



**BOD Minutes**  
**HOD Meeting Fall 2015**  
**Sonesta Gwinnett Place, Duluth, GA**  
**September 12, 2015**  
*Failure to Prepare is Preparing to Fail*

*GA Swimming's mission is to provide a program designed to encourage Georgia athletes to pursue opportunities available through competitive swimming and to educate organizations of the benefits of GA Swimming.*

*GA Swimming's vision is to increase opportunity, recognition and growth in competitive swimming.*

**Members: (Those in attendance are in bold.)**

<b>Stu Hixon</b> (General Chair)	<b>Jonathan Foggin</b> (Technical Planning Chair)
<b>Stephen Potter</b> (Admin Vice Chair)	<b>Andrew Tang</b> (Senior Athlete Rep)
<b>Gary Theisen</b> (Treasurer)	<b>Hanna Lee</b> (Co-Junior Athlete Rep)
Kim Seaman (Secretary)	<b>Nate Wright</b> (Co-Junior Athlete Rep)
Beth Winkowski (Senior Chair)	Nyasha Pace (Safety Chair)
<b>Scot Davis</b> (Age Group Chair)	<b>Rob Schreer</b> (Officials Chair)
<b>Jamey Myers</b> (Coach Chair)	Ethan Young (Senior Athlete-at-Large)

**Administration:**

- SWIMS / Top 16 - Emille Report
  - No report
- Registration – Lora Thompson (presented by Stu Hixon)
  - 9,024 members (as of August 31)
  - 7,754 year-round athletes
  - 409 coaches
  - 315 officials
- Records – Swims Data- Certificates
  - Athletes receive plaques at the banquet for season records.
  - Should certificates be presented to those who broke records throughout the season, but could have been broken by the time of the banquet?

- Discussion: Award will stay as is, no certificates.
- All Star Towels – Stephen Potter
  - 1,044 earned last year; 700 ordered
  - 1,058 earned this year
  - Towel orders will be due November 15, 2015.
  - Towel colors this year are pink/grey as voted on by the athletes.
- Safe Sport Coordinator – Ceci Christy (presented by Stu Hixon)
  - Would like to provide a Safe Sport takeaway at State Championship meets.
- LEAP Registration – Stephen Potter
  - Passed Level 1 in 2013; does not have to be reviewed again until 2017
- Proposal for increase in Sanction Fees – Stu Hixon
  - Proposal to increase sanction fee from 6% to 7% to help fill current budget deficit for 2015-2016; approx. an additional .06 of every entry fee
  - Discussion: According to Stephen Potter, this option will have a greater financial impact and has long-term sustainability. Jamey Myers suggests if travel is our largest expense as an LSC, maybe we cut back on travel reimbursements. Many travel cuts were already made in the current proposed budget. Athletes reps believe the athletes who travel to these meets deserve the travel awards they receive.
  - Motion to approve sanction fee increase from 6% to 7% for the next year: Jamey Myers
  - Second: Stephen Potter
  - Motion to approve: Approved

**Finance:**

- 2014-15 Budget Status
  - No report
- 2015-16 Budget Discussion
  - A number of cuts were made, especially in the areas of All-Star Banquet, travel reimbursements.
  - New line item for webcasting State Championship meets.
  - Motion to approve 2015-2016 budget: Jonathan Foggin
  - Second: Rob Schreer
  - Motion to approve 2015-2016 budget: Approved

- Board will allow teams to adjust meet fees due to the sanction increase; Jonathan Foggin has approval to work with teams who have already been granted a sanction to change meet fees October 1 or later. All meets after October 1 will be at 7%.
- Expenditure Approvals / Contract Authorizations

**Senior: (Stu on behalf of Beth Winkowski)**

- Committee members – New? Approval
  - Not enough committee members present today at committee meeting for quorum.
- Time Standards
  - SC cuts will remain the same for 2015; LC cuts will be revisited to tighten and be presented by the end of September
- Senior LC/SC State Meet Information
  - Recommendations from the Senior Committee:
    - Alter format to move 400 Medley Relay to Friday with AM/PM option
    - 800 Free Relay to Sunday with prelims
    - Add 100 IM to SC Senior State starting this year; must have 200 qualifying time
    - Add qualifying times to 50's of each stroke to LC
    - Make qualifying period for the Senior state meet the first day of the meet the previous year.
      - Motion to make qualifying period 15 months prior to meet: Jonathan Foggin
      - Second: Andrew Tang
      - Motion to make qualifying period 15 months prior to meet: Approved
    - Motion to recommend Senior Committee to move check-in for distance events to Sunday, rather than Saturday: Jonathan Foggin
    - Second: Scot Davis
    - Motion to recommend Senior Committee to move check-in for distance events to Sunday, rather than Saturday: Approved
- Outreach
- Open Water
  - Nick Graves will be the new Open Water Committee Chair.
- Masters

- Will be discussed at House of Delegates
- Hall of Fame
  - In the budget for next year.

