



# BOD Meeting Minutes

## Aug 24, 2019

The meeting began at 4:00pm at The Marist School in Atlanta, GA.

### **BOD members present:**

Steve Potter (DAQ), Jamey Myers (SCAT), Gary Theisen (SA), Ed Saltzman (DYNA), John Pepper (CBF), Wes Hamborg (WRA), Beau Caldwell (SEGA), Lucas Ferreira (GA), Will Foggin (ABSC), Sarah-Grace Thompson (SA), Daniel DeCarlo (RAYS)

### **GSI Swimming staff present:**

Megan Kingsley

### **Other GSI members present:**

Kai Smith (ATAQ), Rob Copeland (SCAT), Joe DeCarlo (RAYS)

### **Call to order**

Called to order at 4:08pm. A quorum was established with 20% athletes in attendance.

### **Motion (Foggin): to accept minutes from 8/14 as distributed in the meeting (Theisen second)**

Discussion ensued that this should be tabled (Ferreira, Myers second)

Motion to table (Failed with only 3)

Original motion called to question -

Motion passed with 3 dissensions - Minutes approved

### **Reports of officers**

**General Chair** - no report

**Admin Vice-Chair (Myers)** - Gave a report of his committee meeting from earlier in the day.

Motions from the committee meeting included 1) recommending to move budgeting to the spring meeting, and 2) recommending to include a balance sheet with budgets. Consensus amongst the BOD was to not move on anything at this point, but is getting set to create a committee to review finances.

**Treasurer (Theisen)**- 2020 budget was presented. Theisen explained the budget proposed. Lots of ideas were shared about the budget, but Caldwell reminded everyone that there needs to be a motion to accept the budget before discussion. Asterisk by the registration was a request made by Hamborg through Lora Thompson to increase the seasonal registration fees due to 2 separate seasonal registration being discounted from 1 year round club registration. It was also discussed that this budget includes a \$5 fee for transfer swimmers. It was clarified that this was approved in the finance committee.

Discussion ensued about the all-star banquet. The athletes spoke saying they wanted recognition but not being a financial burden. Thompson said they're recommendation was to do this at the state meet because no one has to do extra travel.

Discussion ensued about travel and how it increases during the olympic years. Theisen explained the recommendations of the senior committee, and specifically increasing Olympic Trials and Paralympic Trials meets to \$1000 reimbursement.

Ferreira spoke that the discussion from the meetings today was that there is discussion saying the clubs should subsidize travel to Junior National and US Open Meets more than the LSC. Myers said the travel to Atlanta is being spent for athletes who live in atlanta. Caldwell brought up an idea to reimburse by county so those in southern Georgia could get proportionally more reimbursement than those in the metro Atlanta area.

Smith asked for getting a sponsor to cover our overage with the budget, since we're projected to end up \$42,750 in the red.

Myers explained how our travel budget is being spent on elite athletes, and he wants to give it back to the state level athletes. Theisen said this should have been taken up a few months ago.

Pepper interjected about changing the name on the budget to executive coordinator.

**Motion (Saltzman):** to approve 2020 budget (Motion seconded)  
Motion approved unanimously.

**Senior Chair (Winkowski)** - not present, report approved via consent agenda.

**Age Group Chair (Ferreira)**

**Motion (Ferreira)** - 2020 LC AG State championship to be hosted by Gwinnett Aquatics, contingent upon being bid with a \$21 facility surcharge, sanction fees waived + \$6000 stipend paid by the LSC. (Myers second).

Ferreira announced his conflict of interest in this matter since his club is bidding the meet. Myers said we did a 6,000 stipend for a long time. Theisen said it was \$4,000 for AG and \$6,000 for Senior. Saltzman clarified that Gwinnett Aquatics made \$11,000 this past summer. Ferreira said their goal is \$30,000 profit. Hamborg said how the meet takes 1200 volunteer hours from the host club and Gwinnett is not wanting to host the meet for only making \$11,000. Ferreira said the host team still has to pay for parking and travel expenses to GT. Theisen said GSI supplied this stipend in the past because clubs were going into the red and losing money, not because they were making less than anticipated.

Motion called to question, seconded and approved

Motion passes with 6 in favor, 4 opposed, and Ferreira abstaining

**Coaches Chair** - Report tabled

**Technical Planning Chair (Hamborg)** - No report but briefly mentioned his task-force recommendation.

**Athlete Representative (Thompson)** -

**Motion (Thompson):** to eliminate 2020 golden peach awards and reallocate awards celebration to AG and Senior state champs (Myers second)

Pepper suggested we try to do it 1 more year. Myers disagreed because more people are at the state meet, and the trend has gone down each year at Golden Peach Awards. Ferreira says he doesn't see any more buy in next year.

Motion called to question.

