

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Sunday February 2, 2020
11:00 am

Hyatt Place-Arboretum 201 Arboretum Pl, Richmond, VA 23236.

MINUTES

Call to Order Bryan Wallin
Meeting called to order at 10:59 am
Consent Agenda

- Minutes from September Board Meeting Emily Fagan
- Action Items from Executive Directors Report
 - Itinerary for Swimposium
 - Athlete Disclaimer
- Motion to approve the consent agenda was passed.

Executive Directors Report Mary Turner

- Action Items
 - Approve itinerary for Swimposium
 - Decide about strategic planning session
 - The Board decided to hold the Strategic Planning Session on the Friday of Swimposium weekend (September 10)
 - Approve distribution Competitive Spirit Awards at April HoD
 - Approve adding a disclaimer to athlete voter registration

Finance Division Reports

- Finance Committee Bill Geiszler
 - Financial review for 2018-2019 is in progress and will be finished in the later half of February. There will be a meeting in April to put together next year's budget. Please send Bill any budget requests.
- Treasurer Report Bob Rustin
 - Tax filings have been completed as of Wednesday, January 29.
 - Discussion about why banquet expenses were lower. It was agreed that the reason was that the number of participants was lower than budgeted.

Administrative Division Reports

- Officials Committee Dan Demers
 - There have been scheduling issues with referees for championship meets.
 - Dave asked if the officials committee is discussing the cancellation of two developmental meets in the Southeast District. One of the meets was cancelled because of lack of meet referees. Further discussion about new referees being appointed on the eastern side of the state. John offered that the committee does plan to discuss in upcoming meeting. The host meet should decide the meet referee.
 - See report
- Technical Planning Committee Jessica Simons
 - No report
- Open Water Committee Stephanie Suhling
 - No report
- Disability Committee David Strider
 - Report posted
- Diversity Committee Peter Maloney
 - No report

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- Rules and Regulations Coordinator Kevin Hogan
 - No report
- Equipment Coordinator Michael Braum
 - No report
- National Times and Records Coordinator Terry Randolph
 - No report

Age Group Division Reports

- Age Group Committee Drew Hirth
 - OME for the Age Group Championship Meet opened on February 1.
- Zone Team Coordinator Maureen Tolliver
 - Report posted

Senior Division Reports

- Senior Committee Steve Hennessy
 - Bryan presented Steve's report. Senior Champs will be in two pools at CSAC this year. It will cost a little more. Referee is set.

Safety Division Reports

- Safety Committee Gordon Hair
 - No report
- Safe Sport Committee Maureen Tolliver
 - Maureen noted that there is a collaboration between safety and safe sport. Brief for meets has been developed. See report. Timer's card also created to use at meets. Maureen suggested that the brief be laminated and available at every meet. The timer's card should also be laminated and put on every timer's clipboard for the meet.
 - Club teams need to become Safe Sport recognized. It is better to be recognized so they know how to react if there is a Safe Sport issue. Safe Sport recognition will likely be required by clubs in the future.
 - If a club started the certification started today, it could be done in about two weeks. Bryan suggested that Maureen create an itinerary to guide folks to through the process. Ten percent of the club must participate in the training. Most clubs already have many of the components in place, but need to be formalized.
 - Complaints brought forward about venues that are not compliant with MAAPP with restrooms and locker rooms. Restrooms are not labeled, no marshalling of the locker rooms, athletes changing in places not for athletes. John suggested that the venues are aware of MAAPP requirements and are compliant.

Athlete Committee Reports

Madison Wallin

- 28 scholarships applications
- T-shirt design contest – Jacob Winn of SEVA was the winner of t-shirt design contest.
- LSC Leadership Summit – received a grant of \$2000. Working with Mary about date and format. LSC must match the grant at a minimum of 50%.
- Athlete Select Camp – two in-water sessions and classroom sessions. 64 athletes and 6 coaches. Include local athletes as guest speakers.

Coaches Committee Reports

Mike Salpeter

Morgan Cordle reported - no update.

