VISAA Swimming Coach’s Meeting
Meeting Minutes
February 17, 2017

Board Members in Attendance:
Greg Guldin, Woodberry Forest, President, Webmaster and Meet Coordinator
Jay Leach, Norfolk Academy, President Emeritus
John Gullickson, Bishop Ireton, Northern Virginia Representative
Mike Stott, Collegiate, Richmond Representative
Jeff Scott, Hampton Roads Academy, Peninsula & Tidewater Representative
Jim Koehr, Seton School, Secretary and Meet Coordinator

Officers not Present:
Shannon Fisher, Christchurch School, VISAA Liaison to Swimming and Diving
Jeff Sullivan, Williamsburg Christian Academy, Webmaster
Vacant, Blue Ridge Representative
Dick Kemper, VISAA President
Donna Satterwhite, VISAA

Location:
Christiansburg Aquatic Center, Christiansburg, VA

Agenda:
1. Ways to Improve the State Meet
2. Future State Meet Locations
3. Elections
4. Next Meeting

Decisions/Conclusions:
A. Ways to Improve the State Meet
   1. We had a brief discussion on how to improve the Meet. Comments included:
      i. Post meet programs for Prelims on the walls around the pool
      ii. Improve the ability of the swimmers to hear the Starter by attempting to turn up the volume

B. 2018 State Championship Meet
   1. Pools are getting much more difficult to get on the third weekend in February each year because VHSL has starting signing multi-year contracts.
      i. In the past, we’ve tried to rotate the meet location around the State, but that is now proving to be impractical
      ii. Five years ago, we made an agreement with the Collegiate Aquatic Center to go there every third year
         1. The manager reneged on this verbal agreement and signed a 5-year contract with VHSL without talking to us first.
         2. Apparently, the major VISAA contributors to the pool’s construction have attempted to intervene, but it is too late.
   2. Other pool options have also evaporated:
i. UVa – their coach will not adjust his practice schedule at all to accommodate our meet schedule
ii. Christiansburg – they signed a 4-year contract for a week long meet that crosses the third weekend in February
iii. Liberty University – the pool will not be ready until 2019
iv. Freedom Center – could be a last resort option but their scoreboard and timing systems continue to be extremely unreliable
v. Patriot Center at GMU – costs $5,000 more than any other Virginia options

3. Fortunately, a new pool opened up last year in Stafford County that can readily accommodate our meet.
   i. The State Championship meet for both 2018 and 2019 will be at the **new Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center in Stafford, VA** with whom we now have a two-year contract
      1. The meets will be on Friday and Saturday, February 16-17, 2018 and February 15-16, 2019.
      2. The pool is a Olympic sized pool with:
         - A good location off of I-95 near the center of the State
         - Plenty of deck space and a separate gymnasium for swimmers
         - Plenty of continuous warm-up/warm-down space
         - Seating and parking for 800 spectators
   ii. Beyond 2020, we will also have the option to take advantage of the beautiful new facility they are building at Liberty University.
      i. Our hope is to move the meet to Liberty for at least two years from 2020 to 2021
      ii. Having the meet in the same location multiple years makes it much easier on the meet hosts because so many of the logistical details do not change from year-to-year.

C. Elections

   1. Our By-Laws stipulate that, in odd-numbered years, our committee has elections for President, Secretary and Meet Coordinator
      i. Greg Guldin was unanimously re-elected as the VISAA Swimming President
      ii. Jim Koehr was unanimously re-elected as the VISAA Swimming President
      iii. The election for Meet Coordinator was postponed until May so that possible candidates have time to consider the level of commitment required
         1. As we’ve made more improvements to the State meet over the past eight (8) years or so, it has become far more complicated to execute.
         2. In response to this need, the Meet Coordinator position has gradually evolved into a Meet Coordination “Team” rather than just an individual
            - For instance, both Greg Guldin and Jim Koehr worked together as the Meet Coordinators and multiple other coaches served as coordinators for various aspects of the meet such as awards or the senior parade
      3. Groups of coaches from both Northern Virginia and Fredericksburg are considering forming teams to run next year’s meet
         - Both Greg Guldin and Jim Koehr have agreed to provide guidance to any group that steps up to run next year’s meet.

D. State-Wide Meets for Next Season

   1. **Northern Virginia Catholic High School Invitational Championship – Saturday, January 13th, 2018** at the Freedom Center in Manassas, VA
a. Open to all Catholic High Schools in the northern half of Virginia  
b. Contact Coach Jim Koehr at Coach@KoehrFamily.com

2. **Seton Junior Varsity Invitational – Saturday, January 27th, 2018** at the Warrenton Aquatic and Recreation Center in Warrenton, VA. First warm-up at 3:00 pm.
   a. Open to swimmers grades 6 – 9 as well as older swimmers who do not normally score in varsity competition.
   b. Contact Coach Jim Koehr at Coach@KoehrFamily.com

3. **VISAA Division II Invitational – Saturday, February 3rd, 2017** at the Freedom Center in Manassas, VA
   a. Open to all VISAA Division II schools
   b. Championship meet environment with medals in each event plus team trophies
   c. Up to 4 entries per individual event per team
   d. Contact Coach Jim Koehr at Coach@KoehrFamily.com

4. **VISAA State Swimming and Diving Championships – Friday and Saturday, February 16-16, 2018** at the Jeff Rouse Swim and Sport Center, Stafford, VA
   a. Per our updated By-Laws, the final meet announcement will be posted by 6:00 p.m. on the 2nd Monday in January.

### Actions:

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### Next Meeting:
Friday, April 28, 2017 at St. Christopher’s School, Richmond, VA