Motion approved with all in favor and Pepper dissenting

Thompson said she would like to see an LSC athlete leadership conference similar to USAS athlete leadership conference. Potter asked if this was or was not in their existing budget. Thesien explained this was already in the budget and it's been approved.

Thompson said she had a request to have a disability heat and designated warm-up lane for disability athletes. Potter referred this back to AG committee. Hamborg says this should start in the disability committee. No further discussion

**Safe Sport Chair (Christy)**- not present, report posted to website.

**Officials Chair (Saltzman)** - Report as submitted.

**Diversity & Inclusion Coordinator (Jackson)** - not present, no report

#### **Old Business -**

Ferreira brought up that AG Committee has approved a new selection procedure for Zone Open Water team, saying half the team would be selected from this meet, referring to the Tick Tock swim in Valdosta. It was clarified WALSA is the sanctioning body for this meet, but Ferreira recommends BOD accept AG recommendations.

**Motion (Ferreira):** Accept AG committee proposal for selection process for zone open water selection using the Tick Tock swim (Myers second).

Potter said he would need to forward this to Caldwell to be part of the record. Saltzman said there needs to be more investigation on this event and its sanctioning. Caldwell asked for clarification saying that we're using a meet for selection that's not locally sanctioned and 4 hours outside the metro Atlanta area. Ferreira said this is the best option they could find, and it could be sanctioned. Ferreira said the annual Swim Across America event is not capable of serving as a selection meet due to its fundraising component. Copeland said SAA does not meet USAS temperature standards. Ferreira clarified that this is coming the current OW chair, Nick Graves.

Motion passes with all in favor

#### **New Business**

Potter said we have a new recommendation for OW chair, as Kevin Sullivan of Okefenokee Aquatic Club. Potter said Sullivan really wants to do this job and was on the OW zone team staff this year.

Appointment is approved with BOD consent.

Potter explained the election process for athlete reps. Sarah-Grace Thompson, Addie Rose Bullock, Jonathan Shaheen, Megan Kingsley, and Steve Potter put this process in writing, and will insert it in policies and procedures 7.12.

**Motion (Potter)** to insert this into Policies and Procedures (Hamborg second)

No discussion

Motion passes unanimously

**Motion (Myers):** to eliminate the All-American contract (Hamborg second)

Pepper asked if we've actually benefited from this contract. Myers said the LSC does receive 5k, but the host club does not make as much as they used to. Myers explained this motion is in regards to ongoing relationships and customer service that happened at the state meet at GT. Discussion ensued that host clubs would be better off doing their own thing with their own vendor.

Motion passed with all in favor.

**Motion (Ferreira):** Gwinnett Aquatics is asking for sanction fee relief from 2019 LC AG state champs (Myers second)

Potter clarified that this amounts to \$2,500. Ferreira said he brings this up as the AG Chair and will refrain from discussion due to conflict of interest. Theisen clarified that this has already been paid by Gwinnett Aquatics and he'd have to return it. Potter clarified this would be a 1-time exception.

Called to question

Motion passes with 3 dissensions and Ferreira abstaining

Kai Smith asked if the ATAQ meet could be publicized on the GSI website and if Lora Thompson could send it out to coaches. Pepper said he could send it out. Smith said he's asking for the same treatment for his meet that Lifetime got with their stroke clinic, and swim across america got for their event. Potter clarified that this meet is a joint special olympics, able bodied, ymca swimmers.

**Motion (Smith):** to publicize his meet on the GA website as a 1-time exception for (Hamborg second)

Hamborg said he has some good points but we need to set standards going forward. Ferreira asked if we're going to do this for every meet. Potter clarified this is a 1-time exception and that GSI is not looking to set a precedent for advertising club-sponsored meets. Potter clarified that Coach Smith's request was not handled properly in the bidding process. Pepper said we need to have a conversation about what we do and do not publish on the meet. Myers asked about what weekend it's on as it may conflict with other meets. Potter answered that it's on the same weekend as SCAT and CBF meets.

Amendment: (Theisen) said he would like to see the financials after the meet since sanction fees are waived. Accepted by Smith.

Clarification that this is not being advertised on the calendar, and we will develop a policy. Potter said we do not currently have a policy for this so we cannot rule against it. Myers said we shouldn't be advertising this meet since sanction fees are being waived and there are other meets on that same weekend that are paying sanction fees to GSI.

Called to question. Potter clarified this would not be published on the calendar.

Motion passes with 6 in favor and 4 dissenting.

Next meeting: Oct 9 at 8:30pm via conference call

**Motion (Myers):** to adjourn (Saltsman second)

Motion approved unanimously

Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm

Respectfully submitted by Beau Caldwell  
Secretary, Georgia Swimming  
Wed, Oct 2, 2019