



BoD Minutes

May 15, 2024

This meeting began at 8:30pm via ZOOM.

BoD members present.

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

Mike Radford (ABSC) Age Group Vice-Chair
Wes Hamborg (WRA) Tech Planning Chair
Wil Bayer (SA) Coaches Chair
Tommie L. Jackson (CAD) DE&I Chair
Brook Kubik (SA) Safe Sport Chair

BoD members absent.

Kevin Sullivan (OAC) Treasurer
Clarice Wasmuth (DYNA) Officials Chair
Landry Liston (BT) Junior Athlete Rep

Holly Mattson (HURR) Senior Athlete Rep
Will Guichard (SA) Senior Athlete at-large
Charlotte Foggin (ABSC) Junior Athlete Rep

GASI Swimming staff present

John Pepper, Business Manager
Lora Thompson, Membership Coordinator

GASI Swimming staff absent.

Others Present

Amanda Hamborg (WRA) Governance Chair
Jonathan Foggin (ABSC)

Teresa Coan (CW) Disability Chair
Vesna Shelnett (SFY)

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. Radford to approve BoD minutes from April 17, 2024 (M. Wardwell 2nd)
Discussion: no discussion
Vote: approved by acclamation
Resolution: April 17,2024, minutes approved

Officer Reports

Age Group Chair (Mike Radford) Present, no report

L. Ferreira welcomed Mike Radford, the new Age Group Chair, to the Board of Directors. He reminded everyone that each committee is to send in their reports ahead of the meeting for all to review. This policy allows us the opportunity to address necessary items. He understood that Age Group had not submitted a report this month but mentioned the new Zone Selection Criteria needed to be discussed. Mike thanked everyone and stated he was excited to join the Board.

- Age Group Zone Selection Criteria
 - M. Radford commented that the Age Group Committee had revamped the selection process for the Age Group Zone Team. The Committee has put together the language and has consensus. He will be sending it out for review. They will vote on it and add it to the Meet Information for this summer's 14&Under Long Course State Meet in July. It will be sent to the Board for approval. This will be an email vote as it is time sensitive. Please be on the lookout for it.
 - L. Ferreira noted that this is something that has been discussed and reviewed at all levels and that is why an email vote will be acceptable. This is a change to the Policy Manual so it does need Board approval before it can go forward.

Athletes (H. Mattson, C. Foggin) Not present, no report.

J. Pepper gave an update on the Southern Zone Athletes Summit.

- 4 Athletes have been chosen.
- None of our Athlete Board members are able to attend.
- 1 Chaperone will be sent.
- S. Pepper is going as the LSC Representative.
- Athlete's budget is covering all costs.
- Have not received the final agenda yet but it starts on Friday at 3:00pm and goes through Sunday 11:00am.

L. Ferreira mentioned it was unfortunate our current elected athletes could not attend but the Athletes thought it was important to send representations. It is their hope that those going will gather governance knowledge and potentially be future Board members.

If you have any questions, direct them to the Athletes.

Finance Committee (R. Copeland, K. Sullivan) Not present, report submitted.

- Finance Committee meeting was held last night, and financials look good.
- Committee discussed request from OAC for recovery of funds lost hosting the Open Water State Meet, May 2024.
 - Loss of \$700.
 - Vote was taken by the Committee (R. Copeland, L. Ferreira,)
 - K. Sullivan abstained, as he is the host team Coach.
 - The Budget has a line item of \$5000 to cover expenses of Open Water State meet.
 - The Finance Committee voted to allocate these funds to the host team.

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED

General Chair (L. Ferreira) Present, report submitted.

