

GA SWIMMING HOD MINUTES
April 17th, 2016
LSC Meeting HOD Meeting

Meeting called to order at 9:10 am by Stu Hixon, General Chair.

1) Attendance Roll Call by Secretary Kim Seaman:

BOD Introductions (to put names to faces)

BOD members: Jonathan Foggin, Ceci Christy, Ethan Young, Andrew Tang, and Nyasha Pace are absent.

Team Roll Call. Teams in attendance include:

ABSC
BT
CAD
CBF
CCAC
DAQ
DYNA
GA
GIST
GOLD
HURR
LIFE
LINS
RAYS
SA
SMAC
SUMM
TARA
TCS

2) New Mission and Vision Statements

(presented by Stu Hixon)

April Update:

Approved the new Mission and Vision statements in the BOD Meeting (but they were initially

created in a day-long meeting with USA Swimming representatives during our LSC's Strategic Planning meeting back in February)

3) Consent Agenda:

(presented by Stu Hixon)

April Update:

Using a Consent Agenda is explained as our new plan for meeting efficiency and that it means people can pull questions from the listed agenda for further discussion in the "New Business" portion of the meeting if desired.

Stu mentions that we will have to pull the "Quad Business Plan" automatically due to a change that was made to it at the BOD Meeting last night.

Outcome:

Ask for a Motion of Consent on items A – K with exclusion of Item D (Quad Business Plan)

Motion (by Ian Goss). Second (by Beth Winkowski).

Discussion Followed:

Member asks if this is this how we are going to do all the meetings from now on? A consent agenda?

Stu explains the time benefit and that: Yes. This is how it will be done.

All passed. Motion carried unanimously.

4) Officials Committee Updates

(presented by Rob Schreer)

April Update:

1) The numbers of Officials are remaining relatively constant. We have 279 registered officials at this time.

2) It was noticed that our warm up policies that were approved by the HOD years ago were not included in the Rules and Regulations document.

We have updated the stroke and turn information on the new website: www.gaofficials.org (under the "Training" tab) – It is a completely open site (no sign ins or passwords, etc.) so anyone can reference it.

Rob says that if there are any questions, they can ask him.

5) Seniors Committee Updates

(presented by Beth Winkowski)

April Update:

Beth summarizes the Senior State Meet Situation:

LC Senior State Meet was voted to be at Columbus (mainly by support of the athletes who wanted to get away to a different facility).

One concern was that they would shut down due to lightning. Beth was not at the LSC meeting since she was at ASCA World Clinic when the vote occurred, but she followed up after and was reassured that this would not be a problem

Then, at the NIS championships (which were held there), the facility halted the meet due to the weather. So, Beth went back to Jeff (our contact there). We are not sure if he did not understand earlier when we were first reassured or if something changed since then, but he said that Yes: Now they would shut down if there was lightning or thunder.

So, Beth went back to the Senior Committee, and they came up with 2 options:

- 1) Stay at Columbus with the potential for closures or delays due to weather
- 2) Go to GA Tech on a Sunday – Tuesday meet as the original dates we planned could not be accommodated at Tech (not ideal to change dates – but neither choice was good).

Then, Beth continues to explain that: During the LSC meetings yesterday, a 3rd option was offered up:

- 3) The Cumming Aquatic Pool was offered as an option (to be hosted by Gold) on the originally planned dates for the meet.

As such, we are looking at removing the bid from Columbus and changing it to be at Cumming Aquatic Center.

We think that this 3rd option would be the best option. And, it was the decision of the BOD to do the 3rd option. As such, we are moving the 2016 LC Senior State Championships to the Cumming Aquatic Center (same dates).

Discussion followed:

Gary had a question about travel fund reimbursement for Futures meet.

Beth mentions that she had that information in her report, which was in the consent agenda (which was not brought up at the beginning of the meeting). But, Beth gave a quick update on it anyways upon this request:

She said that the funds were put into the general budget after it was discovered that Futures

was in Atlanta (which means there were no real travel expenses needed).

Additional Comment was then made that: This summer, college swimmers can get reimbursement if in good standing (follow up with Hugh for that).

5) Tech Planning Committee:

(presented by Jessica Cooper in place of Jonathan Foggin)

April Update:

1) Meet Information Statement regarding Warm Up Policies:

Jessica explains that she had noticed there was Meet Info statements saying that “GA Swimming policies on warm up would be followed”, but we didn’t have any warm up policies in writing. So, with that, the previous warm up policies that was approved years ago will be put into the appropriate documents.

