

# APPROVED



## BoD Minutes

July 17, 2024

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  
Kevin Sullivan (OAC) Treasurer  
Nancy Harmon (PAC) Secretary  
Hugh Convery (GA) Senior Vice-Chair

Wil Bayer (SA) Coaches Chair  
Wes Hamborg (WRA) Tech Planning Chair  
Clarice Wasmuth (DYNA) Officials Chair  
Holly Mattson (HURR) Senior Athlete Rep  
Tommie L. Jackson (CAD) DE&I Chair

### **BoD members absent.**

Charlotte Foggin (ABSC) Junior Athlete Rep  
Mike Radford (ABSC) Age Group Vice-Chair  
Brook Kubik (SA) Safe Sport Chair

Will Guichard (SA) Senior Athlete at-large  
Landry Liston (BT) 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

### **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.

|                |             |                                                                               |
|----------------|-------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Motion:</b> | R. Copeland | <u>to approve BoD minutes from June 24, 2024 (M. Wardwell 2<sup>nd</sup>)</u> |
|                | Discussion: | none                                                                          |
|                | Vote:       | approved by acclamation                                                       |
|                | Resolution: | June 24, 2024, minutes approved                                               |

# APPROVED

## Officer Reports

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

H. Mattson reported that the Junior Athlete Representative application has been posted and is due back by Sunday, July 21, 2024, by midnight. If you know of any interested athletes, please make sure they apply.

**Finance Committee** (R. Copeland, K. Sullivan) Present, report submitted.

- R. Copeland presented that we are on track financially.
- The Zone meet is our next big item. We will know this time next month how well we tracked.
- We are ahead of budget in most categories under Revenue Expenses.
- The Committee is starting to plan for next year's budget.
  - New template has been issued to Committee Chairs to help with setting budget requests. Please complete this and return it in a timely manner.
  - Questions: contact R. Copeland or K. Sullivan
- Block Party Meets was discussed.
  - Committee feels there will be minimal impact on Sanction fees.
    - Senior Committee may need to look at this as far as revenue for travel fund.
    - Our LSC does not charge as large a Sanction Fee as some other LSCs. The cost of a Sanctioned Meet and a Block Party Meet are comparable.
    - Our large meets (Championships) must be sanctioned, so little impact.
    - If anyone thinks otherwise, please reach out to the Committee to express your opinion.
  - W. Bayer asked if Block Party is up and running. He thought it was still a test market.
    - R. Copeland responded that he thought rollout would be September 2024.
    - C. Wasmuth noted that J. Frankel (representing GOLD) submitted a request today and it was approved immediately.
      - Officials have been asking questions. C. Wasmuth reached out to the NOC. They said there would be more information released in September at the ABM. She was told that they are in a gathering information time and that no officials need to participate.
      - There was a specific question about apprentice sessions. K. Sullivan shared that you must have 2 Officials present to put into OTS, but they do count.
      - A. Hamborg said she would send C. Wasmuth a fact sheet.
      - R. Copeland stated that there is a website as well ([blockpartyswim.org](http://blockpartyswim.org)). He went on to say there are two types of meets, a fully approved meets and a "roll your own" meet. There are higher requirements for those fully approved. We do need to decide internally (not a Finance Committee issue) if we wish to have times from these meets count toward selection events.
      - M. Wardwell added that he had a call scheduled with Julie Bachman (Gulf LSC Executive Director), tomorrow. If you have any questions, please email him and he will present them.

# APPROVED

- L. Ferreira noted that Block Party is still in a Beta testing phase. The stated goal of the project is to get teams that do not normally host meets to begin to host them.
  - He is not sure how or why teams got invitations to join. Gwinnett Aquatics received an invitation and they have hosted Sanctioned meets in the past few years.
  - A. Hamborg shared that WRA requested to host and did not make any of the criteria required and they were still approved after meeting with J. Bachman. A. Hamborg noted perhaps, they are just trying to gauge interest. She did ask about the “conspiracy theory” rumor that USAS is trying to get rid of LSCs. J. Bachman replied that this is not the case. A. Hamborg added that it is more likely a reaction to AAU.
- A. Hamborg noted that this might increase registration income for the LSC. It may encourage smaller clubs that do not register all their athletes to use the Flex program to cover their athletes’ insurance, thereby giving them an avenue to participate in practices and swim meets. She does not believe this will affect our year-round USA swimmers.
  - L. Ferreira felt like that is the hope of the project.
  - It is definitely a reaction to AAU.
- L. Ferreira reminded the Board that Budget requests are due, please fill out the template and get them submitted.

