

GA SWIMMING BOD MINUTES
April 18th, 2015
Sonesta Gwinnett Place, Duluth, GA

Members:

Stu Hixon, General Chair	Rob Shreer, Officials Chair
Stephen Potter, Admin Vice Chair	Gary Theisen, Treasurer
Emille Williams, Secretary	Nyasha Pace, Safety Chair
Bill Forrester, Senior Chair ABSENT	Andrew Tang, Athlete Rep
David Weeks, Age Group Chair	Darby Wayner, Athlete Rep ABSENT
Jamey Myers, Coach Chair	Naomy Grand' Pierre, Athlete-at-Large
Jonathan Foggin, Technical Planning Chair	Ethan Young, Athlete-at-Large ABSENT
PJ Keller, Executive Director	

Meeting Called to Order at 5:15pm by Stu Hixon, General Chair.

ADMINISTRATION:

- **SWIMS/TOP 16** – Emille Williams indicated that all meets are being uploaded with no issues.

No discussion regarding Top 10.

- **REGISTRATION** –Lora not present to present report. However, Stu presents report from Lora.

At this point, 8,322 overall registrations. Last year was higher, but it was also a bit inflated. SwimAtlanta dropped 1,500 but some other drop off as well.

- **RECORDS-SWIMS DATA-CERTIFICATES** – PJ reported that Bud Bullock is volunteering and updating records. According to PJ, he is doing a great job and all seems to be up to date.

- **BOARD OF REVIEW** – Stu indicates that Board of Review disappeared January 1st, 2015. BOD doesn't need to vote on Board of Review members and Steve making needed changes. The Zone Board asked GA Swimming to give 3 names 1) George Ways, 2) Darby, 3) Stu couldn't recall.

- **ALL STAR TOWELS** – Steve states that number of towels increased from last season. Athletes voted on color and Stu thinks voting on color helped with sales. Towels will arrive at 11am Sunday.

- **ATHLETE PROTECTION** – Stu indicates that all LSCs had to have Safe Sport and comply and that we need to do better. Ceci Christy from Dynamo, a Child Protection Advocate Attorney, will be presenting before the HOD meeting.
- **BOD AND RULES MANUALS UPDATES – Red Line Bylaws**
 - **BOD/HOD Meeting Structure**
 - Spring Meetings are Saturday and Sunday. Fall Meeting can be 1 day. Change includes what we already have been doing, but clarifies that it can be done.
 - Per diem for convention is \$50/day. Weeks asks if it is \$50/day for Zones. Answer is no.
 - **Motion approved, no opposition.**
 - **Meet entry fees (sanctioned and exceptions)**
 - Time Trials at Championship meets are set by host team.
 - Divisional team list to be updated
 - **Motion approved, no opposition.**
 - State Bidding Change
 - Being voted on by HOD and if passes Steve will figure out where it goes.
 - **Motion to amend/add paragraph into Rules and Regulations Approved, no opposition.**
 - Jamey asked about Unattached swimmers participating at State Meets; hard to collect fees and insurance/liability rest on host team. Gary says unattached coaches can still be on deck, swimmers legal and can swim. Stu is asked where liability falls, and he says not definitive but that's not an issue; host team isn't liable.

PJ asked if swimmers can be unattached but not represent a team. Jonathan said that Weeks was asked to get clarification and Weeks says no answer from USA Swimming. Jonathan says he doesn't agree with completely unattached swimmers because teams are backbone of LSC.

Rob suggests that it be changed in meet information eligibility. PJ states that LSC's have that rule. Jonathan said that he will address it in technical planning next meeting. Gary clarifies that just because an LSC is practicing, it doesn't make it ok.

FINANCE (Gary Theisen presented)

- **2014 BUDGET STATUS** – To date, 54% of fiscal year to date. Registration is biggest hit. To GA Swimming, the bottom line income change is \$29k.

Junior National expense, GA Swimming should have a surplus and David says Zones transportation will be underbudget. Next year, Olympic Trials is always an expensive year.