- Block Party
 - This is a pilot being put out by USA Swimming that allows Sanction Fees to go directly through USAS, circumventing the LSCs.
 - Meets have some limitations.
 - There is no team in Georgia in the current test group (that we are aware of, participating teams were not made public yet).
 - There is not a lot of transparency, so we are unaware of details of participating teams.
 - Spoke with Julie Bachman, she is in charge of the enterprise that is backing this project.
 - It sounds like there are other LSCs with a lot more red tape for Sanctioning meets and that is why this is being pushed.
 - There are places in the country that are being denied Sanctions. This does not happen in Georgia.
 - There are LSCs with much higher costs than ours.
 - It is \$175.00 to Sanction a 1-day meet under this program.
 - In Georgia you have to bring in \$9000 in entry fees to pay \$175.00 to the LSC. Not sure this will work here.
 - Mentioning this because we need to keep an eye on it. This could potentially affect our income as funds will sidestep the LSC.
- Legislative Change Process.
 - Forms for Legislation Change.
 - These were created because we needed a concrete way to put into words ideas that are discussed. In the past items would be discussed in Board meetings and when it was time to change the Policy Manual it was necessary to go back through multiple Minutes to design the change. We are trying to avoid this step by having the final language in writing prior to a vote being taken.
 - Governance Committee, created with the last Bylaw change by USAS.
 - We are using this committee similar to how the Rules and Regulations Committee is used at the National level. Before something comes before the HoD on the National level it is either recommended or not recommended for approval by the Rules and Regulations committee. This does not have anything to do with the merits of the proposal. The Rules and Regulations Committee oversees whether the document is germane to the current governing documents. Does the language or proposal fit within our governing documents? We do not have Rules and Regulations Committee in Georgia, so we are using the Governance Committee for this purpose. The role of this committee is not to say they like or dislike a proposal, it is to make sure it appropriately fits within our governing documents.
 - Policy may get approved without Governance Committee approval but it's important to have this step.
- Annual Business Meeting positions, September 2024, Denver.
 - Delegates invited by USA Swimming:
 - General Chair
 - Registrar

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED

- DEI&I Chair
- Coaches Representative
- Officials Chair
- 2 Athlete Representative
- No vote is necessary. Our Policy Manual allows for a few other positions to be sent, but L. Ferreira does not see a need to send them if USAS is not requesting them. If the designated position cannot attend we might send someone else in his/her place.

Officials Chair (C. Wasmuth) Not present, no report

- L. Ferreira reported that C. Wasmuth has asked for the Meet Information for both Age Group and Senior States, ASAP. She needs the Sanction in order to request the OQM. S. Pepper has offered to assist with the Age Group Meet Information and M. Radford added that W. Bayer offered to help, as meet host. He reported, it is close; once the Zone selection language is finalized, we should be good to go.
 - H. Convery suggested that they go ahead and submit AG without the Zone selection language and add it later as an addendum.
 - L. Ferreira added that they could put it in as a link that attaches to the webpage where the information is posted. We do not need to be waiting on this information. It is time sensitive.

Administrative Reports

Registrar (L. Thompson) Present, report submitted.

- We are at 92% of the registration numbers from the same time last year (we had planned for a 10% membership loss due to clubs going the AAU route)
 - Reports are attached for comparison, last year vs. this year.
- Atlanta Classic recons were extreme, but it got worked out.

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

J. Pepper requested as we move into the summer if you are Committees are changing meeting times, please let him know so it is posted correctly on the website.

Committee Reports:

Governance: (A. Hamborg), Present, report submitted.

A. Hamborg reported we are still in need of a Junior Coaches Representative. This is an empty BoD seat. She will contact W. Bayer for an update.

Old Business

Request by the Disability Committee to include Para athletes in National Travel Fund disbursement.

Motion: M. Radford All Disability/Para-classified athletes, shall receive National Travel reimbursement based on the recommendation of the Disability Committee

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED

to the Travel Fund Committee, regardless of National Team status. (B. Kubik 2nd).

Discussion:

- M. Wardwell reported that he has been working with the Disability Committee to get acceptable wording for this policy change. He felt that he had failed them and apologized. In discussions with both the Governance Committee and the Senior Committee it is his understanding that these committees are unhappy with the wording and would like to see changes. M. Wardwell went on to say that he does not think there is enough Board support to pass this policy change, as currently written. H. Convery (Senior Chair) put a recommendation in his [Senior Committee] report that perhaps gets this done. L. Ferreira stated that he did see H. Convery's report, but felt it was enough of a change that we would have to Table or Fail this Motion in order to make his change. It would need to be a separate proposal. He also stated that he did not think Governance thinks this policy change is ready for a vote.
- A. Hamborg responded. yes, Governance feels that these are two pieces of legislation wrapped up into one; they need to be separated. Specifically, the second part of the legislation contradicts the authority of the Travel Fund Committee. The Governance Committee would like to see more time given to work on the wording.
- L. Ferreira asked if there is anyone on the call that is in favor of this proposal?
- H. Convery noted that everyone on the Senior Committee supports what he believes was the intent of the proposal, which was to take away the cap on the National Team members for Para athletes. He's not sure if there is another intent as well. If their intent is to allow Para athletes, who are members of the national team(s), to be eligible for travel funds, there is a much simpler approach (see Senior Committee report). He recommends that they put some language under the Disability Committee's responsibilities or the Travel Fund Committee's responsibilities to receive a report of the Para athletes' needs. He feels we should be able to get approval of the first part of this request. However, this amendment, as submitted, has language that goes beyond this and therefore there are those not in favor.
- T. Coan presented that every obstacle that they have been given they have tried to put something forward.
 - March they were told:
 - Be more generous.
 - Need a seat on the Travel Committee.
 - Need a seat on the Board.
 - April:
 - Work with M. Wardwell to word this request correctly.

