

# Virginia LMSC Top 10 and Records *Annual Report 2013*

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*Submitted by Chris Stevenson, LMSC Top 10 & Records chair (Oct 2013)*

## **General Comments**

Compared to previous years, there were fewer new developments in technology or rules that affected the Top 10 Recorder position, but there were a few.

A more concerted effort to centralize pool length certifications. All current certifications are available online: <http://www.usms.org/~rectabs/poollengthdb.xls>. The Top 10 Recorders from all LMSCs were reminded several times throughout the year to check this list for accuracy and to submit new pool length certifications to Walt Reid for inclusion in the list.

The Virginia entries on the current list seem to be in order. There are several facilities that have been added in the last two years and have hosted sanctioned events: the CSAC/GRAP facility in Richmond, the Christiansburg Aquatic Center in Christiansburg, the GMU Freedom Aquatic & Fitness Center in Manassas, and the Brock Sports & Rec Center in Ashland. All but the last of these facilities have movable bulkheads whose placement must be verified by measurements at the competition. For many years the majority of competitions in the LMSC were performed in pools with fixed walls, so no additional measurements were required; meet hosts need to be aware of the measurement rules for Top 10 eligibility. A common misconception is that meeting USA-S requirements is sufficient for USMS purposes, but that perception is not always correct: USMS does not blindly accept facilities that are on the USA-S list of certified pools.

Eventually the USMS list of certified pools will become a web-based database that can be queried by visitors and will be linked to E2EEM. Meet hosts who apply for sanction (online sanctioning is part of E2EEM) will automatically be made aware of the measurement requirements for Top 10 eligibility for their event.

There is a new rule that will affect the sanctioning process: beginning Jan 1, all meet information must include a statement about the measurement status of the competition course. As a requirement of sanction, one of the following statements must be included (the wording must be matched exactly) in the meet information:

- The length of the competition course without a bulkhead is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1
- The length of the competition course has been measured and is NOT in compliance with USMS articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1: times achieved in the meet will NOT be eligible for USMS Top 10 and Records.
- The length of the competition course is not on file with USMS. Eligibility of times achieved in this meet will be contingent upon pool length measurement and approval with USMS; if bulkheads are present, their placement must also be confirmed by measurements at the meet. (USMS articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1).

- The length of the competition course is in compliance and on file with USMS in accordance with articles 105.1.7 and 107.2.1, but as a bulkhead course, is subject to length confirmation. Eligibility of times for USMS Top 10 and Records will be contingent on verification of bulkhead placement.

Again, these rule changes will take effect on Jan 1, 2014; however, meets that are sanctioned NOW but will be held in 2014 need to include one of these statements.

## By the Numbers

In the last three complete seasons (SCY13, SCM12, LCM12), here is how the LMSC fared. As a reminder, the seasons are June 1 thru May 31 for SCY, Oct 1 thru Sept 30 for LCM and Jan 1 thru Dec 31 for SCM.

Season	USMS Top 10	USMS #1	FINA Top 10	FINA #1	LMSC Records	ZRs/NRs/WRs
SCY 2013	122	13	n/a	n/a	85	2/1/-
SCM 2012	111	23	40	5	51	9/2/0
LCM 2012	90	10	14	0	44	7/0/0

The above tallies combine relay and individual performances. Note that times from Recognized meets (notably Senior Games and USA-S meets) are not eligible for inclusion in FINA Top 10.

In the year 2012 there were also: 10 pool individual All-Americans, 14 pool relay All-Americans, and four long distance All-Americans. All-American status is awarded at the end of the year to a swimmer finishes ranked #1 in at least one event in his/her age group. In 2012 we also had four All-Stars: one pool, three long distance. All-Stars are swimmers who had the most top-ranked swims in his/her age-group.

The LMSC website lists all of these details and more. Since FINA does not provide its rankings in a format that can easily be sorted, filtered and searched, it can be hard for LMSC members to see how they did on the world stage. I have gone through FINA Top 10 listings since 2007 to look for LMSC members who were world-ranked; this involves taking the national rankings and searching manually for the swims in the FINA listings. This information is available in printable form on our website; a long-term project is to import the information into a web-based database that can be sorted, searched and filtered by visitors (for example, if you wanted to look at your world rankings in a particular event over the years).

For the past few years I have scored a “mythical national championship” based on the Top 10 times, mostly for my amusement and to see how our LMSC has fared. The results are listed at <http://www.vaswim.org/mythical-champs/>. I am not sure how much interest there is in these listings and may discontinue them.

Since 2006, I have been attempting to assign meets and dates to all LMSC records (partly for quality control purposes). There are currently 1448 individual LMSC records: 84.9% of them have a specific meet identified for them, and 96.7% of them have a date associated with them. There are 227 relay LMSC records: 82.4% of them have a meet assigned and 90.7% of them have a date.