



Len Everett Sportsmanship – Coaching Excellence Award

The purpose of the Greater Richmond Aquatic League is to promote the sport of summer swimming and to provide an opportunity for young people to compete against others of similar ability in an atmosphere of fair play, good sportsmanship and safety. This mission is accomplished each year by the coordinated efforts of many people. It is the coach, however, who has the greatest opportunity to fulfill this mission and who ultimately has the greatest impact on the experience each swimmer has in our league.

The GRAL Excellence in Coaching Award is voted on by the league’s coaches. It is designed to recognize the effort of our most outstanding coaches. Its purpose is to inspire coaches to strive for excellence in the job they do at practices, meets, and all activities in which he or she is involved. Because the role and tasks of coaching a team rarely falls upon the shoulders of a single individual, this award is given to the coaching staff that best exemplifies the mission and high standards which GRAL seeks to achieve.

Some of the criteria that is considered when voting includes the coaching staff’s effectiveness and display of:

- Fair play and good sportsmanship
- Technical knowledge and skill development
- Knowledge of league rules and regulations and adherence to the spirit and intent of the rules
- Willingness to help others
- Respect for other coaches, officials, parents, and individual swimmers
- Professional demeanor and attitude at all times

Simply put, this award is one in which a coach’s peers recognize and express their appreciation for a job well done. Former recipients of the Coaching Award are:

The Excellence in Coaching Award was established in 2006. At the end of each Season, each Club's Coaching Staff shall cast a single first and second place vote and each Club’s Board Members or Parent Reps also cast a vote. A Club cannot vote for themselves. If a Coaching staff does not cast a vote, that staff shall not be eligible to win this award. At Champs, the winning Coaches are recognized and presented with an award for their efforts.

Year	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4	Division 5
2022	Church Run	Kings Charter	Atlee	Old Church	
2021	No Award due to majority of league running virtual meets				
2020	No Award due to condensed league and all virtual meets				
2019	Ashland	Kings Charter	Old Church	Battlefield Green	
2018	Twin Hickory	Wellesley	Tuckahoe Village West	Old Church	Goochland YMCA
2017	AshCreek	Kings Charter	Atlee	Wembly	
2016	AshCreek	Kings Charter	Fox Hall	Battlefield Green	

Year	Division 1	Division 2	Division 3	Division 4	Division 5
2015	Church Run	Kings Charter	Fox Hall	Old Church	
2014	AshCreek	Pebble Creek	Wembly	Tuckahoe Village	
2013	West: Dominion Club East: AshCreek	West: Wembly East: Atlee			
2012	West: Canterbury East: Pebble Creek	West: Tuckahoe Village East: Old Church			
2011	West: Twin Hickory East: Ashland	West: Dolphin Club East: Old Church			
2010	West: Church Run, Colonies East: AshCreek	Wembly, Dolphin Club			
2009	West: Church Run East: Ashland	West: Rockville East: Old Church			
2008	Hungary Creek	Pebble Creek, Milestone, Tuckahoe Village West	Rockville		
2007	Wyndham	Ashland	Short Pump		
2006	Church Run, Twin Hickory	Ashland, Fox Hall	Tuckahoe Village West	Mechanicsville	