

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED



HOD Meeting Minutes August 29, 2020

The meeting began at 2:01pm via Zoom. Steve Potter reviewed ground rules for the virtual HOD meeting.

BOD members present:

Steve Potter (DAQ) - General Chair
Jamey Myers (SCAT) - Admin Vice-Chair
Rob Copeland (SCAT) - Finance Vice-Chair
Joe DeCarlo (RAYS) - Treasurer
Beau Caldwell (SEGA) - Secretary
Mark Schilling (GOLD) - Senior Chair
Sydney Pepper (DYNA) - Age Group Chair
Ceci Christy (UNAT) - Safe Sport Chair
Ed Saltzman (DYNA) - Officials Chair

Jenn Bowers (HURR) - Sr Coaches Rep
Ian Goss (RAYS) - Jr Coaches Rep
Wes Hamborg (WRA) - Tech Planning Chair
Will Foggin (ABSC) - Sr Athlete Rep
Elizabeth Isakson (GOLD) - Jr. Athlete Rep
Henry Bethel (CCAC) - Athlete At-Large
Hannah Burke (GA) - Athlete At-Large
Daniel DeCarlo (RAYS) - Athlete At-Large

GSI Swimming staff present:

Veronica Burchill, Interim Business Manager
Lora Thompson, Membership coordinator

GSI Members clubs and number of representatives in attendance:

ATAQ (1), ABSC (3), BAY (1), CCAC (2), GOLD (3), CAD (2), HURR (1), DAQ (4), DYNA (5), GA (4), GCAT (2), LA (1), LIFE (1), LINS (1), OAC (1), SCAT (1), SPAC (9), SA (2), SEGA (3), TARA (3), TWS (1), WRA (2), UN (1)

[Note: numbers above include both athlete and non-athlete members in attendance representing each member club, but do not include BOD members listed above serving GSI in an elected capacity. A complete registration and attendance list is attached to this document. For questions or records regarding attendance, contact GSI Secretary.]

Call to order, approval of minutes

Potter began the business portion of the meeting at 2:05pm by reading the mission and vision of the LSC. Potter advised conflict of interest

Motion (Bethel): To approve minutes from June 13 (Myers second)
Discussion: None
Vote: Majority approval by clicking yes on Zoom
Resolution: Minutes from June 13 approved

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

Reports of officers

General Chair (Potter) - Present, no report

Admin Vice-Chair (Myers) -

- Discussed administrative changes presented to finance committee

Finance Committee (J.DeCarlo & Copeland) -

2020-21 Budget - Copeland reviewed the proposed 2020-21 budget and highlighted changes from the previous year.

Motion (Bethel): To approve 2020-21 budget (D.DeCarlo second)

Discussion: Question arose about what we charged athletes for zones last year. Convery commented that if we're going to charge people \$1000 to charge for zones, the BOD should look into a scholarship opportunity for families who cannot afford cost. Copeland confirmed the BOD could look into this.

Vote: Majority approval by clicking yes on Zoom

Resolution: 2020-21 budget adopted

Senior Chair (Shilling) -

- SC Senior state not on the calendar in December, as there was not a feasible option for running it. Looking to do something in Feb/March. GHSA meet may influence Senior State Championships
- Encouraging a virtual meet in late November/early December - Asking coaches committee to extend this date as wide as possible. The athletes liked this idea.
- LC Senior State - Committee is not ready to accept a bid at this point due to facility unknowns, but have identified July 23-25 as the date they'd like to hold the meet.
 - Ian Murray commented that it may be easier for teams logistically to host an all-encompassing meet to coincide with what the national calendar and what the LSC wants to do. Murray suggested keeping flexibility toward clubs based on local guidelines with their facility.
 - Wes Hamborg commented that a task-force will be created to oversee this virtual meet. Murray responded that he knows Winter Juniors will not be conducted in-person, as Dynamo has been told they will not host Juniors or US Open at Georgia Tech.
 - Hugh Convery asked the senior committee to put something out that's more concrete to give our athletes something to work towards. Convery suggested that if we know the date, we can adjust parameters later. Schilling commented that having a larger window to hold the virtual meet is good for flexibility, but having a restricted date may leave teams out who don't have a certified pool.