SENIOR (Stu presented)

- Stu introduced Neil Harper, who was present, as the person who would be running unopposed as the new Senior Chair at the HoD meeting on Sunday.
- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NEW?** – Lim, Beth, Mike Wordell, J. Hike (Stu unsure), Naomy, Andrew Tang, and Ethan Young. Bill Forrester not staying on committee.
- **TIME STANDARDS** – No changes made
- **SENIOR LC/SC STATE MEET INFORMATION** – SC State at GA Tech December 4-6th, 2015. SA/LA jointly hosting.
- **OUTREACH** – 40 swimmers, which is an increase from the past.
- **OPEN WATER** – No discussion.
- **MASTERS** – No discussion.
- **HALL OF FAME** – No discussion.

Stu looks forward to Neil taking over. Neil plans to reach out about Open Water, Masters, and Hall of Fame, so there are items to report.

Hall of Fame was discussed to see what obligation was for GA Swimming. Emille looked through minutes and found nothing in the minutes that outlined the details.

AGE GROUP (David Weeks presented)

- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NEW?** – David Weeks has two new committee members, and they are Mary Buzeta and Sydney Pepper. Waiting on 2/3 athletes to join committee.
- **TIME STANDARDS** – David Weeks states that standards are being discussed and voted on at Fall LSC meeting. The proposed standards should be available in a week and posted on the website.
- **AG LC STATE MEET INFORMATION** – July 16-19th at GA Tech.
- **AG SC STATE MEET** – 14 & Un Meet, lots of discussion on Friday night/timelines. Announcer of meet helps meet run smoothly. Age Group Committee approved SC State Champs to be hosted by SCAT February 19-21st at GA Tech.

Executive Directors proposal for State Meet format (11 year olds separate, 12 year old separate, 13-14 year olds A/B final and C final for only 13 year olds) was voted on by committee and passed.

- **ZONES** – Zones Open Water is separate from Zones. Held June 5-7th. North Carolina LSC holding event so swimmers can attend. Weeks still looking into details. Jamey suggested piggy backing on to that meet for GA Swimming Zones Open Water Champs.

May 1st is deadline for applications. Team leaves Monday, August 3rd in Tupelo, Mississippi. Team staying at Hilton Garden Inn, which is 1 mile from pool. Pat Murphy is Head Coach.

- **Motion approved, no opposition.**

COACHES (Jamey Myers presented)

Jamey is the new Coaches Chair.

- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NEW?** – No discussion.
- **2014 BANQUET** - Stu took care of and there are about 60 more than last year
- **CAMPS** – Looking into holding select camps
- **Coach of Year** – Jason Turcotte (Senior) and Bill Forrester (Age Group)
 - Weeks wants awards to be subjective and not objective and not just 1 fast swimmer. Jamey says awards are based on Top 10 records, and he is open to having a 3rd category. Neil agrees with David. PJ asks who will track data. Weeks suggests taking nominations. Stu says is changed a year or two ago because ASCA was naming “Coach of the Year”, and GA Swimming had different ones.

PJ suggested doing a percentage of swimmers in meet and percentage in top 10 at meet as a way of naming the award. Stu concludes saying Coaches Committee certainly can discuss and encourages Jamey to take suggestions and figure out what is best and that this is an example of why committees need to be interactive all year long.

- **MISC** – Number of disability athletes in GA 40-45. Open Water and Disability are two items on the website that need information (very scarce).

TECHNICAL PLANNING (Jonathan Foggin presented)

- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NEW?** – Neil Harper, Wes Hamborg, Pike Hightower, and Michael Norment.
- **New Business** – Committee addressed meets running concurrent with State Champs meet and voted that it is ok if agreed to by Age Group and Senior Committee.

Proposal brought up by Executive Director about running State Champs. Executive Director will maintain meet information. Technical Planning asked Executive Director for more information about sponsorship.

SC 2015 Bids – Meet bids being sent by PJ tonight, so it can be voted on by the HOD.