We will follow those policies until we see if Jonathan has any updates to recommend.

2) Divisional Meet Review:

Jonathan will also be in touch with the Division Reps to see if there needs to be any changes to the Divisional meets in terms of structure, teams, locations, etc. (If major changes are needed: We will apply them after the next Divisional meets / If the changes are minor (or there are no changes needed): we will apply them before the next Divisional Meets).

3) Time Standards Updates:

Senior State times are up and active.

New Age Group time standards were voted upon and will be discussed after the 2016 LCM season.

4) SCY meet schedule bids:

Stu explains that these were looked at yesterday (looking at the Schedule of Meets on the projector in the room). If you were not at Tech Planning meeting but have a meet listed here in red, please say so now to confirm or change (or else Jonathan will reach out to those teams about those unconfirmed meets).

1st issue from the Calendar posted =

Fall LSC meeting was originally planned for the same weekend as the ASCA World Clinic. Many of our coaches will be going to that. So, we looked up the bylaws about our LSC meeting date options. We can hold the Fall LSC meeting the weekend before Labor Day.

As such, our Fall LSC meeting will be: August 27th.

Then, we continue going through the meet schedule and any issues:

- Hugh says his GA Pentathlon should be September 31st instead of the date listed. But, then he has to change it again later to be October 1st since there are not 31 days in September. That change is made.
- A few meets were taken out completely due to 1 team's pool facility's issues.
- The AG State meet will be either 1 of 2 weekend dates (both will be hosted by SCAT at GA Tech): Either the 17th - 19th or the 24th - 26th. We should find out on Monday from Jamey.
- Warren Stephens meet has a question mark Beth says. She thinks it will be the weekend before the Metros meet (there is a possibility it would be changed to the weekend after – if that happens, Beth will contact Jonathan to change it).
- Divisionals Meet discussion (Noting that the Host of Marlins / TWS divisionals meet is still to be determined).
- Discussion of Jamey's Juniors Meet occurs.

Outcome: Entertain a motion to approve the calendar with those few question marks.

Hugh has a question first about any votes that were made during the Age Group Committee meeting, and if they should be presented. Jessica says that was her fault, because it was her understanding her report from the February meeting reflected items that had been voted on regarding the State meet. Hugh informed the HOD the February report included unofficial recommendations, not items that had been officially accepted by the committee, which happened yesterday at the committee meeting. Hugh asked / voiced his concern about whether there might be an issue with the February AG State meet should the dates get changed to an earlier week because then the already scheduled meets on that weekend may have an issue.

Motion to adopt the calendar with the few question marks (by Rob Schreer).

Second (by John Pepper).

All passed. Motion carried unanimously.

6) Open Water Agenda:

(presented by Jessica Cooper in place of Nick Graves who had a family emergency)

April Update:

Open Water Zone Team has a few open spots still. Jessica says that application for those are open until the April 20th.

Lucus asks what happens if GA Swimming will be covering the difference should the team not fully

fill up.

Answer is that this was put in the budget as a budget friendly / neutral item. But, the swimmers were told the cost of the trip would be \$450.00 so it will stay that way. We are making adjustments where we can to cut costs (cancelled bus to get vans as one thing already).

Update on the First Open Water Meet in GA: The plan now is to skip this year and plan for the 2017 Open Water Championship (to allow for enough time to plan a good location / etc.).

Team from Macon says that they have a lake we could use for that LSC Open Water Championship, but we would just need to consider the date (given that Zones is in that time period). But, sometime in May or June should work he says.

Jessica said that any suggestions or recommendations could be given to Nick to consider.

7) Elections:

(presented by Stu Hixon)

New elections time:

1) Admin Vice Chair = Steve Potter is nominated.

No nominations from the floor occur so nominations are then closed.

Steve says Thanks.

Outcome:

Motion for Acclamation (by Hugh).

Dissent? None.

Steve is in for a 2nd year as Vice Chair.

2) Treasurer = Gary Theissen is nominated (he has been in the position but was covering for the old Treasurer). As such, he is in his first election and is nominated.

No nominations from the floor occur so nominations are then closed.

Outcome:

Motion for Acclamation (by Hugh).

Dissent? None.