L. Ferreira started with a reminder, please make sure you take minutes for your meetings, and they are then submitted to the Board to be posted.

- L. Ferreira placed an item on the agenda to discuss SWAD scoring as it has been an issue for both the upcoming Championship meets. Although it was understood that both committees had accepted scoring of the SWAD athlete there was no documentation.
  - It was thought that Age Group had accepted the proposal from Disability to score SWAD swimmer at the Age Group Championship meet beginning this summer. However, when looking for details to add to the Meet Information there were no committee minutes, nor any details posted as to what was accepted.
  - Senior Committee did state in their monthly BoD minutes that they had accepted scoring SWADs at the Senior Championships but again, nowhere stating how it was to be implemented.
  - L. Ferreira noted that this discussion was taking place last week and the meet is this week. He had heard that it was resolved but asked if there was anyone on the call from the Age Group Committee who wanted to address the issue.
    - As no one was present, N. Harmon (Meet Referee) stated that yes SWAD swimmer(s) would be scoring at the Age Group meet. If the athlete makes a Para Sectional Cut, they will swim in finals and score. Currently there is only one athlete. A representative for the Disability Committee presented a complicated formula to determine points if multiple swimmers’ swim; we are not using it, for now.
- A. Hamborg asked if a swimmers’ accommodation is to compete in the 11-12 events when they are actually 13-14, are they allowed to participate in an event that is not

# APPROVED

offered to 13–14-year-olds? N. Harmon replied that this has not been addressed as our current swimmer is only asking to swim events that apply to both age groups. [Swimmer did actually enter an event that was not offered at 13-14. Resolution was that the swimmer participated in prelims but could not score.]

- L. Ferreira stated it would have been good to have a Disability representative on tonight's call.
- N. Harmon noted that Senior Championships may have more issues in that they have more SWAD participants. However, they did have a bit more of a paper trail.
  - H. Convery said that it is no more complicated for them. You usually have multiple athletes swimming different events. Each one will score as able-bodied athletes.
  - L. Ferreira said, not to belabor the point, but at Senior State we no longer score teams or give high point awards. So, he was not sure exactly the relevance of all this work. Age Group does have the Team awards and high point awards. We have spent a lot of time on this issue, and he is not sure how much it even affects the outcome.
- M. Wardwell mentioned that the current SWAD swimmer at Age Group does in fact have some 50's that do not correlate to 13–14-year-old events. N. Harmon noted that she had not requested accommodations for those events, but she would investigate before the meet begins.

**Officials Chair** (C. Wasmuth) Present, report submitted.

- The Committee is looking for a new Sanction Chair. H. Boyer is resigning but will stay on to train her successor.
  - There were numerous extenuating circumstances, the last of which was the Sanctioning update for SWAD for both Age Group and Senior State.
  - There was an issue from the beginning with both of these meets as she (Sanction Chair) was going on vacation, with Trials at the end of June there was added pressure to get the Meet Information updated quickly. C. Wasmuth repeatedly asked the Committees to submit their requests but both Sanction requests came in just before her departure. This is a volunteer position.
  - Additionally, even though it's called a Chair, this is a committee of one.
  - There is currently no succession plan. Past Sanction Chairs have chosen the next Sanction Chair. C. Wasmuth looked into our Policy and Procedures, and this is an appointed position, with direction by the Senior Vice Chair. The committee is to be made up of the following:
    - Admin Vice Chair
    - Officials Chair
    - Senior Chair
    - Age Group Chair
    - Senior Athlete Representative
  - L. Ferreira stated that historically the committee has been just for review. They may make minor changes if they see something.
    - He noted that in Georgia we host enough meets that perhaps it is too big for just one person.

