



BoD Minutes

July 19, 2023

This meeting began at 8:30pm via ZOOM

BoD members present

Lucas Ferreira (GA) General Chair
Mike Wardwell (PAC) Admin Vice-Chair
Rob Copeland (UNAT) Finance Vice-Chair
Nancy Harmon (PAC) Secretary
Hugh Convery (GA) Senior Vice-Chair

Holly Mattson (HURR) Junior Athlete Rep
Will Guichard (SA) Junior Athlete at-large
Wes Hamborg (WRA) Tech Planning Chair
Clarice Wasmuth (DYNA) Officials Chair
Brook Kubik (SA) Safe Sport Chair

BoD members absent

Jason Swaim (SMAC) Coaches Chair
Sydney Pepper (DYNA) Age Group Vice-Chair
Tommie Jackson (CAD) DE&I Chair

Kevin Sullivan (OAC) Treasurer
Rachel Todebush (SPAC) Senior Athlete Rep

GASI Swimming staff present

John Pepper, Business Manager

GASI Swimming staff absent

Lora Thompson, Membership Coordinator

Others Present

Karl Krug (SPAC) Governance Chair
Heather Boyer (SPAC) Sanction Chair

Teresa Coan (CW) Disability Chair
Meredith Green (BAY) Disability Chair

Call to order, approval of minutes

L. Ferreira called the meeting to order at 8:35pm. Mission and Vision statement of Georgia Swimming (GASI) presented

Motion: M. Wardwell to approve BoD minutes from June 14, 2023 (R. Copeland 2nd)
Discussion: no discussion
Vote: Unanimous approval
Resolution: June 14, 2023, minutes approved

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Officer Reports

General Chair (L. Ferreira) present. report submitted

L. Ferreira started the meeting by thanking all the committee chairs for submitting their reports. This will allow the meeting to move along better and only bring necessary items forward for discussion.

Athletes (H. Mattson). Present, no report submitted

- Jr. Representative elections will be held this weekend at Senior State.
 - All candidate bios and videos are on the website.
- Flyers with committee overviews will be available for those interested in understanding committee assignments.
 - The Athlete's Committee has only received bios from Senior, Officials, and Finance Committees. All others, please submit via CHAT or email by tomorrow.
- Current representatives have begun planning the next Mental Wellness Summit. Hope to schedule it for either the HoD weekend or the next weekend in August. Looking for more Athlete participation.

L. Ferreira felt getting the bios from each of the committees shows good initiative. It will allow candidates to understand committee responsibilities.

Finance Committee (R. Copeland) Present, report submitted.

- Income is looking good for the year on the registration side. We are at about 85% of what was budgeted, and the outstanding percentage is just what still needs to be collected. Income total revenue as of the 1st of July is \$180,000 and projected income is \$195,000. We have income and expenses projected from the Open Water and Pool Zone Meets which should be coming in during the next month. Our expenses are tracking to budget.
- K. Sullivan is looking into categorizing some expenses, so they track better.
- It is July, so beginning to plan next year's budget (2023-2024). Committee will be reaching out to each BoD member for any changes; will get something out to members after the State meet.

Discussion: C. Wasmuth asked if there are no changes do you still need to submit? R. Copeland responded that yes, needs to see revenue and expenses from each committee.

Senior Chair (H. Convery) present, report submitted

L. Ferreira asked about the Travel Budget report submitted, as it is still listed as a draft. Is it still being modified? H. Convery responded that the Senior Committee just makes a recommendation to the committee. This is the current proposal. They are waiting on Nic Fink to return from Worlds. The committee is composed of H. Convery, R. Copeland, S. Pepper, and N. Fink. N. Fink is moving and there is a new athlete that will be named. When he returns, the entire committee will meet to vote and then it is done. It does not require any further action. The Committee has some concerns as this is a deficit budget due to it being a Trial year. They are also concerned about setting a budget before knowing USAS calendar for next summer.

Discussion: T. Coan said that she would like to meet with the Senior Committee to increase compensation for the Disability swimmers going to World Series. The \$300 was set before the meet

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was moved to Minnesota and it does not cover expenses. H. Convery noted that this budget is to defray cost of travel, it is not to cover expenses. He asked T. Coan to find an equivalent able body meet for comparison. T. Coan said she would be sending a proposal to the committee. H. Convery noted he will be looking to finalize this soon.