- **Motion to Present Policy About Meets Being Held Along With State & Meet Bids – All Approve, no opposition.**

ATHLETES (Naomy presented)

- No rules to how a team selects athlete reps to attend the LSC meeting. All teams get 1. Teams was 200-400 swimmers get 2 and over 400 swimmers get 3. Athletes want teams to choose Athlete Rep now, so they can attend September meeting. Naomy says that athlete committee can be created by July '15, but they need the coaches to tell them who that person is. From there, Naomy and Darby can take over. If teams don't pick Athlete Rep, they are losing their vote for JR Rep.
- Jonathan doesn't think swim meet is best venue to hold election. Stu says coaches/teams must appoint Athlete Rep. Steve says to change ways JR/SR Rep handled would be a By Law change. Naomy can change it by September.

OFFICIALS (Rob Schreer presented)

- **COMMITTEE MEMBERS – NEW?** – Looking to make changes to committee in the fall and based on attendance at meetings.
- **RECRUITING/RETENTION/MENTORING – PLAN** – Still a work in progress. Willing to go out to clubs and parent meetings.
- **SWIM MEET MANUAL** – Ed Saltzman worked on that and Rob sending all Board of Directors an electronic copy. This document helps people who have never run a meet.
- **4 HOUR RULE** – Number of sessions exceeding 4 hours has declined but occasionally does happen.
- **TRAINING** – Training coordinator, Steve Drew, resigned. Bruce Adams is new Training Coordinator. It is continuing and clubs can contact Rob to be training. Rob proposes for him and officials to be compensated \$.26/mile to drive to training. Rob will submit proposal to budget.
- **PROGRAMMING OF OTS** – Official's cards will be designed on OTS and will be reissued to every official in December 2016.
- **SAFETY** – Stu told Nyasha she wouldn't have to report today. In June, Nyasha is attending meeting.

Officials didn't know that incident reports weren't being sent to LSC when they submitted it to USA Swimming. Therefore, GA Swimming doesn't have a proper report. Rob will remind officials to submit to GA Swimming. Stu asked Rob and Nyasha to trade emails.

OLD BUSINESS (Stu Hixon presented)

- No discussion.

NEW BUSINESS (PJ Keller presented)

- Board of Directors has editing access to website. With questions, contact PJ. Or, PJ can do it for you if you send it to him.
- August 8th – USA Swimming Tour, Swimjitzu, is visiting Atlanta. No site picked yet. Event will help recruit swimmers to start swimming and help recruiting for all

USA Swimming teams. USA Swimming is doing all the work and all teams in LSC are invited to come and talk to swimmers/parents.

- ASCA – Fellows Program October 23rd. Age Group clinics being held in ATL. No site yet.
- PJ appreciated feedback about State Champs proposals and said there is a big learning curve.

MISC (Stu Hixon presented)

- **September 2015 Meeting/Date/Location** – September 12th, 2015 at Sonesta Gwinnett Place. 1 day meeting.

Meeting Adjourned for Executive Session at 6:53pm by Stu Hixon, General Chair

Board of Directors Meeting reconvened at 7:34pm by Stu Hixon, General Chair

Meeting Adjourned at 7:35pm by Stu Hixon, General Chair

Submitted for approval by GA LSC Secretary, Emille Williams

GA SWIMMING HOD MINUTES
April 19th, 2015
Sonesta Gwinnett Place, Duluth, GA

Meeting Called to Order at 10:06am by Stu Hixon, General Chair.

1. Roll Call – Emille Williams, Secretary

ABSC	GOLD
ASL	HURR
CAD	LINS
CBF	NGA
CCAC	RAYS
CW	SA
DAQ	SUMM
DYNA	TARA
GA	TCS
GIST	WRA

2. Review of Minutes (presented by Emille Williams) – BOD and HOD Minutes from September 2014 were posted online for review. Floor asked if any changes needed. None mentioned – **MOTION TO ACCEPT-PASSED, NO OPPOSITION**

Stu discusses PJ's employment as Executive Director was terminated April 18th due to a discrepancy on his qualifications. Stu explains that PJ did so much for GA Swimming in a short time and that he has big shoes to fill. The search for an Executive Director will begin and position will be filled as quickly as possible.