# APPROVED

- When he was In Iowa, as Admin Vice Chair, he was responsible for Sanctions. It was a big job and they only hosted one meet per weekend.
  - We may need co-Chairs.
  - We did talk about the new employee taking this over but that is currently not in the plan.
  - In the short term we need to look for two people to take over this job and share the burden.
  - C. Wasmuth is hoping to convince H. Boyer to stay on through the year and work with someone to train them.
- C. Wasmuth sees this as an opportunity to revamp the very unpopular (cumbersome, hard to work) Sanction form. She believes that is where some of the errors begin (during the transcribing).
  - Need someone who is tech savvy.
  - Need to find a different modality; something other than a word document that doesn't like tables.
  - We need to find something that will be easier for coaches and clubs. We need to clean up the template, make it easier so it is submitted correctly from the beginning.
  - She feels the new hire could have a hand in it, even if it's just oversight. It is very important to the clubs.
- L. Ferreira brought up that it is also unclear how much information USA Swimming mandates on Sanctions; he thinks we have more information than is necessary. He is not a fan of the 10 page Meet Information document. We can clear that up. From what he understands there is only 2 or 3 lines that we must have. We have just been adding to the template and there is a lot that can be deleted.
  - C. Wasmuth added that she has spoken to other Officials Chairs and other LSCs use links to the pertinent information rather than imbedding into the document.
  - W. Bayer reiterated that they took the words right out of his mouth. The form mentions 12&Under suit policy, the tables are not easy to work with; the document is 5-8 years old, and we've just been putting band aids on it. It's time to start over. It needs to be one page that is always the same and after that teams may customize it however they want.
  - A. Hamborg suggested that this might be the time to make this position both an Official and a Coach sharing the role. Not an actual policy change but a good practice. Officials just do what the document states; Coaches would have a better perspective of what is needed and how things work. This would be a good collaboration point.
  - K. Sullivan, seconded W. Bayer's position. He felt like we need to start over, as well. The document (Meet Information) should be specific to the meet. All this information that is repeated could be a single link.
- L. Ferreira noted that we have an action item coming out of all this. He and C. Wasmuth need to get together to produce some names. Additionally, if we need a coach, we need to include W. Bayer. Additionally, this is:
  - an opportunity to clean up the documents.

# APPROVED

- an opportunity to have someone work with H. Boyer before she steps aside.
- H. Convery, most importantly, spoke up to say that some of the frustration this week was due to outside parties going directly to the Sanction Chair about something that was not in the meet information. The pertinent information was not coming from the (Age Group/Senior) committees. One should know that if you have a question about a meet, you should always start with the Host Club.

## **General Chair (L. Ferreira) present, report submitted.**

- Delegates to USA Swimming for the Annual Business Meeting in September had to be submitted by last Monday.
  - Submitted the following names:
    - Lucas Ferreira
      - Mike Wardwell
      - Wes Hamborg
      - C. Wasmuth
  - He asked USAS why he had to submit the names. He felt this was a waste of time since he could change them up to 72h prior to the meeting.
    - USAS answered that they have a Congressional mandate for a specific number of athletes.
    - L. Ferreira will investigate this further.
  - W. Bayer noted that he plans to go and just needs details about registration. C. Wasmuth will forward the information to W. Bayer tonight.
- In the LSC Leadership call last week USA Swimming unveiled a plan to increase Club Membership fees from \$70.00 to \$275.00 per year, of which \$50.00 goes to the LSC. That is over a 300% raise. Additionally, fees for a new club is set at \$750 per year for 1<sup>st</sup> 3 years. USAS will be providing a number of services, many of which he felt they should have already been offering. This will be on the agenda at the ABM, and he believes it will be an uphill battle.
  - H. Convery indicated they sent out a new ad that highlighted the new services. They all sound good.
  - M. Wardwell concurred but stated that he has lots of questions. He felt that the math does not make sense, but this is a discussion for another time.
  - K. Sullivan asserted that it does not make sense as well. Smaller teams will have a much harder time than larger teams with this increase.
  - W. Bayer observed that he thought they should have been increasing fees on the clubs rather than the individuals a long time ago.
  - L. Ferreira answered that they mentioned that the club registration fee has not been raised since 1990. According to their data this amount is still below inflation. He felt that is beside the point. You don't try to make it up in one year.
  - He felt that it was important that our delegates know how our members feel as this will be a point of contention at the ABM.

## **Age Group Chair (M. Radford) Not present, no report submitted.**

- Age Group minutes has a correction.

