



Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Date: April 10, 2016

Time: 8:30 am to 10:15 am and 1:00 pm to 2:00 pm

Location: Hilton Garden Inn, Glen Allen, VA

Meeting called by:	General Chair	Type of meeting:	VSI BoD Meeting
Facilitator:	Admin Vice-Chair	Note taker:	Secretary
Attendees:	Steve Hennessy, Art Anthony, Terry Randolph, Mary Turner, Bob Rustin, Drew Hirth, Jim Frye, Bill Geizsler, Jessica Simons, Gordon Hair, Jill Rhyne, Michael Braum, Ted Sallade, Peter Maloney, Kevin McHaney, Dave Henderson, Scott Baldwin, Bob Herlinger, Maureen Tolliver, David Strider, Emily Erard, Alix Nielan		

Steve called the meeting to order at 8:35. Minutes will be reviewed during afternoon portion of meeting. Steve Phillips has stepped down as Club Development chair and as Head Coach for Gators.

Treasurer's Report - Report submitted

- The report was approved as submitted; explained currently over budget due to paying deposits for Zones. There were no questions. Presentation was seconded by Bill, voted on and approved.

Minutes from previous board meeting

Ashby presented the minutes during the second portion of the meeting. Small edits were made and the minutes were passed as edited.

Presentation of 2016-2017 Budget (and Finance Report)

Bill reviewed Proposed Budget

- Budget proposal similar to last year. Anticipated revenue is up due to forecasted larger number of swimmers. There will be a \$2.00 increase on the USA Swimming Fee for this year.
- Expenses:
 - Included money for club development grants – this money has not been spent due to procedure not being in place until January.
 - Admin expenses are higher due to external audit.
 - Camps and Clinics budget – asked to increase to \$5000.00 since entire budgeted amount was used this year.
 - Athlete reimbursements was also increased by \$1000.00
- Deficit is approximately the same as last year.
- Explained small increases in some line items. Outreach amount also increased due to current spending.
- Presentation of budget is a motion. Seconded by Jessica, and approved.

Bill also discussed cost for zones competition will increase this year and should be just under \$800 per athlete due to location of the meet. Further notes in Age Group Report.

Presentation of 2016-2017 Calendar (and Tech Planning Report)

- There were additions to what Jessica sent out this past week. ***Jessica will send out updated schedule.***
- A team has bid for a meet on same weekend as Fall Swimposium (Sept 17-18, 2016). Jessica asked for feedback from Board. Steve explained previous discussion of Board to not hold meets on fall and spring Education/Leadership weekends but this action was not put in policies.
- Mary explained that BOD can act instead of HOD in order to set policy as long as it is voted on at next HOD Meeting.
- Motion was made by Terry to reserve two weekends a year for Leadership and Education events as planned by LSC, and not allow meets to be hosted on those weekends. Seconded by Peter. This was voted on and approved. ***This Action by Board will be used as an interim policy to be voted on at HoD at meeting in fall 2016 to be permanently included because there was not 30 day notice.***

Administrative Division Reports

VSI By-laws and Rules Report – Kevin not in attendance, report reviewed by Steve.

- Added Board Positions (Safety & Safe Sport) – will be changed to voting positions on the Board. Will still be appointed positions.
- Creation of the Coaches Association was explained by Kevin McHaney– see copy below for exact language. They envision committee much like Age Group and Senior; plan to include four coaches, representatives, and one athlete. The goal is to have one coach from each district. Current group will become a Coaches Association and will also led by coach reps; will likely hold meetings of the association at Age Group Champs and Senior Champs; Changes being brought about by USA Swimming. Steve brought this forth as a proposal. Seconded by Jessica. There was no discussion. Voted on and approved.

Officials – Report submitted.

Registration/Membership - Report Submitted

Mary asked for her report to be pulled up. Have 2 action items:

- In the past VSI has scheduled Coaches Clinic including Safety Training/CPR. VSI has paid expense for facility. We have had increasing participation each year. Peter made a motion for VSI to continue funding this expense. Terry seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Motion voted on and approved.
- What dates for the Coaches Clinic? Do we want these to be scheduled the same weekends as Swimposium (September 17-18) and Board Meeting (August 28th). There is no fee to coaches other than Red Cross cost. ***Mary and Art to finalize those dates and publish.***
- Is there a way to ensure that satellite clubs get mailings from VA swimming, USA Swimming, and other clubs? Mary feels it should be up to LSC to make sure satellite clubs are included. Currently, some clubs do send these out in addition to posting on website. Terry asked how other meet information (warm-up schedules, etc) is disseminated? Information is available on the website concerning contact information for all satellite clubs.

