

VSI Sr Champs Survey Results

Dear Coaches,

Below are the results of the survey that was passed out at Senior Champs.

1. **What type of swim meet is Sr Champs for you?** Check all that apply

Short Course Sr Champs

- Training meet (5)
- Qualifier meet for high level meets (13)
- End of season championship meet (11)

Long Course Sr Champs

- Training meet (4)
- Qualifier meet for high level meets (10)
- End of season championship meet (12)

Comments: _____

2. **Sr Champ Time Standards.** The Time standards are based on limiting events to a specific amount of heats for each event. With the exception of the distance freestyle events, all events are treated equal. That is, same amount of heats for 50 free as 400/500 free even though time wise 8 heats of 50 free and 8 heats of 400/500 free do not equate. The question is this, do you believe the Sr Champs Time Standards are:

- Too fast? (3)
- Too slow? (3)
- Just right? (13)

Comments: 1. Loosen standards for short course only. 2. AAA time standards across the board. 3. 500, 400 IM and distance events too slow 4. Off bonus events like sectionals _____

3. **Should we move Senior Champs to December?** By moving this meet to December we would be following USA Swimming's lead that Short Course season is Sept-Dec and Long Course season is January-August. By moving the meet to December we would be offering a true championship meet for our older kids in the December, something that has been missing for the past two years. If we moved the meet to December we would still offering a championship style meet in March but it would now be considered a qualifier meet for Sectionals and NCSA Jr. Nationals. Time standards for this spring meet would revert to the 15-16 AA standard. Would you like to see Sr Champs moved to December?

- Yes (8)
- No (11)

Comments: 1. Any chance for LC meets after December would be great. 2. Tried this before and it did not work. Need 80-90% support to consider a change. 3. I don't agree with the 3 month short course season. I am preparing my swimmers for college swimming. _____

4. Preliminary format for Senior Champs.

Dual courses for short course and chase starts for long course? If we did this the time standards would be loosen some as we can accommodate more swimmers.

- Yes (9)
- No (8)
- Maybe (1)
- No response (1)

Comments: 1. Can the officials handle this? 2. Dual courses for SC but no chase starts in LC. Offer bonus events

5. Do you like the current format for the 400 IM and 400/500 free where we swim the top four heats of women's and men's first and then the rest of the heats after?

- Yes (14)
- No (3)
- No opinion (1)
- No response (1)

Comments: 1. Standard format or fastest to slowest.

6. To balance out the sessions, should we move a Saturday event to Sunday? Suggestions have been made to move either the 200 butterfly or the 200 breaststroke.

- Yes 200 fly (2) 200 breast (2) (circle one) Either (2)
- No (10)
- Alternative (1)
- No response (2)

Comments: 1. Alternative – match higher meets as much as possible. 2. If change is made switch the 200 relays, move the 200 breast and 50 free to Sunday and the 100 free to Saturday. 3. No change – keep Sunday short – 5 hour drive home! 4. Should split all long and short axis strokes.

7. For the past three Sr Champ long course meets and this most recent short course meet, the pool has been made available for general warm-ups on Thursday evening after the conclusion of the Thursday evening distance session. This warmup session has been sparsely used. (2 swimmers this summer). So, should we continue to pay for general warmup time for one hour at the conclusion of the distance session on Thursday evening?

- Yes (5)
- No (13)
- Undecided (1)

Comments: 1. Publicize more, not well known. 2. How much can one hour of pool time cost?

8. This season we moved time trials on Sunday from after prelims to after finals. One reason for doing this was to make sure we would have no scheduling issues with the 800 free on Sunday afternoon. Which one would you prefer?
- Prefer time trials on Sunday after prelims (5)
 - Prefer time trials on Sunday after finals (10)
 - No preference (1)
 - No response (2)
 - No Sunday time trials (1)

Comments: __1. **Be flexible, decide when we get the time line – common sense approach**

9. Distance events. Currently the 1500 freestyle is swum on Thursday evening, and the 800 freestyle on Sunday evening. Some coaches have suggested switching the events. The leading argument for this is that the 1500 on Thursday evening adversely affects the swimmers ability to swim strong on Friday am and possibly beyond. Advocates for keeping the 1500 where it is say that if you train enough you should not have any problems. Which would you prefer?
- 1500 freestyles on Thursday evening, 800 freestyles on Sunday afternoon (4)
 - 800 freestyles on Thursday evening, 1500 freestyles on Sunday afternoon (10)
 - Girl's 1500 free and Men's 800 free on Thurs evening, and Girl's 800 and Men's 1500 free on Sunday afternoon. We could also switch off every other year. (3)
 - Follow National format (1)
 - No response (1)

Comments: ____1. **If time allows, 1500 on Sunday.** 2. **Follow national format**_____

- 10a. Open or closed? Currently the VSI Senior Championship is a closed meet, open only to USA Swimmers registered in Virginia Swimming. Should we continue this practice?
- Yes (15)**
 - No (4)*

- 10b. If we open the meet to swimmers outside of Virginia Swimming should we add a fourth heat, a second bonus heat to finals?
- Yes (5)
 - No (12)
 - Don't open the meet (1)
 - No response (1)

Comments: * **charge them more, VSI swimmers less.**
 ** **I would rather have slower standards and more VSI swimmers than open the meet up. 4th heat for VSI swimmers only**

Suggestions on how to make Sr Champs a better meet for the swimmers?

1. Insure adequate warm-up / cooldown. (3)
2. Go back to the Triangle Aquatic Center. (3)
3. Score all three heats so that being in the bonus heat is a bigger deal and less people scratch
4. Award ceremonies after events
5. Consider the University of Maryland facility.
6. Should flight prelims.
7. Put breaks between every event at finals.
8. VSI should financially support the meet to decrease the fees.
9. Consider location for “fairness” for all team traveling – either centralize or rotate according to population and density of swimmers.
10. Water jugs on deck at 4 corners.
11. Ask Athletes Committee
12. Officials are running the prelims too slow. Too much time between heats.