

MINUTES of TECHNICAL PLANNING 9-28-2013

Members present: Lisa Liston (LY), Dave Henderson (SEVA), Sonny Grissom (TAC), Justin Smith (BAC), Bob Herlinger (RAYS), Caroline Henry (PSDN), Tyler Ducar (SEVA)

Guests: TJ Liston (LY), Peter Maloney (TSU), Art Anthony (TAC), Mike Clesner (RAYS), David Schreck (NOVA), Kara McHaney (BASS), Kevin McHaney (BASS), Jamie Greenwood (NOVA), Greg Lake (CCA), Scott Baldwin (HOKI), Steve Hennessey (CGBD), Ted Sallade (PSDN), Steven Phillips (VAST), Scott Thacker (LY)

Lisa reported that the meet schedule is on the VSI website. Meet information and event files are posted there – they are coming in quickly and getting sanctioned quickly. Draft meet invites are also posted for team planning purposes. Teams are reminded that meet information should be submitted to the Technical Planning chair 60 days prior to the start of the meets to avoid fines.

The VSI meet template is on the website with updates. Minor language changes have been made. The most significant change is to the wording listed under rules with regards to dive certification. Coaches need to be attuned to their responsibility in certifying their swimmers as proficient in racing starts. Per my request for VSI post Board of Review findings on the website, the VSI Board stated some of the information was so sensitive they preferred not to post it on the web. It is, however, available from the office for anyone who requests it as it is public record.

Dan McAllen issued a clarification on USA Swimming's four hour rule recently. This rule applies to 12 & under sessions only; however, VSI has a stricter meet management policy that also applies the rule to 13 & over sessions. The Technical Planning committee endorsed the proposal out of Senior Committee that we follow the rule as USAS applies it and remove the stricter enforcement VSI has been applying to 13 & over sessions. Note that distance sessions cannot be removed from the 4 hour rule restriction. The technical planning committee endorsed the meet formats from the Age Group committee with regards to the district and region meets to be held in the spring. The region meet remains a 13 & over meet with a prelim/finals format. The mile will be removed from the order of events as those swimmers who attain the AG or SR qualifying time in the 1000 or 1650 free are able to swim both at the Championship meets. The district meet remains 12 & under with 11-12 swimmers offered a prelim/finals format at that meet. Districts must offer the same events for swimmers ages 9-12, but have leeway in dealing with 8 & unders, including removing them from the meet altogether and having a separate meet for them. District teams need to communicate to decide what works best for their area. The technical planning committee also endorsed the proposal from the Senior committee that finals be swum in A-B-C order at Senior champs, adding that this order should trickle down to other championship format meets.

We reviewed the proposal for a Zone application process and asked that the fee be changed to a flat \$100 fee. Additionally the technical planning committee asked that the total cost of zones be published well ahead of time. Per the House of Delegates vote on Sunday, there is now an application that must be submitted by the Monday following Summer Awards for any swimmer who would like to be eligible to represent VSI at Summer Zones. If swimmers do not apply, they will not be eligible to attend.

All present felt that they would like to see the banquet held in the spring, rather than the fall. The athletes' committee strongly supported this on Sunday and so the banquet will be moved to spring no later than 2015.

There will be three locations for Summer Awards.

The meeting adjourned at 5PM. *Submitted by, Lisa Liston*