The committee is working really hard and trying to meet everyone's expectations. With every attempt, there is a new obstacle. We hear that there is support but we do not see it. We do not know how to put it in the language. She asked, do we need outside help? We worked with M. Wardwell and that was not acceptable. We'd like clarification of what is expected of us and who we should get help from.

- A. Hamborg suggested that if Disability worked with the Travel Fund Chair on this legislation that would be helpful because it would be removing the back and forth. This would allow you to come up with language that has consensus from both your committees. Governance can then look it over to see how it fits in with our documents.

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED

- T. Coan responded that they were asked to work with M. Wardwell, which they did. They are now willing to work with H. Convery (Travel Fund). They want to make sure that it is recognized and that they are working down the right channel.
- L. Ferreira stated at this point we have a Motion and a second for this proposal. Our option is to put it up for a vote. He believes there is support for the intent but not for the language. If it is rejected, we would need to figure out how to move forward. First, we need to address the proposal on the table unless it gets Pulled or there is a motion to Table.
- W. Hamborg stated our options are a Motion to Table or a Motion to Commit, which would send it back to a committee.
- T. Coan asked about the Motion to Commit. L. Ferreira stated that anyone of the involved parties may take it back to committee and work on the wording. As the committee that submitted the change, the Disability Committee may Pull the request. T. Coan then asked H. Convery if he was willing to work with her Committee to get acceptable wording. He replied yes as he already has a simpler solution. If the goal is to get the National athletes funded, he recommends using the language he put in his minutes. If there is more, he is willing to work with that as well.
- B. Kubik thought that H. Convery's email (Senior Committee Report) stated that anyone on the National Team would not get reimbursement.
- L. Ferreira pulled up Senior Committee report that showed H. Convery's suggested wording:
 - Sponsored athletes (para and non-para) or National Team athletes (non-para only) are not eligible for reimbursement.
- B. Kubik said if she understands this correctly a sponsored athletes (Arena, Speedo, TYR etc.) would not receive funds but if you are a non-sponsored Para athlete on the National team, you are eligible. H. Convery replied yes. She then went on to ask if the contentious part of the policy was the statement that the Para athlete should receive the same amount of money as the able-bodied athlete.
 - H. Convery responded no. It is the part where the Disability Committee shall set the meets and the amount and send it over to the Travel Fund for reimbursement.
 - B. Kubik replied that was not the intent. All they are requesting is for Para National Team members to receive reimbursement as they are not being funded [part A]. Part B is that the Para athlete are to receive the same amount of funding as their able-bodied counterparts. She stated they do not know how the amounts are decided. "We don't know the Travel Fund formula; there is very little transparency. We are just looking for equality".
 - H. Convery stated we should go ahead and take care of part A and work on part B. He is willing to work with Disability on Part B. He said, concerning the formula, if there is a 10-day meet for able-bodied and a 3-day meet for Para, there may not be support for equal funding straight up. Two meets of the same number of days, one in California and one in Greensboro (NC), may receive different funding. Greensboro may get less, even if it is the higher-level meet. They try to consider actual travel costs and costs of surrounding area.
- M. Wardwell stated that we should take our time and really craft out what is desired. One of the issues is that this has been rushed to get it on the agenda in the allotted time.
- L. Ferreira asked if there are any athletes that will be affected by us not voting on this tonight. If so, they need to request the funding and we will work on getting the funding on the back end. If the meet is at the end of June, they have until the end of July to request reimbursement. World

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED

Series is coming up and B. Kubik asked about a cap. According to H. Convery the cap would be the same as for able-bodied athletes. H. Convery stated that he's still working with T. Coan, working out specifics for Para.