Tech Planning – See Report and notes above regarding calendar.

Finance - Financial Summary Report Submitted.

Safety – Report/Request submitted.

- Clubs may request a deck shower as needed. Requests should be sent to Gordon Hair.

Age Group Division Reports

- Cost for zones trip has been established - \$792.00 Age group committee wants VSI to subsidize trip cost so that the athlete would pay no more than \$350.00. Swimmer will still pay for uniform costs. Scott made a proposal, and Peter seconded the motion. Bill let everyone know this would add about \$20,00 to \$25,000 cost for year. Motion voted on and approved.

Disability – Report Submitted.

Zone Team Manager

- Maureen joined Scott in the proposal above.

Senior Division Reports: No Reports

Coach Division Report

Diversity & Inclusion – See Report

Athlete Division Report – No reports

Unfinished (Old Business)

- Championship Meet Progression Task Force . Task Force ran through District and Region Champs with not as much info from Age Group and Senior Champs. See report to get results from contacts made. Task force members spoke with officials, parents, etc. at several meets. Items that came up:
 1. Would like to follow NOVA's model of having separate championship for 8 and unders.
 2. Swimmers in all age groups 11/12-and 10 and under loved coming back to swim in finals. This happens now based on new meet format. Older swimmers wanted to have another chance to make a cut if they did not make it at district champs. Task force opinions idea is that you would need to add another meet.
 3. Regional champs are too big with 3 districts. Realign teams in each region so number of swimmers is more equitable at each meet. Coaches asked if 3 of swimmers could be lowered in distance events – according to task force, this will not be changed.
 4. SW Championship Meet was unfair - did not have championship feel.
 5. Parents complained about going to Christiansburg - thought this was too far.

Jim thanked everyone who worked on the task force. Reinforced that these were ideas that had been developed to improve the championship system.

Discussion comments:

- Coaches in attendance at BOD Meeting strongly ndiscagreed that SW Championship meet

was unfair.

- Several disagreed with ‘SW meet didn’t have Championship feel; Ideas provided by task force to improve our championship season; Question – was there a feel that swimmers and parent want a ‘progression’? Answer was yes. Kevin said coaches like what is going on in their particular district or region but do feel that the A/BB athlete is somewhat left out and maybe want to add another meet. Steve explained that the BB+ swimmers have their chance at Regionals, but B/C swimmers may need another opportunity.
- Jessica reminded everyone that we used to have a BC awards meet – do we need to go back to this? Coaches wanted to separate older BC swimmers and put them with A/BB kids at Regional Champs. This response looking for extra chance came from younger kids in B/C group.
- Another comment – concern that we are trying to create something that ‘gives everyone a ribbon’. There are no proposals in the report.
- Steve gave recap of how current progression came about. Some new things have come up that we need to look into.
- Scott Baldwin – their team has created an inter-squad meet to alleviate this problem. Current system allows clubs to host these meets. NOVA has an 8 and under met that does very well. Do we need to require this as an LSC?
- Drew noted that each district should still be allowed to create meets that work for them and their teams– same formats may not work in all districts.
- This report provides a good starting point for the Age Group Committee to make changes as needed. *Steve asked Age Group Committee to review recommendations for discussion and examination. Jim said he would send electronic copy of task force report.*

2019 Diversity Camp - Still need ideas for venues. He will get info from camp held at University of Maryland last year; also reviewed recent decisions of localities to not travel to specific LSCs due to transgender laws that have been passed in specific states. Bids due at May Zone meeting 2017.

- Board Structure & Support Positions: Kevin and Steve have not gotten together – this item will be differed until next meeting.
- Eastern Zone Meeting (May 6-7) 5 people attending (Mary, Steve, Art, Emily, Peter).
- Remember to ask about increasing number of coaches for long course Zone meet. ***Kevin McHaney will send proposal for this to Steve.***

New Business:

- Establishment of Coaches Committee – see above
- USA Swimming Leadership Workshop – Steve, Art and Peter are attending.
- Defining Athlete Reimbursement Parameters –
Every season requests come in for additional meets to be included for reimbursement. Need to decide intent of reimbursement – is it to support athletes to go to higher level competitions or to just to support athletes for any meet they choose? This will be discussed in Senior Committee. Senior Committee does have parameters to make decisions. This should be discussed in committee and we can revisit in afternoon.
- Request for Relief (RPST)
Club mailed in revised report showing a loss. Upon review they had not calculated fees correctly. Request for \$900 loss to be relieved. Kevin made a motion that we reimburse Regency Park for District meet in North District. Steve called for a vote, and the motion was passed.

