

**GA SWIMMING BOD MINUTES**  
**August 27<sup>th</sup>, 2016**  
**Fall LSC Meeting**

*Meeting was to begin at 1 pm. Time was allowed for members to arrive to the meeting due to slight delay at lunch.*

**1) Attendance:**

<b>In attendance:</b>	<b>Absent:</b>
<b>Ceci Christy</b> (Safe Sport Coordinator)	<b>Nate Wright</b> (Senior Athlete Representative)
<b>Jessica Cooper</b> (Executive Director)	
<b>Jonathan Foggin</b> (Technical Planning Committee Chair)	
<b>Steve Potter</b> (Administrative Vice President)	
<b>Stu Hixon</b> (General Chair)	
<b>John Pepper</b> (Coaches Committee Chair)	
<b>Lucus Ferreira</b> (Age Group Committee Chair)	
<b>Rob Schreer</b> (Officials Chair)	
<b>Kim Seaman</b> (Secretary)	
Harrison Wayner (Junior Athlete Representative)	
<b>Gary Theisen</b> (Treasurer)	
<b>Beth Winkowski</b> (Senior Committee Chair)	
<b>Hanna Lee</b> (Senior Athlete Representative)	
<b>Sydney Pepper</b> (Visitor)	
<b>Lora Thompson</b> (Visitor)	

*Meeting called to order at 1:20 pm by Stu Hixon, General Chair.*

**2) Approve June BOD Minutes:**

(Presented by Stu Hixon)

**Motion (John) Seconded (Steve) to approve.**

**All passed. Motion to pass notes is carried unanimously.**

### **3) Administration Reports**

#### **a. General Chair – Stu Hixon**

Stu said that this year has gone well – Jessica’s first year went well (to be discussed later today).

Stu will go down his list to get a yes or no about who is coming to USAS CONVENTION (yeses will get with Stu today to get name, address, etc. on badge). “Y” = YES going ; “N” = NO not going

Steve Y

Beth Y

Lucus Y

John Y

Hanna Y

Nate Y

Harrison Y

Rob Y

Jessica Y

Gary Y

Nayasha N

Lora Y

Stu passed the pad around the table for those going to Convention to write name & what each person wanted to show on their badge.

#### **b. Admin Vice Chair – Steve Potter**

Steve has some documents he is reviewing regarding past minutes from years ago where he needs to determine if things were passed into law but not updated. If they are in the minutes, it is the law no matter what is on the website currently. He is working on that to update for us.

## **i) 2016 All-Star Towels**

We still have at least a 650 towel order most likely coming in for this year (but this number does not include the disability athletes yet). There are over a thousand unique names that have qualified for the towel, but the order will likely be closer to 650.

## **c. Registration – Lora Thompson**

### **i) Non-Athlete Family Membership**

We decided we will still offer the Non-athlete Family membership in Georgia Swimming (the savings are about \$5.50) even though USA Swimming decided differently – it is for 2 non-athlete members who register at the same time.

### **ii) Online Registration Update**

USA Swimming is going to be moving to online registration for non-athlete members in 2018 – you would send the file / information to a middleman, and it would just spit back to you (the team) if there are errors. It would not get to Lora/registrar until the errors is fixed.

Talking to someone from New England Swimming for non-athlete member registration online – it would move forward with a paypal fee – most people want to register online right away – we want to register for \$65.00 or more – making sure that the entire amount is covered (Gary is concerned) – He wants to remind us that the USA Swimming fees will not change so we have to make sure any paypal charge is: 2.2% + 3 cents per transaction. Lora clarifies that we will actually been getting a little more than we would with a check (Gary says good). We will still get the full \$63.

Lucus asks about Bulk registration but he asked for athletes and that is not what we were referring to right now. Question comes up about if we would want to have a paypal option for unattached athletes – that is deemed too complicated.

Jonathan asks for clarification on the Athlete submission for membership registration – she said yes that it would just be a little different online but that's it.

Some people charge more when they renew their club membership renewals – do we want to increase the amount of \$\$ charged if done after December 15<sup>th</sup>. Get wording in there to say that they HAVE to get it in by a certain date or else there is no guarantee you'll get it in time. Then if they want it within 24 hours, there is a RUSH FEE in order to do that. If you need it expedited – it is going to cost you more.

Stu entertains a motion:

**Motion (Beth – if a team needs to register, and they need it to be expedited, they are charged double.)**

**Lucus would like to amend it – If a team that needs their registration, sends in their request AFTER December 15<sup>th</sup> and needs it to be processed quicker than 15 days, they are charged double.**

**Seconded (Steve) to approve.**

**Other discussion?**

**Gary asked would you have them pay the fine before you process it? Yes. She would send them an email saying they will not have it processed unless the double fee is paid.**

**All passed. Motion carried unanimously.**

Moving on to other topics:

- Lora verifies with Ceci about the USA Swimming requirement, and she concludes to require it in the club's registration requests.