- T. Coan would like to take care of the National Team first and work with H. Convery on the rest.

Resolution: Proposal Pulled by T. Coan and the National Team portion will be addressed in new business.

New Business

- Amend Policy Manual 6.4.2. Currently excludes all National Team members from travel reimbursement. Insert the following language (noted in red).
 - Sponsored athletes (**para and non-para**) or National Team athletes (**non-para only**) are not eligible for reimbursement.

Motion: W. Hamborg use H. Convery's language to allow non-sponsored Para athletes on the National Team to receive travel reimbursement from the GASI Travel Fund (M. Wardwell 2nd)
Discussion: no discussion
Vote: Unanimous approval
Resolution: motion carries. Policy Manual 6.4.2 will be updated to allow non-sponsored Para athletes the opportunity to qualify for Travel Reimbursement from the GASI Travel Fund.

- Appeal by ABSC for Short Course Fines.
 - Request from ABSC to provide proof of times outside the 60-day window (in accordance with Bylaws 5.12) for 2024 Age Group Short Course State.

Discussion: J. Foggin presented this request. He received the email request for proof of times but due to an emergency medical procedure was unable to process them within the allocated time. He neglected to send the request to his colleges. He asked the Board for clemency.

Motion: R. Copeland to allow ABSC to present Proof of Times outside the 60-day window for Short Course State (W. Hamborg 2nd)
Discussion: no discussion
Vote: Unanimous approval
Resolution: ABSC may submit SC Proof of Times to the Age Group Committee to prevent fines.

- J. Foggin thanked the BoD and then asked how he should proceed with the submission, as the new Age Group Chair is an ABSC Coach. H. Convery stated that just use the Team Unify printout and that should be adequate proof if anyone questions it.
- Selection of delegates for Annual Business Meeting (ABM).
 - We are sending 6-7 delegates, but we only have 4 voting positions. One non-athlete/non-coach vote, plus 3 additional votes.

DRAFT - UNAPPROVED

- L. Ferreira will query those going to the meeting.
 - If he receives more requests than slots, he will present it for a vote, online.
 - He will notify the Board of selection.
 - Delegate names need to be submitted to USAS by June 15, 2024, we cannot wait for the next meeting.
 - Delegates may be changed after this date.
- Determine date of next BoD meeting.
Currently set for June 19, 2024
 - This is in the middle of the Southern Zone Athlete Summit
 - Also, in the middle of Olympic Trials.
 - Both L. Ferreira and N. Harmon are not available.

Motion: M. Wardwell move June BoD to June 26, 2024, due to conflicts (N. Harmon 2nd)
Discussion: W. Hamborg and B. Kubik, not available June 26, 2024, due to Para Trials.
Date changed to June 24, 2024. OK'd by M. Wardwell.
Vote: Unanimous approval
Resolution: 2024 June BoD will take place June 24, 2024, 8:30pm.

Announcements

Next BoD meeting is Monday, June 24, 2024, 8:30pm.

Adjournment

Motion: M. Wardwell to adjourn open session (M. Radford 2nd)
Discussion: no discussion
Vote: Unanimous approval
Resolution: meeting adjourned 9:41pm

Respectfully submitted:

Nancy Harmon

GASI Secretary

May 20, 2024

Submitted Reports

General Chair



General Chair
Report May 2024.pdf

Admin Vice Chair



Policy & Procedures
Manual.pdf

Senior Committee Report



Senior Committee
Report May 2024.pdf

Officials Committee Report



Officials Committee
Report May 2204.pdf

Registrar



LSC Transaction
Summary 2022-2023



LSC Transaction
Summary 2023-2024.



Registrar Report
Club Membership 2



Registrar Report
Club Membership 2

Personnel Committee



Personnel
Committee Executive

Finance Committee



Finance Committee
Budget vs. Actuals 2



Finance Committee
Statement of Activity

Governance Committee



Governance
Committee Report N

Disability Committee



Disability Committee
Legislative Change I

Athletes Committee no report submitted.

Admin Vice Chair no report submitted.

Operations Risk no report submitted.

Safe Sport no report submitted.

Coaches Committee no report submitted.