3. Registration (Lora Thompson not present) – No discussion.

4. Financial Report (presented by Gary Theisen) – At this time, GA Swimming is operating at a \$31k surplus. However, we get a lot of income at beginning of fiscal year, so surplus will drop. Floor asks about Futures Meet, and Gary states that no line for futures meet in budget at this time.

5. Committee Reports

Administrative –

- Stu explains that things in GA Swimming are going well. Coaches need to talk to teams to get Athlete Reps. This is a great way to get swimmers involved. For teams that don't have an Athlete Rep, ask a freshman to come to meeting in the fall. Progression would be to attend meetings during freshman and sophomore year and by Junior and Senior year, they would be ready to be an Athlete-At-Large Rep and Senior Rep.

- Sanctions (presented by Pete Junkins) – 59 sanctions this year, and we have improved getting sanctions in on time. Sanctions no longer include Splashes. Instead, it is number of entries. Entry summary from Hy-Tek must be included with check to Gary.

45 days prior to the meet, you must get sanction request to Pete. At very least, include Meet Referee.

15 days before meet, get names of all other meet admin, stroke/turn, etc. (4 total) to Pete. If names change from sanction papers, that's ok.

USA Swimming requires all 4 officials to issue sanction and Pete is being lenient and only required Meet Referee.

You can't change sessions or event once the meet has been sanctioned. If changes are needed, must go back through sanctioning for approval.

- Records/Top 16 (presented by Emille Williams) – Emille says that meets are being uploaded into SWIMS with ease. Only glitch is with High School meets. In those cases, if match cannot be made with certainty, it must be deleted. Therefore, if one of your swimmers doesn't have those times in SWIMS, let me know, and I can manually add it.
- All-Star Towels (presented by Steve) – Pick up towels today from Wes after HOD meeting. Towel purchases are up from last season.
- Board of Review (presented by Stu) – USA Swimming changed Board of Review and now not handled within GA Swimming. Instead, there is a Zone Board of Review and GA has 3 members. If the Zone gets a Board of Review complaint, they then form a panel of 3 members from the pool of people from each LSC. Each LSC has three members in the pool.

AGE GROUP (presented by David Weeks)

- Athlete Reps to be named shortly. Two members have been added, Mary Buzeta and Sydney Pepper.
- 21 State SCY records broken this year.
- Time Standards are being worked on for 2016 and posted on website shortly (2-3 weeks).
- Gwinnett Aquatics hosting LC State Champs at GA Tech Thursday through Sunday.
- If a tragic event/injury happens to one of your members, please contact LSC, so it can be posted on the website and help provided.
- Zones Open Water Meet – June 4-6th hosted by North Carolina LSC. Swimmers and clubs will be accepted to that Championship meet. Meet information will be on the website.
 - Hugh asked who is updating the website. Weeks says Stu, and Steve says he will also.

Zones – Head Coach is Pat Murphy. Information on website. A reminder to get applications in for the meet. Deadline is May 1st. Disability athletes will be scored.

- Disability – (Glenda presented) 16 states represented at US Paralympics. GA has two athletes on World Team and two athletes on Para-American team. With questions about how to officiate disability athletes at meets, ask Glenda.
- BOD approved that SCAT is hosting 2016 SCY State Champs Meet, February 19-21st. Executive Director's proposal, starting in 2016, will have following format for finals session:
 - 11 year old Final
 - 12 year old Final
 - 13-14 – A and B final combined 13-14 swimmers and C final only 13 year olds.

SENIOR (Bill Forrester not present; Stu presented)

- Committee regrouping and going forward.
- No problems with Senior State Champs in December. Senior State held December 4th-6th at GA Tech and hosted by SA/LA (only bidders).
- Open Water – Ed Saltzman presented. Six events for this year open to USA Swimming members. Swim For Your Life is unsanctioned.
- Masters – Saltzman presented. Coaches Certification Clinics being offered to help with coaching Masters swimmers and increase revenue. Ask if have questions.

