Virginia LMSC Safety Chair Report

October, 2012

Jim Miller, MD FAAFP/Sports Medicine

Open Water Events: There were two sanctioned Open Water Events......Jack King and Chris Greene Lake. Both submitted safety reports with contingencies of medical action plans both in the water, one the beachfront, evacuation and tertiary care. While this was not a new requirement for Chris Greene, it was new for the event director of the Jack King event. After discussion as to the requirements, the event director was fully compliant in all aspects.

Recommendation: While I realize that this is outside the usual purview of the Safety Chair, I believe that we all should be looking for opportunities within our LMSC. We have an opportunity to grow open water events in our LMSC. The Virginia LSC currently holds several open water events. While it has been the case historically that the Masters events set the stage for age group events, the reverse could also be considered. The LSC open water requirements mirror those that Masters have, so sanctioning, as it pertains to meeting safety standards, should be relatively easy.

Pool Events: All pool events have safety marshals in place. Do the event directors feel that the safety marshals have a sense of their responsibilities? Is there a document outlining the role of the Safety Marshall? I have not seen any emergency action plans for pool events. Is it the wish of the LMSC to have these reviewed also?