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Old Business

- LSC Select Camp Task Force – see athlete report

New Business

- Webmaster
 - John reported he has reached out to Team Unify as a possible option for the LSC website. It is attractive financially because it is free. They will format our current site onto a new Team Unify platform. Any special design work will be an extra cost. Committee chairs would have access to their committee page to update. There is a considerable cost savings as an LSC with Team Unify. Contact John with information you think should be on the website.
- Endowment Policy & Procedure Recommendation
 - John presented a VSI Policies Amendment for review. A report was provided for the Board to review.
 - Two endowment funds will be created through a community fund (location still to be decided)
 - Charlottesville Community Fund has the best rates.
 - Athlete Scholarship Fund
 - Current goal is to fund the \$6000 annual scholarship. Number of scholarships is determined by committee.
 - General Endowment (Agency) Fund – created to support the agency.
 - Athlete Camps
 - Athlete Travel for National Meets
 - Awards banquets
 - Other direct athlete activities.
 - Kevin Hogan will review the language and with some changes present to the HOD in April.
 - Dave Henderson raised issue of how endowment will be funded. Allocation of budget surpluses and sanctioning fees would not be an issue to fund the endowment. Dave prefers to table the raising splash fees component to start. Suggests that we raise the out of LSC sanctioning fee to \$3 per swimmer and eliminate the splash fee (currently .20 splash fee.) Discussed issues with keeping costs down especially for lower income families. Mary and Terry will have to determine the final amount.
 - Bill Geiszler asked “what does having an endowment fund do for us that we are not currently doing?” John answered that it would be a savings account for the future.
 - Drew Hirth suggested adding a sunset clause that would activate when we hit a certain amount.
 - Bill Geiszler suggested raising the sanction fee to \$200+ per meet. It is currently offered at \$100 per meet.
 - Procedures – how the money is accrued. The board would be able to review, consider and change.
 - VSI, as a non-profit, cannot directly solicit funds from corporations or individuals. Bob says we will need to change the articles of incorporation so we can solicit funds from corporations, etc.
- LSC Meet Schedule
 - Bryan would like the board to review how we schedule meets as an LSC. Are we servicing the needs of our athletes across the LSC? Bryan asked each person in the room to brainstorm things they would like VSI to do. Suggestions are below.
 - Look at when certain meet types are allowed at certain times of the year.
 - Add long distance swimming meets to the schedule in the LSC.

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- The current system allows for creativity of the clubs when devising meet formats. VSI should allow meets if they are within the rules and not become punitive.
- Clubs should have the voices. Put pressure on clubs hosting meets to evaluate how they are doing.
- Separate 15/16 from 17/18 scoring/awarding in meets to give the younger athletes a chance to win. Review how meets are awarded.
- Open market policy is a positive because it generates creativity. Move towards shorter length meets. Teams hosting meets without anyone associated with the team staffing the meet should be monitored. A club awarded a meet sanction should have a certain level of volunteerism to host a meet.
- Take advantage of using other facilities around the state. Spread the meet schedule out so the session time is lower. Use smaller facilities to host smaller, less expensive meets. Add meets for with athletes who attend SC districts and regionals, but do not qualify for a higher-level meet, but do not race again until LC season. Ohio moved senior champs to November and were able to have high school season without an LSC state meet in the mix.
- Club teams should offer competitive opportunities for 8 & under athletes.
- Difficult to get officials with multiple meets in a weekend and spread out meets so they are not all on the same weekends. Meets tend to be clustered on certain weekends.
- Do more local, smaller meets for the B/C swimmers.
- Two Month Sanctioning Rule: Should VSI add 8 & under meets to the current exceptions list. The current exceptions to the two-month sanctioning rule are time trials, intrasquad meets and teams who are not able to attend a meet because the meet was cancelled or is over subscribed. Dave Henderson objects to including 8 and under meets as an exception to the two-month sanctioning rule because knowing about meets in advance allows families to plan. It also forces teams to plan earlier.
- John brought up an issue with a host team whose meets are routinely over-subscribed meets. The team often does not follow the meet sanctioning rules like checking timelines as entries are received. The Board offered John direction so he can work with the team to get the meets to run better.
- Set Reserved dates for 2020/2021:
 - September 10-12 – Swimposium weekend
 - April 17-18 – HOD meeting
 - Motion to approve these dates passed.
- Limitations on hosting several meets same weekend – see LSC Meet Schedule discussion above
- Concussion- Return to Play Policy
 - The meet marshal takes the athlete to the coach/parent. At any point, if the MR believes the athlete is concussed, then he/she may pull the athlete from the meet.
- Governance Committee
 - Bryan reached out to nine people to serve on the Governance Committee. The committee members are Scott Baldwin, Mike Salpeter, Chad Onken, Terri Randolph, Brian Cann, Lori Hopewell, Jack McCann, Logan Euker, Kevin Hogan. The committee will evaluate the board and come up with list of nominees for the board.
 - Approved by the board.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 1:24pm.

Attendees: Drew Hirth, Bob Rustin, John Stanley, Jenni Rynweitz, Dave Henderson, Bryan Wallin, Maddie Wallin, Chad Onken, Morgan Cordle (by phone), Maureen Tolliver, Logan Euker, Jack McCann, Emily Fagan, Bill Geiszler

[Future Meeting Dates](#)

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- April 25, 2020 FF-HoD
- June 14, 2020 CC
- August 30, 2020 CC