Gary is in as Treasurer.

3) Age Group Chair = Lucas Ferreira is nominated.

No nominations from the floor occur so nominations are then closed.

Outcome:

Motion for Acclamation (by Hugh).

Dissent? None.

Lucus is in as Age Group Chair.

Thanks are given to Scot Davis for filling in.

8) New Business:

1) New Towels (We don't have them yet at this point – They are on their way to the Conference Center now. We are going to skip this item for now until they arrive.)

2) Quad Business Plan:
(presented by Stu Hixon)

Stu explains that there was 1 change made to the Quad Business Plan from yesterday's BOD meeting that he wants to point out now so everyone knows.

First, Stu says he wants to take the time to congratulate Jessica for LEAP 2 and for pursuing LEAP 3 (These levels are a totally voluntary thing for LSCs to pursue– and Jessica decided that, in her first 8 months, GA Swimming was going to become at least LEAP 2 status. We did, and, included with LEAP 2, is the \$2500 scholarships – Congrats to her! And now the Goal is to be LEAP 3.

Stu says that in order to get LEAP 3, one of the things that is required for applying is to have a Quad Business Plan. Stu makes it clear that this is NOT a budget. It is just a Business Plan (which means it is a moving document – there is flexibility and changing that can occur as needed at any time moving forward).

He emphasizes that there are only a few LEAP 3 certified LSCs so we are excited to pursue it. Gary helped put this Quad Business Plan together for us to have some foresight and planning. It is our tentative “plan” for each of the years through to September 30th 2020.

Stu goes on to say that in yesterday's BOD meeting, it was pointed out that in the National Travel Expenses is really high this year (2016) due to Olympic Trials but it went down significantly on all the other years. However, it should have been the same as this year during the year 2020 since it is also a Trials year. But, the number wasn't reflecting that. As such, we just need to change that number for 2020 Travel Expenses.

****Outcome:** Ask to make a motion to approve the Quad Plan with this 1 change.

Motion to approve by (Ed Saltzman).

Seconded to approve (by Rob).

Discussion Followed:

Hugh says that he is not comfortable with having all of these pieces of information, because he had not seen it all prior to now. So, Stu begins going over it to make sure it is clear:

There is an Investments Fund that is only making \$100.00 each year to move it which ties to the Investment Plan. And, then there is this separate plan called the: Quad Business Plan. These are 2 separate items.

Stu says that the numbers simply represent the thought process behind moving the investments.

Stu says that the placement of the Quad Business Plan directly following the Investment Plan on the Agenda list may be causing the confusion, because it makes them appear as though they are the same thing. But, they are not. The budget was passed in September, and nothing has changed from that. But, we are okay with the new Investment Plan.

Hugh says he would have a lot of questions. And, he recommends that we vote no now and to table this until next time.

Reply follows saying that there was a reference to this information in Jessica's emails. But, it did not seem clear.

Gary says that he does not think that this is a HOD item anyways. It is more of a BOD item.

Steve clarifies that the HOD will pass the 2020 budget in 2019. This is really for informational purposes only.

The comment was then made from a member in attendance that if we are sending this to USA Swimming as a GA Swimming Body to get LEAP 3 status, then they say that GA Swimming members (not just the BOD) should be allowed to have some say before it is sent off to USA Swimming.

Beth then clarifies that this is just a vision like a season plan. It is not going to look exactly the same overtime. It will ebb and flow as we go.

Hugh says he feels there is a reason to talk about it.

Stu says that information was available to everyone, but people chose not to click a link.

Hugh replies that is true, but it doesn't make it good policy to move forward right now with people feeling uncomfortable.

Stu tries to clarify that it is just a moving document. It does not have anything set in stone. The first line will have to be approved on August 27th at the HOD meetings for the 2017 budget. Just because we brought this up now does not mean that this is up for HOD approval. USA Swimming does not have their HOD vote on their Business Plan.

Hugh expresses his disappointment about the leading of the meeting and how he feels discouraged about being urged not to talk.

Stu replies that he is just trying to provide the information to help the situation:

**** The Quad Business Plan is presented to the HOD every year by USA Swimming at Convention. You will see a Quad business plan. It is presented STRICTLY for informational purposes. There is no approval. There may be some discussion. **There is no approval sought or asked for the Quad Business Plan. The only thing that is approved by the HOD is the budget.****

Lucus says he had found the document prior to the meeting, but that it was hard to find the information. He saw it, but it sounds like most people did not. So, if we really want everybody's input, we need to just make it more clear how to get to the information and that it is important to click on it in order to get the information for the membership to see.