R. Copeland asked if we should be looking into increasing the Athlete Surcharge? H. Convery said this is in the purview of the committee. He continued, this is a political issue, and we need to not move too quickly and therefore lose support for the Travel Fund entirely. L. Ferreira noted that we're only in our first cycle and the biggest issue is that we will have only collected money for 2 years with an Olympic Trials year coming up. We need to use the current 2 years to gather data before we consider changing the surcharge. In the future we will have more time (entire 4-year cycle) to collect funds to balance out the more expensive year. Meets are attracting more swimmers and therefore there is more income coming in. We do need to be aware that AAU might cause issues. It is hard to predict revenues at this point. H. Convery shared that we are not spending all the money budgeted for Nationals and Juniors, but we are spending more on Futures.

Officials (C. Wasmuth) present, report submitted

L. Ferreira identified that he's heard there is movement to pass legislation to standardize advancement of Officials, making the National Minimum Standard the minimum for all LSCs. C. Wasmuth noted that she has heard that there may be a proposal for legislation, but she still has many questions. According to E. Saltzman this come up all the time. C. Wasmuth does not think this will pass until they standardize all the requirements, the training, and education. Georgia is middle of the road for requirements. We revamped Georgia standards last fall. We removed the time elements and now base our advancement on number of sessions worked. Our standards are higher than USA Swimming's minimum. C. Wasmuth is asking questions and will have more information by our next meeting. L. Ferreira mentioned a plus of AAU is the ease at which an individual can become an AAU Official. C. Wasmuth stated that we do not lose Officials over session count. The problem is the 8 steps it takes to become an Official and the requirement to redo many of these steps each year. We currently have 29 apprentices stalled in the pipeline. C. Wasmuth is speaking with USA Swimming about these issues.

Administrative Reports

Registrar (L. Thompson) not present, report submitted

L. Ferreira reported that L. Thompson submitted the current registration numbers, and we are very close to last year's numbers. Last month we were down 10% and now we are just a smidge below. We are getting caught up.

Business Manager (J. Pepper) present, no report submitted.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at Senior State. He will be there all weekend, all sessions.

Committee Reports:

Open Water: (M. Green) present, report submitted

L. Ferreira had a few questions about the selection process for Open Water.

1. As he understood it the goal is to select more athletes out of Open Water events with only one spot from pool application. In that system there is no provision to fill slots if those chosen at OW event choose not to attend. Per M. Green, ideally, this does not happen, but we are asking athletes to enter their mile times on their application to use if this case arises. First step is to get everyone in the OW events. We are offering 3 events this year. J. Pepper is working with Swim Across America and how we can incorporate that event. Still figuring all this out, but we are forming Team Georgia. The athletes will still have to raise \$200 but it will be the first selection for the Zone Team.
2. L. Ferreira asked about the qualification of 1650yd. at Age Group State as we do not swim 1650yds at Age Group. M. Green stated it would be changed to the 1000yd.
3. Are the State Meet results to take precedence over a swimmer with a faster time who may not have swum the event at State? M. Green said they will clarify. L. Ferreira was fine with any option, just felt it need to be clarified.

L. Ferreira mentioned the timely nature of getting this information out. M. Green said K. Sullivan will have the application available by mid-August and W. Bayer said he will put the OW meet selection process information into the Meet Information for both Senior and Age Group State.

Disability Chair: (T. Coan) present, report submitted

L. Ferreira thanked T. Coan for her report. He asked whether this was a recommendation or a final proposal for entry process for State Championships. T. Coan replied that this was copied directly from USA Swimming. This is how USAS wants it done. This is how they want disability swimmers to enter meets and these are the times they want used. R. Soderstrom has created a form, that the athlete's coach is to complete, noting allowed exceptions or accommodations. We are still educating the coaches of the process. T. Coan then asked if at the next HoD meeting we could take a few minutes to run a course to teach coaches who are interested or have a disability swimmer. R. Soderstrom could present what is needed. The entries go in just like any able-bodied swimmer, a note goes with it. She pulls the time and checks the accommodations. She checks the Meet Information to make sure the sanction says what it needs to say.

L. Ferreira also questioned the volume of information going into the Meet Information or the Sanction document? Could there be a link? T. Coan stated they would like to have a separate link for coaches to go to on the website. L. Ferreira advised her to work with J. Pepper to create the necessary information. This link would then be used in the Sanction and Meet Information documents.

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Old Business

Moving elections to the Fall.

L. Ferreira asked K. Krug about the status of this initiative as we're relying on Governance to get this proposal put together. With our projected Aug. 19, 2023, HoD date, the 30-day notice is coming up fast. K. Krug noted that he has a first draft and is hoping to have a meeting after Age Group State to finalize.

Proposal for changing the language of LSC records.

