

Minutes of the September 30, 2011

VSI Board of Directors Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 6:15 p.m. Present were Mary Turner, Amelia DeCruz, Bob Rustin, TJ Liston, Bill Geiszler, David Strider, Stephanie Suhling, Jessica Simons, Brian Kupferer, Steve Hennessey, Michael Downs, Michal Braum, Pat Donohue, Terry Randolph, Kevin Hogan and Peter Maloney.

The minutes of the August 28, 2011 teleconference were approved.

Treasurer - See report on the web site. VSI ended the fiscal year with a surplus of \$12,764 rather than the projected loss of \$17,000.

LC Season Highlights -

Age Group - Amelia reported on the members of her committee. Their names will be posted to the web site when the committee is finalized. Bill Geiszler moved that VSI give the Zone team manager a \$500 gift card. Jessica Simons seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

Senior - Brian reported on LC Senior Champs. The season went well.

Zones - no report

Budget - The treasurer's report stood as the budget report.

Convention update - see report on the web site. The 2 VSI athletes represented VSI extremely well.

Administrative - Terry presented LY's request to waive VSI splash fees for the Virginia Y League Championship to be held on 02/12/12. The request will be honored.

Registration - see report on web site. The first action item was whether or not the reimbursement form for national level meets can be put on the web site for swimmers/parents to access as opposed to being mailed from the VSI office. This was seconded by Jessica Simons and as Bill Geiszler, as treasurer, concurred that this be done, the motion passed. The second action item concerned whether or not guidelines or policy/procedures need to be developed for identifying athletes who qualify for Outreach membership. Mary will contact other LSC's to see how they handle this particular issue. The third action item concerned bringing the VSI photography policy at meets in to compliance with that issued by USA Swimming. This can be considered an emergency

action by the Board as there is not enough time to bring it before the House of Delegates this weekend. Terry seconded this action item and it passed. Mary will check with other LSC's and will present this as a procedure.

Athletes - no report

Coaches - TJ reported that some coaches are precluded from participating in this weekend's meetings because of the scheduling. The bullying clause, for athletes' protection, passed at the USA convention should be in VSI policies and procedures. This should also be posted on the web site. Bill Geiszler seconded. The motion was tabled. TJ will come back to the November meeting with exact verbiage.

Officials - see report on web site. VSI needs to purchase 5 radio sets (8 in each set) with headphones. TJ seconded. The care and responsibility of the radios will rest with the district chairs. Discussion ensued. Bill Geiszler suggested a friendly amendment that the LSC purchase radio sets up to \$6000. Michael Downs accepted the friendly amendment. Steve Hennessey called the question and the motion as amended passed.

Equipment - Michael Braum would like VSI to get out of the equipment business. He has inventoried everything. A lot of the equipment is not usable. He suggested that VSI keep only 2 complete sets of equipment and sell the rest to clubs. Bill Geiszler suggested that if there are clubs that use VSI equipment it be given to them if they are willing to accept the offer and be responsible for the care and maintenance of said equipment. Brian Kupferer moved that Michael come up with a plan for VSI to divest itself of the equipment that is no longer needed. VSI would keep 2 sets and 3 CT 6 units. Peter Maloney seconded and the motion passed.

Open Water - see report on the web site. Rick Walker would be willing to come and do an athletes' clinic in the falloff 2012. He would request travel expenses. VSI should purchase some big buoys and a timing system specific to open water. Mary Turner moved that VSI purchase 2 watches for the timing system. She accepted a friendly amendment from Peter Maloney who moved that VSI purchase buoys as well. The amended motion was tabled until the November meeting at which time Stephanie will present a more detailed proposal. A proposal for an open water zones event (VSI supported if VSI hosts LC zones 2012) will also be brought to the November meeting.

Diversity - Peter Maloney stated that USA swimming reported that over 1,000,000 lessons have been taught over the past year. Grants for Make a Splash will be released in January 2012 and the application process will begin then. Only 1 team has requested a camp. A

Diversity summit is scheduled for November 2011. Another coach will be selected to go as well. USA swimming will underwrite the travel costs etc.

Championship Meet Coordinator - see report on the web site. Pat Donohue asked for guidance from the Board.

Policy and Legislation - no report

New Business - VSI may host LC Zones 2012. Stephanie Suhling will try to find an open water venue. The date for the open water event will be 8/12/12. Chris Greene Lake should be considered.

Michael Downs suggested that the pools that host meets have their venues measured and certified. George Homewood had the historical knowledge and would be a good resource. Steve Hennessey will talk to George and bring more information back to the November meeting.

TJ thanked Michael for coming to LY this past weekend to help train both wet and dry deck officials. Aerator designs will be available at no cost thru USA swimming so that pools meet the Graham - Baker act which goes into effect in March 2012.

