

Virginia Swimming Emergency Board of Directors Meeting

Wednesday, March 11, 2020
8:30 pm
Zoom Teleconference Meeting

MINUTES

Call to Order

Bryan Wallin

Meeting called to order at 8:29 pm

The meeting was called to discuss the implications of the Coronavirus Pandemic on the Age Group Champs meet on March 12-15 at the Christiansburg Aquatic Center. The following information was known at the time of the meeting:

- NCAA making contingency plans for upcoming athletic events.
- Universities across the state adding an additional week to Spring Break and moving towards online classes for the foreseeable future.
- YMCA cancelled the upcoming national meet.
- Potomac Valley Swimming cancelled their Age Group Meet because the University of Maryland withdrew the facility from availability.

The meet director, Scott Baldwin, communicated that he is working under the directive issued by state and local authorities to follow their best cleaning practices. They are also cognizant of the need to limit crowd size to prevent the spread of the virus.

Mike Salpeter offered that it is ultimately the decision of each individual family and club about whether to attend the meet. He also noted that there will be a loss of hotel fees for families if the meet is cancelled. People over profits.

There was considerable discussion about how best to limit the number of people in the stands watching the meet.

Bill Geiszler proposed that one way to limit the numbers is to swim everything as timed finals and split the athletes into three timed finals sessions for Friday, Saturday and Sunday with no modifications to the Thursday distance session.

In 2019, the number of athletes per age group was as follows:

10 & U – 183 athletes

11-12 – 250 athletes

13-14 – 286 athletes

These numbers include relay only athletes. In 2020, there are 705 total athletes in the meet.

It was also suggested that the number of spectators be limited in the stands to one adult per family.

- Meet would run in one course.
- Award events throughout the sessions.
- Exact start times could be provided.

Steve Hennessey provided the following motions:

Motion 1 – VSI will host the Age Group Championship meet as a three-session timed finals meet separated into age groups. The age groups are 10 & U, 11-12 and 13-14. This motion passed.

Motion 2 – VSI will communicate to teams and families to strongly encourage the limitation of spectators to one per family. This motion passed.

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Nate Destree, the CAC facility manager, assured the board that there would be enough time to clean in between sessions. A full sanitation plan is already in place with designated zones throughout the facility for cleaning.

More meet specifics:

- Sessions will run from youngest to oldest.
- Thursday session will be limited to participants in the meet. There will be no pre-meet warmups for teams.
- Mary, Drew and Scott stayed on the videoconference to draft a communication to teams regarding the new meet format.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:32pm.

Attendees: Drew Hirth, John Stanley, Jenni Rynweitz, Dave Henderson, Bryan Wallin, Maddie Wallin, Chad Onken, Morgan Cordle, Maureen Tolliver, Mary Turner, Logan Euker, Jack McCann, Emily Fagan, Bill Geiszler, Mike Salpeter, Steve Hennessey, Scott Baldwin, and Nate Destree.