Senior Committee has met to define and finalize. Age Group committee will be working through an email thread to finalize. L. Ferreira noted that in the past we have had legislation go through the Governance Committee for review. As M. Wardwell is putting together an Admin Committee, all future legislative changes will go to this committee for review.

Discussion: L. Ferreira asked if anyone had any comments on the document.

- M. Wardwell suggested that we should probably just follow what Nationals tracks. We seem to be tracking some records that are not tracked nationally. H. Convery said this is not true, he has gone through and matched them up. M. Wardwell felt there were some on the Age Group side. L. Ferreira said there might be some editing still needed. There is no rush, but he'd like, if possible, to have it finalized by the Fall HoD.
- H. Convery wanted the BoD members to be aware of the new language in 8.5.1., State records can only be set by swimmers representing a GA LSC team or at a meet where the swimmer was selected to represent Georgia. There were quite a few mistakes at Age Group last weekend. It is going to take some legwork to get this all correct. L. Ferreira will clean up the document and resend it to the Board. Again, no vote is necessary, but he'd like it presented at the fall HoD, if possible.

New Business

- The fall HoD will take place August 19, 2023. A location and time are TBD. K. Krug is looking into GAC, where we held our hybrid meeting last fall. L. Ferreira mentioned that at the last HoD that he would like us to return to in-person meetings with the committee meetings held in the morning and the HoD meeting held in the afternoon. He further stated he did not feel that we are ready to do this at this HoD meeting. This HoD meeting will be a hybrid. If anyone has a lead on a place to hold the meeting, please let him or J. Pepper know as soon as possible. We will publish a location and time as soon as it is decided.
- Awards.
 - L. Ferreira stated he was not sure we have given these awards recently but the due date for nominations is August 31, 2023. We need to review these awards to see if they are still relevant and investigate moving the presentation to May before the recipients go off to school. The Admin Committee will handle this task.
 - Bill Young Award: This award is given for accomplishments outside of swimming. Graduating High School. Currently, one nomination has been submitted.
 - Betsy Dunbar – post graduate award. Graduating college, \$1000 award. Currently, no nominations submitted.

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- M. Wardwell sent an email to some committees as it has become apparent that he, as Admin Vice Chair, should sit in on their meetings. This is not to drive conversation but to be aware of proposed changes to Bylaws or Policy and Procedures. He asks if you received this email that you include him on their dates. The six committees are DE&I, Safe Sport, Governance, Officials, Operational Risk and Tech Planning.
 - L. Ferreira stated that if you go to the Bylaw and Policy and Procedure documents you will see where USAS spells out Divisions of Governance and the Admin Vice Chair oversees these committees. The head of the Division needs to sit in on these committees.
 - By-laws Article 7.1.1-7.1.6
 - Policy and Procedures 4.3
 - 4.3.2-4.3. states that Chairs of Age Group, Senior, Finance, Athlete, and Coaches Committees have specific additional overcite duties, as well.
- H. Convery noted that it is time to propose the Long Course 2024 calendar, and this is virtually impossible to do without knowing USAS schedule for next summer. Tech Planning should be collecting meet bid information right now. We have not even discussed when the State meets will be held next summer. Various solutions were suggested:
 - Assume everything remains the same and scramble if things change.
 - Run Senior and Age Group State on the same weekend.
 - Swap Age Group and Senior State.This is for Technical Planning to decide. The decision for Senior State and Age Group States is up to the Senior and Age Group Committee. Need to get the Jot form out.
J. Pepper asked if we should we push our HoD until after the National Meeting. H. Convery felts it's not worth moving our meeting as the National Committee will not have their proposal at the USAS meeting. HoD meeting will remain August 19, 2023.

Announcements

Next BoD meeting August 16, 2023. This will be right before the Fall HoD and allows for all committees to meet the week before the meeting. If the BoD finds they need an additional meeting prior to the HoD it will be held Saturday morning, prior to the HoD meeting, anticipated to start 12:00pm to 1:00pm.

Adjournment

Motion: R. Copeland to adjourn (C. Wasmuth 2nd)
Discussion: no discussion
Vote: Unanimous approval
Resolution: meeting adjourned 9:51pm

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Harmon

GASI Secretary
May 23, 2023

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Submitted Reports

General Chair



July GC
Report.docx



GASI Leg Change
State

Finance Committee



Statement of
Activity Oct22-



Budget vs. Actuals
Oct22-Jun23.docx

Senior Committee



Senior Comm
Report.docx



Rough Travel
Fund.docx

Officials Committee



Officials Comm
Report.docx

Open Water Committee



Open Water
Report.docx

Disability Committee



Disability Comm
Report.docx

Governance Committee



Governance
Comm.docx

Registrar



Registrar
Report.docx