Age Group chair (Pepper) -

- SC AG State will be decided upon in the next 30-45 days.

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

- Motion (Caldwell):** To approve approve GA bid for 2021 LC AG State, on July 15-18 at GT to include 6k stipend from GSI, and \$21 surcharge in meet fees (D. DeCarlo second)
- Discussion:** None
- Vote:** Majority approval by clicking yes on Zoom
- Resolution:** GA awarded 2021 LC AG State

Registrar (L.Thompson) -

- 2021 registration and club application is open. Applicable forms are posted on website
- Membership report posted to event page

Interim Business Manager (Burchill) - Present, no report

Athletes committee (W. Foggin) -

- Elizabeth Isakson was elected as Junior athlete rep and Hannah Burke as Junior at-large.
- Small turnout at athletes meeting - trying to engage more athletes

Officials committee (Saltzman) -

- Report posted to the event page.
- Effective sept 1, USAS 12&U suit restrictions go into effect which supersedes GSI Suit policy.

Safe Sport (Christy) - Report posted to website

- Keeping Athletes First committee is supporting SafeSport going all out to ensure all clubs across the country are SSRP certified before Jan 1, 2022 deadline.
- USAS designated more money toward SafeSport efforts; USAS has hired a social media coordinator for such business and communication.
- Push is for USAS to have 1 LSC get all of their member clubs SSRP certified. GSI BOD has approved a motion to make this a requirement in Georgia, as this aligns well with GSI mission and vision, and there is a cash incentive for the LSC for getting this completed.

Diversity Coordinator (Jackson) - Present;

- Email coming about National diversity camp

Disability Coordinator (Orth) - Not present, no report

Coaches representatives (Bowers & Goss) -

- Aiming to host a virtual meet, last 2 weeks of Nov to 1st 2 weeks of Dec. A committee will be formed to work out logistics.
- Put forward to tech planning a platform for teams to contact facilities and other teams in trying to help get meets up and running.
- Survey being put out in regards to current status of teams in GSI.

Open Water (Sullivan) -

- Planning to host OW qualifier in the spring

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

Technical Planning (Hamborg) -

- Report posted to website;
- Tech planning committee voted to keep the 2020-21 SC calendar as a living document. 2021 LC calendar will be a living document, and possibly approved in the spring.

Old Business

None

New Business

Finance committee amendment -

Copeland presented an amendment to section 9 of GSI Policies & Procedures manual on the screen, stating the goal is to put more structure around a working calendar. Unbudgeted and over budgeted expenditures are revised and outlined, giving a process to spend money in the budget that hasn't been allocated.

Motion (Caldwell): To approve amendments to section 9 (motion seconded)

Discussion: None

Vote: Motion carries by majority of yes votes via Zoom

Resolution: Amendment to section 9 adopted.

SSRP Requirement

Caldwell shared his screen with the posted report. Potter said it's our prerogative to be more stringent than USAS, and because of this, it must be brought to our HOD for approval.

Motion (Christy): To require GSI clubs to achieve USAS SafeSport Recognized program status in order to register with Georgia Swimming for 2020-21 competitive year
(D.DeCarlo second)