Another Update:

- USA Swimming is not sending Athlete membership cards. They will send an electronic communication welcome packet, and you need to make sure that the athlete email address listed in their membership application is accurate, as it is the ONLY form of proof of membership that they will have. Deck pass and club portal roster can be used. Jessica says all of that information is now all posted on the website regarding this.

Jonathan asked if there is an easier way to get to that. Lora says that she will ask at the registration meeting at convention. USA Swimming is overhauling their website so hopefully that will change in that update.

Next:

Gary says: OUTREACH has a defined protocol for who gets and who doesn't get. Gary would like to waive the BOD approval to the registrar, and it is apparently under policies and procedures.

**So Gary would like to make a motion to waive the BOD approval and that it would go only to the registrar.**

**Second (Jonathan).**

**All passed. Motion carried unanimously.**

Then:

It has been pointed out that we did not vote on the \$65.00 online registration fee price for the non-athlete registration membership fee.

**So we need a motion to go from \$63 to \$65 for non-athlete registration.**

**Jonathan moves that.**

**John seconds.**

**Any other discussion?**

**All passed. Motion carried unanimously.**

#### **d. Safety Chair – Nyasha Pace**

There are no updates really at this time but Stu shares that between Nyasha's work and her new baby etc., she is finding herself out of time to be the safety chair. So, we need to find someone, as the BOD, to replace her.

Stu explains what the Safety Chair does and asks for BOD to get him any names of potential candidates for the position.

#### **e) Executive Director – Jessica Cooper**

##### **i) Athlete Recognition**

A few updates:

We are awarding record breaker plaques at SC state meets – Athletes were in favor and various committees – so that is what we will be doing.

We will also give any record breakers throughout the season a certificate even if they don't get a plaque (to be given at the end of the season).

Glenda and Jessica spoke, and she said that there are a lot of disability swimmers who broke records. As such, we want to be able to recognize all of them the same as we do our able body athletes.

**Motion made (Beth) to recognize our disability swimmer record breakers with a plaque at the appropriate meet & certificates– and that recognizes them the same way as our able body swimmers.**

**Seconded (Rob) to approve.**

**All passed. Motion carried unanimously.**

##### **ii) 2016 Sponsor Review**

A review of our annual sponsorships so far:

We have about \$10,000 of diversified (does not include our speedo benefits)

We also had an expected savings this year throughout of roughly: \$3000

So overall together about **\$13,000**

Speedo will walk us through the team order (which they did not explain prior to this year's zone meet – so we went through All American).

Update with All American partnership:

We may continue with them for at least 1 of the seasons but not likely both seasons.

Additionally, we will need to have a special clause if we do move forward regarding the Cumming Aquatic Center due to their 20% of all sales facility rule – LSC gets 5% of sales which leaves the host team getting less back than we would want.

Jessica would like to create a Sponsorship Committee in order to get group of coaches, non coaches, and people with connections to help in the sponsorship partnerships.

### **iii) 2017 All – Star Towel Proposal**

While acknowledging the benefit of the All-Star towel program and the pride that they hold in the LSC for the athletes, Jessica explains a new proposal for the improvement of the towels that involved a quote from another company that will save us money and potentially result in a better drying towel.

The new company would be about \$520 for shipping (questions arose regarding shipping location and towel organization later in conversation) + \$19.50 + \$1.50 for personalization per line

Total would be about \$21.74 per towel.

700 towels estimated for this year = about \$15,220 total

Last year, the total cost was over \$30,000 for similar product and amount.

This would not be for 2016 as we have already paid for this year's towels, but we can look beyond that to still get the athletes their towel but save money at the same time.

Beth says that we should go back to Wes (our provider in the past) in fairness to him to see if he can match that new quote. And, then, we also want to consider how we have subsidized the additional costs from the athletes with the more expensive towels with Wes. This new way would allow us to cut the costs on the athletes and save the LSC money off each towel order.

The quote for Shipping and handling came up as a big concern as it was estimated based on a home location which may not be beneficial so that is going to be looked into further to verify cost estimated.

Steve says there is some potential with All American for the towels as well (who could handle the online ordering & give us a 10% cut back).

Gary says that he will call Wes and explain the financials that we are exploring. We determine that we will report back on this in April since we wouldn't need it from Wes until after that anyways.

## **4) Committee Reports**

### **a. Senior Chair – Beth Winkowski**

#### **i) LC Senior State Report**

Chattahoochee Gold stepped up great to help in a hard situation, and she is really thankful that they did that.

We had the standards approved for the next long course meet. Beth will get those to Jessica for website.

## ii) Senior State Financials – Gary Theisen

Gary was under the impression that if they made over \$16,800, they would have to pay the sanction fee. But, they made \$16,100 so we will waive the fee.

Some discussion of concerns about the money / revenue coming in from these meets:

Is the financials of these meets something that the host teams can control given that they are LSC State Meets? Does the BOD have an issue with how much a team makes by hosting one of our LSC meets? There may be a time where we need to examine this carefully to determine if we need any regulations or changes.