# APPROVED

- It currently states that This is the last year having a B-session in the meet.
- The correction is that This is only for Short Course. Long Course will remain the same as there is no other weekend in the calendar to hold the B-session Long Course meet.
- Age Group Committee new member request: Allison Touant of Stingrays.

**Motion:** R. Copeland to approve Allison Touant, Age Group Committee Member (M. Wardwell 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
Discussion: no discussion  
Vote: approved by acclamation  
Resolution: Allison Touant new member of the Age Group Committee.

## **Administrative Reports**

**Registrar** (L. Thompson) Present, report submitted.  
We are a little below USA in our retention but not too far off.

**Business Manager** (J. Pepper) Present, no report submitted.

## **Committee Reports:**

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

- We are still in need of a second Coaches Representative. W. Bayer stated he will work on it this weekend.
- A. Hamborg asked if anyone has started looking into a Strategic Plan for the next quad. Suggested that now is a good time as August or September has some downtime.

**Personnel Committee:** no report submitted. Executive session will take place following this meeting. Board members please stay on.

## **Old Business**

Mighty Mega Event in November. We will be sending 2 people from the LSC, one of which will be the new Executive Director. L. Ferreira has had a couple of people express interest in attending.

## **New Business**

- Set a date for the Fall House of Delegates.
  - Several Board of Directors members are not available August 24, 2024.
  - W. Hamborg noted that there is not a lot to cover at this meeting. But, if we go earlier in the month, you will be cutting into vacations and may not get as much participation.
    - Budget is the primary item on the agenda. We no longer need to set the calendar and elections were in the Spring.
    - Suggestion August 17 for committee meetings, HoD on August 18. In the past we have run committees back-to-back.
      - This will still be a hybrid meeting for both committees and HoD.

# APPROVED

- Waiting on USAS to set the national meets calendar has been an issue in the past. USAS meeting is September 26-28, 2024.

**Motion:** K. Sullivan      set August 17/18, 2024, for Fall HoD, location TBD (M. Wardwell 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
**Discussion:** H. Convery would prefer one day.  
Amanda Hamborg noted we need 20 days' notice.  
W. Bayer will look into GT, L Ferreira will have K. Krug check on GAC.  
**Vote:** approved by acclimation  
**Resolution:** HoD meeting will be held on the weekend of August 17/18, 2024.

- H. Convery received a request from H. Humphreys (ABSC) for a post graduate swimmer to receive Travel Fund reimbursement from Georgia Swimming. He did not meet the requirements of swimming at least 2 meets in Georgia.
  - L. Ferreira asked for a motion to be approved.
    - No motion.
    - Request denied.

## Announcements

Next regularly scheduled BoD meeting scheduled for August 21, 2024, 8:30pm.  
Fall HoD meeting scheduled for August 17/18, 2024, details to be determined.

## Adjournment

**Motion:** M. Wardwell      to adjourn (W Bayer 2<sup>nd</sup>)  
**Discussion:** no discussion  
**Vote:** Unanimous approval  
**Resolution:** meeting adjourned 9:39pm

Respectfully submitted:

*Nancy Harmon*

GASI Secretary  
July 24, 2024



# APPROVED

## Submitted Reports

### Athletes Committee



Atheletes Report  
July 2024.pdf

### General Chair



24 07 General Chair  
Report.pdf

### Finance Committee



Georgia Swimming Finance Committee  
2024-25 Budget ReqMinutes 2024-07-09.

### Officials Report



Official's Chair  
Report July 2024.pd

### Senior Committee



SC Senior State 2023 QTs.pdf  
2023 Georgia Short  
Course Senior State

### Age Group Committee Report



Age Group  
Committee Report 7

### DE&I Report



Georgia Swimming  
DEI Committee Meet

### Disability Committee Report



Disability Report  
July 2024.pdf

### Registrar



2023 LSC  
Transaction Summa  
2024 LSC  
Transaction Summa

### Governance Committee



2024-07  
Governance Commit



Georgia Swimming  
Club Membership Bi  
Georgia Swimming  
2024-25 Budget Req

**Admin Vice Chair** no report submitted.

**Operations Risk** no report submitted.

**Safe Sport** no report submitted.

**Coaches Committee** no report submitted.

**Personnel Committee** no report submitted.