Discussion then follows about how to make information a little better communicated for people. Jessica says she is trying to make it as available as possible, but she says we will try to make it even more noticeable moving forward.

****Ed removes his motion for approval since approval is not needed.**

Stu says that the House was just being informed of the change from yesterday due to Lucus' recommendation. It is provided to you all to just know that there will be that one change. There is not a budget being passed here.

****Stu apologizes that this was an item in the Consent Agenda. It should have only been an informational piece (not up for consent).**

Gary comments: That before we had Jessica, we could not be doing these things. This is really just a great thing (LEAP 3).

We are not supposed to be passing this in HOD. So, there was that confusion, and that is why we are having this conversation now. It is a living document.

Hugh says he is not concerned about the document. He applauds that we are doing things more online - that we are moving the correct things to the BOD for action. He says that we have a problem that we do not have enough membership involvement and feels like the membership is having things sprung on them. The BOD should want to get as much feedback as possible, but they have to very clear up front. He says the membership just wants to be informed up front.

Stu says: Thank you for your opinion.

At this point: The athletes would like to reveal the All Star Towel, which is the last line of business. We are just waiting a little longer for Wes to get here to share that.

While we are waiting, we have a question from the floor:

Will we have the HOD meeting in Fall meeting?

Yes. The HOD meeting will happen, and the budget will be voted / approved at that time.

Stu explains the plan for that Fall meeting. He also welcomes / invites anyone to the BOD conference calls. He tells them to contact him if they would like to sit in on those, and he will get them the uber conference call invite.

He then invites the floor to discuss an ACH payment option for registration and/or towels (A payment option other than paying by sending a check would make things easier for Lora and many teams – No one wants to discuss it, but comments were made that it is desired so we say it will be looked into and shared).

Another question about the Fall Committee HOD Meeting:

All the reports will go into the BOD Consent Agenda. If there are action items that come from the BOD meeting, then they will be updated.

Conversations are going on individually from the floor at this time, and Stu hears a conversation and comments on it that we cannot have just 1 HOD per year (it would be an issue).

Discussion continues:

It is said that the larger point is that the Committees will be the place to voice your opinion to the person who goes into the BOD meeting and will take that recommendation to the BOD, and the BOD will take that recommendation very seriously.

So, the HOD meeting could end up getting streamlined down even more. The bylaws has it set up this way. We currently have it set up in the bylaws that Rules / Regs & Polies and Procedures are supposed to be done by the Board but, in the past, we weren't following our own bylaws. Maybe we would want to have it amended and presented 30 days prior to the HOD meeting if we want to take some things back to the HOD for voting so that the BOD doesn't have so much autonomy.

As such, the Committee Chairs are starting to look at the bylaws more closely to analyze the duties listed there to update them and make them more current. A lot of things are supposed to be made at the committee level. So, we are trying to get things more current and updated.

Further Discussion develops around the floor on what may or may not be helpful for future input. There should be some information provided to the membership before the BOD votes on it.

Committee Reports and Committee Updates for example: The Finance Committee came up with the Business Plan but no one gave input on it. There are some items that don't get made clear. Hindsight is telling us that we might benefit from making it more clear to the membership prior to the decisions.

Beth provides the alternative thought though that deciding things all in one day can be really emotional and quick and that it is not as good. She says that having the Committees be more active and prepared and over time, rather than doing everything all at one time is

good. We are trying to encourage all of the committees to be more active, and we have the monthly BOD meetings that are open to anyone but also the committees need to be ready for those meetings each time to be prepared.

The hope is said to be to get 607.1 reviewed (by having comments made by all of the committees) and then the BOD will decide upon any updates needed.

HOD is supposed to be more informational. The consent agenda is that you were provided this information. So, the reason it comes up in HOD is if any updates were made in the committees, it is brought up for informational purposes at the HOD (not for voting).

Discussion stops as the All-Star Towel arrives. The athletes show the new towel with their chosen colors. The floor expresses their delight and appreciation of them. Having the athletes choose the colors has been a great success.

After this, the meeting adjourns.

Minutes submitted for approval by GA LSC Secretary, Kim Seaman.