For example, we can look at the reasons Hugh increased his fee (now \$7) for the upcoming state meet:

- 1) Sanction fee went up.
- 2) He is getting less sponsor money since we have All American as the vendor. Furthermore, he had a swim shop sponsor personally that he could use and get 20% from the swim shop, and All American would only give 10%.
- 3) Ga Tech is raising their prices.

These are valid reasons, but we may decide in the future that the amount of revenue being sought in general needs to be regulated (how much is too much).

Lucus says that our GA Swimming mission is: Strong clubs supported by GA Swimming – strong means financially strong as well – How much is enough is a valid question though.

Jonathan comments that Lucus' points are very true and important; however, we do want to note the difference between an LSC championship meet and regular meets.

Stu suggests that we put this topic in for our next meeting's agenda so that we can work on this in our conference calls.

## iii) Travel Fund Task Force Update

No updates yet.

## B. Age Group Report

(presented by Lucus)

### Fall Update:

State meet ran fairly well – some hiccups on first night.

We want to come up with something in writing for protocol on presentation of awards.

The time standards are good.

We approved new language with regard to disability athletes.

**Zone Team Update:**

Sydney did the report – couple issues with the travel the first day.

We competed well with NC and came in as the 2<sup>nd</sup> place finishers.

Stu has to have a private conversation with that BOD that will be regarding individuals so non BOD members need to leave (except Sydney since she is the Zone Director)

**Motion to move to executive session (Beth).**

**Second (John).**

**Motion passed.**

**\* Separate Minutes for this Executive Session meeting \***

**BACK to regular BOD meeting:**

Divisional Meet Update:

Jonathan heard from Gold that they are not going to the divisional meet so he will work with Stingrays and Dynamo about metro divisionals.

Because of timing, we decide we will need to continue the BOD meeting after the HOD meeting. BUT, for right now, Gary has to do the budget before HOD. He asks if anyone has questions? None.

**He asks for a Motion to approve?**

**Moved to approve (Jonathan).**

**Second (John).**

**Discussion?**

**Gary comments on the changes to the budget (Open water zones only used \$4,000 not \$5,000) – there were no other discussions**

**All passed. Motion carried unanimously.**



**\* Have to Pause / Split for HOD meeting start time\***

**Restart the BOD meeting @ 5:02 pm**

When we restart, attendance is different than before:

CECI came in a few minutes after we started up again.

LORA is no longer here.

A VISITOR is in the background (discovered @ 5:16 pm that she was Jane Grosser from USA Swimming)

**C. Officials Report**

(presented by Rob)

Rob passes out hand out that has the criteria for the Official of the Year Award in honor of Pete Junkins and a nomination form.

He would like to submit this to the BOD for approval.

He adds that the award will be given out at the AG state meet as a quick 2 minute plug on the award and honor. They felt that presenting the award in front of parents at the meet may generate some interest in officiating in general.

**Stu says to go ahead with the form – none opposed. Rob is to send an electronic copy of it to Jessica so she has it.**

**D. Treasurer Report**

(presented by Gary)

Because we skipped to budget before HOD meeting out of timing necessity, Gary has already talked about the 2017 budget and financials.

As another topic of review:

Gary reviews the various investments we have, their amounts, and locations. Stu and Gary then recommend that we go ahead and move forward with the local Wells Fargo (instead of the one in Colorado Springs where we are currently) for both separate investments we have currently separated (they both fit within our IPS). This will put our investments to better work with a better interest rate than we have right now.

**Motion to accept these investment changes (Steve).**

**Second (Rob).**

## Discussion?

Gary says that we wouldn't lose a dime since we aren't switching out of Wells Fargo, but that there will just be new signature cards for Kim, Gary, etc. which is just a matter of signing another document.

None opposed. Motion carries.

## E. Safe Sport Report

(presented by Ceci)

Only update is that USA Swimming is going to start a forum online (going live in November) so that people to talk more openly about Safe Sport topics.

## F. Old Business:

We decide to table the discussion on the Bi Laws (from previous meetings and emails) since we have our GA Swimming Strategic planning meeting tomorrow (Sunday). We can discuss those with Jane and go from there.

## G. New Business:

- We already discussed the Pete Junkins Award, and the officials are going to move forward with that.

- Age Group agenda had a note that was approved in the Spring about the language for the disability inclusion which just needs to be forwarded to Steve.

- 2016 – 2017 meeting schedule:

We note the need to make sure that all 5 of our committees are having regular meetings – just having 1 extra meeting at the state meet is not enough. A majority of your committee can find some time to make the conference call system work regularly.

We also need to determine our BOD meeting time each month. We discuss options and determine that we will do our BOD meeting conference calls on:

**2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month**

– starting in OCTOBER (since September would be next week)

*Meeting is Adjourned.*

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