Stephanie Suhling moved for adjournment, seconded by Jessica Simons and the meeting adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Simons/Secretary

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Minutes of the October 2, 2011

VSI Board of Directors Meeting

Present were Terry Randolph, Michael Downs, Peter Maloney, Jessica Simons, TJ Liston, Pat Donohue, Mary Turner, Steve Hennessey, Brian Kupferer, Amelia DeCruz, Walter Smith, Gordon Hair, and David Strider.

The meeting was called to order at 9:08 a.m.

Age Group - Amelia reported that her committee encouraged specialty meets. As there is a reduction in splash fees for 8 and under meets, would VSI be willing to entertain the thought of giving rebates for more specialty localized meets? The cuts format for Age Group Champs has been tweaked. Deck pass was discussed. The committee also discussed a rotational approach for the Age Group Championship meet. The approach to the Swimmer of the Year nominations will be revisited. An email blasts as well as quarterly conference calls will keep the committee up to date. She will develop standard operating procedures for the committee.

Senior - The date for LC Senior Champs will be moved back one week later. The dates will now be 7/26-29/12. Age Group Champs will be held on 7/19-22/12. The venues have to be verified before this occurs. Back up facilities will be located just in case. There will be a parade of athletes for finals but no awards ceremony. There is a push to have LC swimming begin earlier in the year (January /February). 2012 SC Senior Champs may be SC in the morning and LC in the evening. The qualifying standards have been established. Open water Nationals should be included as a reimbursable meet. LC or SC Junior cuts in the 1000, 1650, 800, and 1500 would be the qualifying times and attendance at the meet would qualify the swimmer for reimbursement within the qualifying period as long as the swimmer swam in one open water meet during that qualifying period. Brian and Stephanie will write the proposal. The committee would like to do away with the 6 swims per meet limit at Senior Champs and substitute the 3 per day limit instead. An educational component for college swimming might be incorporated into Senior Champs. This was brought up by Steve Phillips and he will be tasked with exploring this.

Athletes - Travis Kerner reported on SC Senior Champs. They want no awards ceremony and no 2 pools at the same time because there is no warm up/down space. They would like athletes' hospitality. At LC Senior Champs there were too many DQ's. There appeared to be too much focus on one rule. They want to keep the bonus cuts at Senior Champs and they want the 2012 SC Senior Champs to be SC/SC.

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Coaches -

- 1) Coaches Endorsed Senior Committee's approval of Parade but no award ceremony for Senior Champs. It was felt that warm up for multiple swims was more important and beneficial to the swimmers than ceremony and that coaches had multiple swimmers to get ready and to talk to about other races during the time that they would be required to hand out awards. Unanimous
- 2) Endorsed Senior Committees recommendation to move LC Senior Champs to the July 26th weekend during Olympic years. Unanimous
- 3) Endorsed Senior Committees option of swimming the SC Senior Champs meet as yards in prelims and finals LC in Olympic years. Split vote
- 4) Endorsed Technical Planning's recommendation of "targeted developmental" meets getting some relief from LSC meet fees. Unanimous.
- 5) Endorsed Senior's Open Water National Meet reimbursement for swimmers that had the Junior or National pool Qualifying Times for entry events. Looking into the open water qualifying procedures as another possibility for eligibility for reimbursement. Unanimous.
- 6) Proposed reimbursement for club coaches for National level meets if the club has and sends swimmers to same meets and said swimmers are eligible for VSI reimbursement, at the same rate as swimmers and officials reimbursement levels. Unanimous.
- 7) Proposed that Senior champs open up the number of swims each swimmer may swim to the National limit of 3 per day. The Committee is in favor of this even if it means that the bonus swims are disallowed for meet management purposes.
- 8) Plan to bring forth that the SC Zone meet's qualifying criteria would require a swimmer in the 14 and under divisions be ranked in the VSI top 8 in that event to be eligible. With the number of VSI swimmers now attending the NCSA individual Age Group Meet the pool of swimmers applying to Zones is not as competitive. Coaches did not want to spend the money and send a weakened team if a large number of swimmers from VSI were attending other age group meets instead of Zones.
- 9) Proposes to bring forth that VSI allows other meets that are recognized as National level competition meets for reimbursement. Totals to not exceed current levels, just to allow coach's the opportunity to choose meets that best compliment their athletes training and competition preparation. (ex: Grand Prix in the spring to prepare for mid summer Olympic Trials)

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Additional Information:

That the Coaches Committee will fill vacancies as soon as possible after a resignation. The remaining Chair will send out emails asking for nominations and send out ballots within 10 days of receiving notification of a resignation.

USAS will have an aerator design, engineered stamped to comply with the Virginia Graham Baker Act. Mick Nelson will have designs available for DYI installation this spring.

Appreciates Michael Downs efforts to disseminate new rule changes and interpretations to all head coaches as soon as he gets them.

The next meeting will be a teleconference to be held on November 20, 2011.

Amelia DeCruz moved to adjourn, seconded by Steve Hennessey.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:05.

Respectfully submitted,

Jessica Simons, Secretary