### **Age Group: (Scot Davis)**

- Committee members- New? Approval
- Time Standards
  - No change
- AG LC State Meet Information
  - 10 and Unders will run fastest to slowest by gender
  - Eliminate 800 Free Relay from both SC and LC meet (could be an optional time trial)
  - Move 400 Free Relay to Friday night finals
  - Gwinnett Aquatics to host LC meet, July 14-17

### **Coaches: (Jamey Myers)**

- Committee members- New? Approval
- 2016 Banquet – status and location?
  - April 16-17, 2016, Sonesta Hotel
- Camps

### **Technical Planning: (Jonathan Foggin)**

- Committee members- New? Approval
- SC 2015-16 changes
- LC 2016 Bids
  - Senior State to be hosted by Columbus Hurricanes, July 22-24
  - Gwinnett Aquatics to host LC meet, July 14-17
  - LC schedule was approved

### **Athletes: (Hanna Lee, Nate Wright, Andrew Tang)**

- Only about 5 of the 30+ designated Athlete Reps showed up for the meeting. Almost 20 athletes at the Athlete Committee meeting.
- Athletes still do not know what it means to be on the athlete committee. Need new ways to get the word out and show that it is a privilege.
- Show the benefits and perks of being an athlete representative.

### **Officials: (Rob Schreer)**

- Committee Members- New? Approval
- Recruiting / Retention / Mentoring – Status

- Will be discussed via conference call
- Swim meet manual
  - To be reviewed individually and voted on in the future to make public or not
- 4hour rule
  - Non-championship meets for 12 & Unders to be *planned* for 4 hours or less
- Training - Updated Certification requirements - Review of Clinics given since April 2015 meeting
  - Working on getting stroke and turn home school on the website, both on gaswim.org and Georgia Officials website
  - Officials will no longer receive/carry cards from USA Swimming on deck. Will be available through online service or Deck Pass.
- Programming of OTS
- Safety
  - Incident Report (September'14 – September'15)
  - 6 incidents of various injuries
  - Any organized team activity (dryland, practice, meet, etc) should be reported to USA Swimming.

### **Report by Executive Director:**

- Tasks being worked on by the ED thus far:
  - New logo design and voting
  - Streamlining social media and website
  - Working on LSC sponsorships
  - Administrative organization (setting up Google for Nonprofits and UberConference)

### **Old Business:**

- None

### **New Business:**

- Athlete Towels: Could we price out the towels to see if there is another option at a better quality and cheaper price?
  - Even with the price, the current vendor does the majority of the preparation and distribution.

### **Misc:**

- April '16 Meeting Date & Location

o April 16-17, 2016

Positions to be elected by the April 2015 HOD: Admin Vice-Chair ('18), Treasurer ('18), Age Group Vice-Chair ('18)

Positions to be elected by committee:

Jr. Athlete Representative – at 2016 Senior LC Meet

Nominating committee:

\*Current Nominating Committee: Pat Murphy GOLD-(Chair) Glenda Orth (RAYS), Kathleen Schmaltz ABSC, Andrew Tang, Senior Athlete Rep, Hanna Lee and Nate Wright, Co-Junior Athlete Reps, Pike Hightower RAYS, Bill Forrester GCAT

## **Adjourn**

Board reconvened at 3:41pm to discuss the LC Senior State Meet being hosted by Columbus due to facility concerns and lack of assurance that meet would not be postponed due to weather. Suggestion from Board for Senior Committee to discuss concerns with Columbus.

- Motion that Columbus will host meet contingent upon Senior Committee's satisfaction with answers to concerns: Gary Thiesen
- Second: Rob Schreer
- Motion Approved; Columbus will have 30 days to address the Committee's concerns (October 15)

Board discussion to set standard monthly meeting date.

Adjourned 3:50pm

# **Minutes for the Georgia House of Delegates Meeting**

## **Fall 2015**

The General Chair, Stu Hixon, called the meeting to order at 4:30 pm with a call of the roll. After a brief summary of administrative reports, he introduced Jessica Cooper as the new executive director and asked her to speak.

### **Executive Director**

Ms. Cooper stated that she had been on the job for 6 weeks. Her initial efforts had gone towards reorganizing the Georgia Swimming website, integrating it with social media, and rebranding the Georgia Swimming LSC with a new logo. She asked that the clubs help her by sending her newsworthy items for the web. She noted she had also been looking into the matter of sponsorships for LSC Championships and was hoping to have title sponsors lined up for the Long Course 2016 meets. She also set up a medium through which Committees can teleconference, the idea being that they could meet once a month. Pat Murphy asked about creating an archive section; Ms. Cooper stated that she was working with Team Unify on recovering information placed on the site by the prior Executive Director.