Kevin brought up that meet fees at the district level should all have the same meet fees. Steve agreed that we could try to normalize the playing field for meet fees. Bob explained that facility fees are the biggest difference across the board. How do we approach this? Use variable for facility cost or just set an amount per event? ***Steve asked Kevin McHaney to come up with a proposed suggestion on how to handle this.***

New business coming out of committee:

- Athlete Reimbursement Policy
There was a request to revisit Policy language. Committee determined that the current language remains. The Senior Committee approved one additional meet during Olympic year with USA Swimming National qualifying times as the standard for eligibility.
- Coach Travel Reimbursement- committee approved.
 1. To support VSI coach travel reimbursement to advanced competitions - USA Swimming sponsored National Championship events only to include Junior Nationals, Nationals, WCT, Olympic Trials, Disability Nationals/Trials, Pro Series events with National qualifying standards.
 2. The Coach must be a Member in good standing of VSI and USA Swimming.
 3. Club must be enrolled in Club Recognition program and be Level 1 or above. The club will be reimbursed, not the coach for tax purposes.
 4. Reimbursement amounts are as follows, and match athlete reimburseable amounts: \$500.00 per meet, and \$600.00 for Olympic Trials.
 5. Clubs may apply for this reimbursement for one coach per club, and only two events per year (3 during Olympic Trials Year).

This must be voted on by the HOD, which requires 30 days written notice. This policy will be voted on during the September HOD Meeting.

- New Language to VSI Policies and Procedures pertaining to Zone Selection Criteria

Propose new language to VSI Policies and Procedures pertaining to Zone Selection Criteria to provide every possible opportunity for our athletes to participate. The committee feels that the current language prohibits participation.

Current language:

Section S: Eastern Zone Competitions - Number 5 - Selection Process

C. (3) Lead off splits, intermediate splits from any race, and the time trials from the Short Course Senior Championship Meet will not be included for consideration.

Change to: All official verified times including Lead off splits, intermediate splits and Time Trials from Short Course Senior Championships will be considered for participation. Lead off splits, intermediate splits and time trials will not be considered as one of the two fastest times in the LSC.

Current Language:

D. (6) Lead off splits, intermediate splits from any race, and the time trials from the Short Course Age Group Championship Meet will not be included for consideration.

Change to: All official verified times including Lead off splits, intermediate splits and Time Trials from Short Course Age Group Championships will be considered for participation. Lead off splits, intermediate splits and time trials will not be considered as one of the two fastest times in the LSC.

Current Language:

J. Time trials and intermediate splits from any race will not be considered for consideration.

Change to: All official verified times including Lead off splits, intermediate splits and time trials will be considered for participation. Lead off splits, intermediate splits and time trials will not be considered as one of the two fastest times in the LSC.

Terry brought up that the intermediate split times would be a problem. Must be manually entered into SWIMS. Coaches should be proactive in making sure this time is recorder in a timely fashion.

Steve discussed that specific meet referees will not allow intermediate splits. Discussion ensued about Zones policy versus VSI policies. Ted put this forth as a proposal. Ted wants policy to be put into place now – asked for executive vote.

Kevin made motion to vote on this policy this year. Jim seconded this motion. Motion was made as an interim policy voted on, and the vote passed. ***This interim policy will come up for approval to Fall HOD meeting.***

- Looking for nominations for Diversity Inclusion awards. Peter wants to encourage more nominations for this award. ***Peter to forward this language to Mary.***

Drew made motion to adjourn, and Art seconded the motion. Meeting adjourned at 1:50pm.

Announcements:

- Upcoming Board Meetings:
 - June 20th – 7:00pm - video conference
 - August 28th– 2:00pm Face to face
- HOD Fall Meeting will be September 17-18 during Swimposium

Respectfully Submitted,

Ashby Marcey, Secretary