

Types of Meets in Potomac Valley Swimming

Potomac Valley Swimming offers a wide variety of swim meet opportunities for all the members of PVS. There are two primary types of meets on the yearly schedule; PVS Meets and Club Meets all of which must be sanctioned by USA Swimming through PVS. In addition PVS has the authority to sanction dual/tri meets, these meets may or may not appear on the schedule. PVS also offers Observation and Approval sanctions to those meets that are requested and in the geographical boundaries of PVS. All types of meets will be listed and discussed below.

PVS Meets:

Potomac Valley Swimming sponsors swim meets each year to provide various competition opportunities to the members of PVS. For these meets PVS “contracts” with Host Clubs to handle all aspects of meet management (meet entries, running the meet and post meet procedures); while PVS is responsible for all expenses; including pool rental, hospitality, meet supplies, program reproduction, specials items for championship meet support, as outlined in the Meet Financial Section of the handbook. The host club will be paid a meet management fee, also outlined in the Meet Financial Section.

The PVS Administrator along with the Technical Committee prepares all Meet Announcements, Meet Manager Back up and Event Files for PVS meets.

Meet Name	Month	Type	# sites
October Open	October	Open	3
November Open	November	Open	4
January Distance	January	1000/1650 only	1
January Open	January	Open	4
February Distance	February	1000/1650 only	1
18 & U Champs	February	Timed finals – Championships	1
Junior Champs	March	Prelims/Finals – Championships	1
Senior Champs	March	Prelims/Finals – Championships	1
14 & O Junior Olympics	March	Prelims/Finals – Championships	1
LC Age Group/Senior 1	June	Open	2
LC Distance	June	800 & 1000 400 & 400 IM (optionally)	1
LC Age Group/Senior 2	June	Open	2
LC Age Group Champs	July	Prelims/Finals – Championships	1
LC Junior Champs	July	Timed Finals Championships	1
LC Senior Champs	July	Prelims/Finals – Championships	1

Dates for the short course PVS meets (September – March) are proposed and voted on at the Fall Competition Committee Meeting, then approved at the subsequent BoD meeting. Club bids to host these meets are due at the Winter CCM and voted on at the January/February BoD meeting, then announced to the LSC.

The Long Course PVS meets (June-July) are proposed and voted on at the Spring CCM. Clubs must submit bids to run these meets at the Fall CCM, host clubs will be announced after the October BoD meeting.

Club Meets:

In order to provide additional competitive opportunities for the PVS athletes, Clubs are permitted to host meets throughout the season. Club's will be responsible for all aspects of the meet, including; all meet management and financial responsibilities. In order to add a club meet to the PVS schedule, clubs must submit a sanction request form and draft meet announcement (to include; meet date, location, meet director, meet referee, meet format) 7 day prior to the appropriate Competition Committee Meeting. Clubs have two opportunities to submit bids and must adhere to the following schedule:

Winter Competition Committee Meeting (early January):

- Final opportunity to add meets for April 1-August 31 of the same year.
- First opportunity to add meets for September 1-December 31 of the same calendar (but next season)

Spring Competition Committee Meeting (mid-May):

- Final opportunity to add meets for September 1-December 31 of the same year.
- First opportunity to add meets for January 1-March 31 of the following calendar year.

Fall Competition Committee Meeting (late-September or early October):

- Final opportunity to add meets for January 1-March 31 of the following year.
- First opportunity to add meets for April 1-August 31 of the following year.

Dual/Tri Meets:

Any club may request a sanction for a dual meet (2 teams) or a tri meet (3 teams) at any time during the season. The sanction request must be sent to the Sanctioning Officer (PVS Administrator) at least 7 days prior to the first day of the scheduled meet. [Best Practice guidelines: to give 2-3 weeks notice if at all possible.] All sanction requests must include a meet announcement and sanction request form. The meet announcement must contain all required elements and will be subject to approval the same as all club meets. Typically dual and tri meets are not posted on the PVS Schedule page.

Observed Meets:

As written in the USA Swimming Rule book (202.5): "Swims may be observed by assigned USA Swimming officials for conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in a meet conducted under other than USA Swimming rules. Official times achieved as observed swims may be submitted for entry into the SWIMS database in all [of the following] conditions are met." Examples of meets which typically request Observed sanctions; High School Championship (season-culminating) Meets, College Championships

Approved Meets:

Approved Sanctions are requested for meets conducted in conformance with USA Swimming technical rules in which both members and non-members of USA Swimming may compete. There are specific rules in the USA Swimming Rule book (202.4). Most commonly in PVS Approved meets sanctions are for “Y” meets and/or meets where “Y” teams who are not USA-S members are participating.

Sanction requests for both Observed and Approved Meets are due to the sanctioning officer (PVS Administrator) a minimum of 30 days from their first day of the meet. A sanction fee is required as per information in the Financial Section and must be paid in full before the sanction will be issued.