### **Budget**

Before presenting the budget, Mr. Hixon noted that there was going to be a shortfall this year due to a decline in athletes related to teams providing alternative insurance for non-competitive swimmers electing to not renew their USAS membership but who chose to continue practicing with the team.. He stated that when he and the Treasurer initially put together the budget, the LSC was over \$100,000 in the red. After reassessing numbers with they were able to draw that down to the \$48,000 range. To remedy this, they proposed to raise sanction fees from 6% to 7%. After much discussion, including inquiries about when the bylaws required the budget to be made public, a vote was taken and the motion passed. A motion was made by Rob Copeland to approve the budget as submitted, which was seconded by Ed Saltzman. A vote was taken and the motion passed.

### **Age Group**

Scot Davis was not able to stay for the HOD session, so the Age Group report was given by Lucas Ferreira. Coach Ferreira reported that there were a number of changes to the Age Group Meet information, including the decision to eliminate the 800 Free Relay from the meet. Coach Murphy asked for the rationale behind this decision. Coach Ferreira stated that it had to do with the number of 200s already on that day, and that the timelines were simply too long. Having removed the 800 Free Relay from the meet, the Committee then moved the 400 Free Relay to its spot in the Friday evening session. The Committee also decided to leave time standards alone for the upcoming season. There were two bids for the meet, one from Dynamo and one from Gwinnett Aquatics. The bid was won by Gwinnett. After Coach Ferreira stepped down, Mr. Hixon asked Coach Murphy to speak about the Zone meet. Coach

Murphy stated it was one of the highlights of his coaching career. He recognized his staff, and commended in particular Sydney Pepper for her work as team administrator. He spoke movingly about the Georgia team and their effort, despite the fact that they did not succeed in bringing back the championship for the fourth time in a row. He stated that the LSC would be proud of how our swimmers conducted themselves, as evidenced by the fact that the team won the Sportsmanship Award.

## **Senior**

As Beth Winkowski was at the ASCA clinic, Mr. Hixon gave the Senior report. He noted that Short Course State cuts would remain the same, and that the Committee also planned to add 100 IM to the meet. He mentioned also that the Board recommended that the Senior Committee consider adding 50s of the strokes to the short course meet. Mr. Hixon went on to note that since there were no bids for the Long Course State Meet prior to the meeting, so bids were taken from the floor. Of the three clubs bidding for the meet, Columbus was selected, with the caveat that any concerns raised by the Senior Committee about the facility be satisfactorily addressed. Hugh Convery asked that a clause be written into LSC Championship meet information stating that the qualifying period for the meet close at the entry deadline. Coach Murphy spoke in support of Coach Convery's motion stating that such a clause would help support the internal policy of the clubs. Mr. Hixon stated that he would pass the recommendation along to the respective Committee chairs.

## **Athletes**

Andrew Tang started by introducing the new Junior Athlete representatives, Hannah Lee and Nate Wright. He stated that the athletes had a plan to start a YouTube channel. He also wanted to try to broaden the appeal of the Awards Banquet by making the occasion more social. Their primary goal, however, was to increase athlete participation in the Georgia Swimming Committee Meetings. Teresa Coan asked whether the athletes who arrived this morning were designated to attend various meetings during the day. Mr. Wright answered that many athletes had attended the Senior, Age-Group, and Technical Planning Committees. Coach Coan stated that she hoped the athletes assigned to the committees would show up. Coach Murphy suggested that Coach Coan act as advisor to the athletes on matters related to their role in the HOD, to which she agreed.

## **Officials**

Mr. Schreer stated that the Officials proposed a change to the Georgia Scratch Rule that would address the issue of no-shows for deck seeded, timed final events where Meet Management had limited the number of swimmers or heats. In essence, the proposal would penalize swimmers who deprived another competitor of a place in the event. This was brought before Technical Planning and passed. Steven Potter made a motion to accept the language as proposed by the Officials Committee. Said motion was seconded by Mr. Copeland and passed.



### **Technical Planning**

Since there were no new matters arising from Technical Planning, and the constituent committees had made their reports, Jonathan Foggin had only to present the 2016 Long Course Meet Schedule. Adjustments were made, and after receiving a motion to accept from Mr. Potter and a second from Coach Convery, the schedule was approved.

### **Nominating Committee**

Prior to adjourning the meeting, Mr. Hixon noted that the bylaws require the annual election of a Nominating Committee from among the members of the HOD. A slate of 5 (Andy Eaton, Jeff Pishko, Ed Saltzman, Andrew Tang, and Brian Wrighton) was put forward and accepted by acclamation. Coach Eaton was then elected as Nominating Committee Chair.

Seeing no further business, Mr. Hixon asked for a motion to recess, which he received from Mr. Saltzman, with a second from Mr. Copeland. Said motion was voted on and passed, ending the Fall 2015 meeting of the Georgia Swimming House of Delegates, the time being 6:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Foggin  
Athens Bulldog Swim Club