total of 10 incidents reported. There were a total of 23 incidents reported in the year of 2007 in VSI.

A break down of last years incidents

By Age

8 and under 12%
9 -10 year olds 15%
11 -12 year olds 21%
13 – 14 year olds 19 %
15 -18 year olds 22%
19 and over 11%

Nature of Incident

Leg/foot 27%
Torso 3%
Knee 4%
Head/Neck 19%
Internal 4%
Hand/Arm 20%
Shoulder 3%
ENT/Mouth 8%
Other 12%

When the Incidents Occurred

Meet/Competition 57%
Meet/Warmup 14%
Meet/Warmdown 1%
Practice/Water 24%
Practice/Dryland 8%
Other 2%

Where the incidents occurred

In water 40%
On Blocks 4%
Hallway 3%
Locker Room 5%
Deck 27%
Stairs 1%
Bleachers 6%
Outside Venue 10%
Gym 2%
Other 2%

Several of these incidents last year and this year occurred because of scuffling or horseplay. Marshals at meets and coaches at practices need to be aware of the scuffling and horseplay, and try to get it stopped before an injury occurs.

The monthly safety tips have included heart attack, stroke and cardiac arrest signs and symptoms, and safety when staying overnight in hotels. Anyone with suggestions or ideas for tips please forward them to the safety chair.

The use of marshals at meets in VSI is required. Meet referees and/or meet directors need to meet with the marshals prior to the meet and brief them on their duties. This may be found on the VSI safety page under marshal job description and guidelines.

Respectfully submitted
Steve Woolfolk
Safety Chair