ATHLETES (presented by Naomi Grand 'Pierre)

- Darby unable to make it.
- Athletes used Instagram and Facebook to choose colors for towel. First year athletes have chosen towel color.
- Every team needs to assign an Athlete Rep, which will make up the Athlete's Committee. Naomi and Darby need to get that from coaches ASAP.
- Senior Times need to be updated to catch up with 13-14 times.
- State Champs Finals – Swimmers want to walk out and get names called and would prefer to that over medals/podium.
- All committees need athletes on them.

COACHES (presented by Jamey Myers)

- Jamey took over in December.
- Camps – Lucas and Jonathan working on holding them.
- Coach of the Year – Jason Turcotte (SR) and Bill Forrester (AG).

TECHNICAL PLANNING (presented by Jonathan Foggin)

- Committee discussed issue of meets running same weekend as LSC Champs. That has always been an unwritten rule and has now been listed.
- Board and Directors agreed that wording will be added to Rules and Regulations. Saltzman says that Referee will be hard to secure and Jonathan says teams need to better recruits for refs.
 - **Motion to Approve – No Opposition**
- State meet information being standardized was agreed upon by the Board of Directors.
 - Lucas doesn't like working of 4.5.1 but Jonathan says it was already approved but Steve says it is being added to Rules and Regs, so the HOD is voting.
 - **Motion for Acceptance/Rejection**
 - Lucas makes friendly amendment to keep 4.5.1 but strike 1st sentence.
 - **Motion to Approve Amendment as revised – No Opposition**

Emille had to leave due to a family emergency, so Mary Buzeta recorded notes for the remainder of the meeting.

- Meet bids – discussed and approved meets.
 - **Motion to Approve**
 - Jonathon Foggin made note of a change in the date of the Dynamo- Metro Divisional Meet because they did not want to run a meet the same weekend as Juniors which they are hosting. Also noted was that the Southeast Divisional Meet was moved to January and remainder of Divisional Meets are set for March. A couple of clubs changed minor details like prices of meet fees (i.e. Sunsational Invitational). It was noted that the SR. Sectional meet is in long course. Then the current schedule was approved by HOD.
 - **Motion-Second, Vote-approved no opposition.**

OFFICIALS (presented by Rob Schreer)

- He gave some statistics - approximately 250 Officials in GA swimming. 54 Referees, 27 starters 121 stroke/turn and 142 - clerk of course.
- New Officials Training Coordinator is Bruce Adams
- Recruitment for Officials need to be club based. If you want help at your parents meeting then just ask, they can send an official to help recruit parents.
- Non-athlete official registration to be done again in the fall.
- Introduced Nyasha Pace who is the new LSC safety chair.

NEW BUSINESS (presented by Stu Hixon)

- No Board of Directors agenda items.
- The passage of By Law Changes, Passage of Rules & Regulations Changes and the Passage of Policies & Procedures were all approved. The new documents will be posted to the web soon.
- From the floor a question was posed about the process by which these two documents (Policies & Procedures and Rules & Regs) are amended. It was stated that the amendments were supposed to come from HOD, General Chair was going to find out the process for future amendments.

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND ELECTIONS (presented by Stu Hixon)

- Athlete Reps - Naomi Grand Pierre and Darby Wayner, SR. Group Chair- Bill Forrester and Secretary - Emille Williams were recognized and thanked for their outstanding service and efforts in their positions. Elected positions were approved which included: SR. Group Chair - Neil Harper- ASL, Secretary - Kim Seaman- RAYs and General Chair - Stu Hixon
- A question was posed about who picks the Nominating Committee. Is it supposed to be elected by the HOD? This discussion was going to be continued in the fall because it sounded like based on By Laws the committee should be elected by HOD not appointed.

*Meeting Adjourned at 11:54am by Stu Hixon, General Chair
Next Meeting September 12th, 2015 at Sonesta Gwinnett Place*

Submitted for approval by GA LSC Secretary, Emille Williams