Discussion: Ferreira raised the issue that this was not communicated to clubs well enough when the BOD approved it. Bayer raised the issue that time would be an issue for clubs to meet the deadline by Dec 31, 2020. Goss offered that this was discussed in a SafeSport committee meeting, and the program has been in existence for a year and a half now, and we want athletes to be safer. Humphries commented that he agrees with Goss on safety, but being forced to do this is time constricting and time consuming on everyone involved, and that the extra stress of the pandemic makes it difficult to meet this deadline. Wrighton echoed sentiments from Humphries and asked the board to be flexible with SSRP like with the calendar and scheduling. Sullivan said there are going to be a lot of clubs who wait til the last minute anyway, so completing this sooner rather than later is good. Goss commented that the hardships are why we need to do it, and we have 1 volunteer that has to coordinate this effort for the entire LSC. Camilo asked if we could push it back a few months to the Spring HOD, as smaller teams aren't even in the water yet. Goss responded that we don't have anything to hold over the clubs, and we're doing this to give a firm deadline with repercussions (no clubregistration); the issue is that many clubs have not started. Bethel said that Goss brings up a good point, so to set up an end of the year deadline is additionally difficult on the volunteer. Christy commented that several

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

are concerned with the time constraints, but since COVID restrictions went in place, it's been the best time to get SSRP recognized, and that GSI has made the most progress during this period. Green said she is a small team and their team accomplished this without water time; commented as well that Christy is very accommodating. Will Foggin commented that a lot of athletes are back in school and it would be challenging for athletes to compete and for their respective clubs to meet their percentage needs. D.DeCarlo said his club canceled a practice to allow athletes to complete this. Amanda Hamborg agreed that this motion is time-restrictive to make such a change to the membership requirements; also said that Christy has been great, but USAS has not been great in turning things around. Krug said this would violate rules & regs because it's outside the 20-day window. Caldwell presented that the heart of this issue is survivors of childhood sexual abuse, and that the temperature in the room would be different if someone were here to speak on that. Shaheen clarified that all athletes over 18, officials, BOD members have to complete APT, and it's very common sense stuff and not very difficult. Ferreira commented again that many clubs are not aware of this proposal and aware of this legislation being passed down. Gavin Jones commented that from an athletes perspective it's not realistic to be completed by Dec 31, 2020, and applicable to all clubs. Myers commented that he is an abuse survivor, and that he agrees with the 20-day window comment, but this is something we should vote in favor of, as it's been out there for enough time, and we should be supporting our volunteer leading this effort. DeCarlo says that athletes not having time is not a viable argument, and would have no problem able to fit 45 min into his schedule. Jones commented that many teams are not back in the water.

Called to question: (Myers, Saltzman second)

Discussion: None

Question called by majority yes votes

Potter clarified that we put this out there with less than 20 days, but this is a policy & procedures change, not a bylaw change. If we amend anything in our bylaws, there is a notice period, but it's not amended until it's approved by USAS. Potter reviewed the 69 page governance documents of GSI (bylaws, policies & procedures, and rules & regulations), but has failed to find where it says 20 days notice is required for a policy & procedure change. Potter says we're going to hold this vote, but is unsure if we need a simple majority or $\frac{2}{3}$ vote to approve this. Following the vote, GSI will seek consultation with the governance committee on this, and send this to the rules & regulations committee for interpretation.

(Secretary's note: votes were cast by clicking 'yes' or 'no' using voting software on zoom. Votes were recorded through video to verify that each vote was indeed a registered delegate)

Vote: Motion approved with 37 in favor, 28 opposed, and 5 abstentions.

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED

Resolution: Potter will take the result and seek appropriate interpretation of if this approval can move forward.

(Secretary's note: Ballots and recordings will be destroyed when vote retention is no longer necessary)

Announcements

- Next meeting will be in April 2021.

Adjournment

Motion (Myers): To adjourn (Salzman second)

Discussion: Discussion came up in regards to setting a date for HOD. Potter clarified this isn't necessary since we cannot set definitive dates for competitions in December, let alone a potential all virtual meeting in April.

Vote: Unanimous approval

Resolution: Meeting adjourned at 3:47pm.

Respectfully submitted Fri, Sept 4, 2020 by Beau Caldwell
GSI Secretary

DRAFT-UNAPPROVED