

Minutes of the AG Committee, September 29, 2012

Members present: Amelia Dacruz (TIDE) , Lisa Liston (LY), Steven Phillips (GATR), Peter Maloney (TSU), Scott Baldwin (HOKI), Maureen Tolliver (), Mike Julian (PSDN), Jessica Simons (UNA), David Schreck (NOVA), Tim Mousetis (SEVA), Harold Baker (WAC), Craig Bialorucki (ODAC)

Guests: Craig Clift (BAC), MC Thomas (NOVA), Drew Hirth (NOVA), Caycee Buscaglia (QSTS), Mike Clesner (RAYS), Delwyn Jones (RAYS), Pat Donahue (UNA), TJ Liston (LY), Dave Henderson (SEVA)

Amelia called the meeting to order. She asked if everyone knew what our mission was. Jessica noted it is posted on our website. Amelia said it would be discussed at tomorrow's house of delegates.

Craig Bialorucki presented the qualifying times for the 2013 Short Course Age Group Championship and explained the procedure for deriving them based on the 32nd place times for past two years. Noted that conversions that came up as "BB" times according to the new 2013-2016 motivational times from USAS will be upgraded to "A" times. He felt the 13-14 times were fairly strong while 12 & unders still a little slow in his opinion. Also noted that the 11-12 boys seem to be the weakest age group.

A motion was made to adopt the time standards. Seconded. Amended to include the standard for the 100 IM which was inadvertently left out for the 10 & unders and 11-12s. The vote to accept was unanimous. Craig will get these standards back out soon with the 100 IM and conversions and upgrades added in. Additionally, Craig will get the Long Course Age Group Championship qualifying times to us shortly, as soon as he wrestles with the conversions.

Maureen Tolliver presented the Long Course Zone report. Virginia had 114 athletes attend this summer. We are not attracting our fastest athletes to participate in the meet. Discussion included that it is too expensive, kids weren't excited to swim in their own backyard, it is not a good performance meet but is mostly for fun. Maureen reported that at the Zone meeting at the convention it was decided to give next summer's meet to Niagara at Ithaca, but it was quickly discovered there is a problem with hotel rooms. So meet bids for next summer's Zone meet are now due by October 1st and the General Chairs will be meeting via conference call on October 10th to decide who will be awarded the bid. The three places currently on the table are: Adirondack at Penn State, VSI at the GRAP facility in Richmond, and Niagara at Ithaca. Maureen has reasonably priced hotel rooms at all three locations. A motion was made to continue to go to the long course zone meet regardless of where it is held next summer. Seconded. Unanimously approved.

Lisa Liston presented the template for the new 13 & over Region Championship. A motion was made to have no team score. Seconded. Discussed. Defeated. It was decided that we would give medals for the top 8 swimmers on the BB and up side, and the top 8 swimmers on the B and below side will receive medals. The awards and scoring will be given based on their FINAL

time. The top 16 swimmers will score. Teams may enter an unlimited number of relays, only two relays per team will score. Swimmers in the 400 IM, the 500 free, the 1000 free, and the 1650 free must have achieved a "B" time to enter the event. Prelims will be swum combined and separated out as 13-14 and 15 & over for finals. No Time entries will be accepted. Coaches' Times will not be allowed. It was decided that team awards will be given, 1st through 6th place. There will not be banners any more for 1st place; plaques for all teams, a little bigger plaque for the winning team.

We then moved in to the template for the 12 & under District Championship. A motion was made and seconded to allow the meet to continue to run as a 2.5 day meet. Much discussion. Motion withdrawn. A motion was made to allow each district to run the meet for whatever duration it decided was appropriate for their district – 2.5 days, 3 days, whatever will work for their district. Events and opportunities must be equal in all districts. Event orders attached to the template will be SUGGESTED, but meet hosts have the freedom to make the meet work in their district. Motion passes. No time entries will be accepted; no coaches' time allowed. The top 8 swimmers will be scored. The top 8 swimmers in the BB and up and the top 8 swimmers in the B and below time will receive medals. Awards will be based on their ENTRY time. Teams will be allowed to enter an unlimited number of relays, but only the top two will score. 8 & under events score as well – top 8. 10 & under events score the top 8 (regardless of age). Relays changed from 9-10 to 10 & under relays to allow more opportunity for teams to put together relays. Swimmers, regardless of age, may not swim a relay leg in 10 & under relays in which they already have an Age Group Championship qualifying time. Team awards will be given 1st through 6th, all plaques. We will not be giving single age group awards.

Harold Baker presented information regarding the proposed alternative spring meet that will take the place of the spring zones for our swimmers, an age group sectional type meet. It is believed it may be too late in the year to get it on the calendar for this spring as many coaches already have planned their season. He is planning toward the 2014 calendar. He has talked to Poseidon about running the meet and they would like to run it the first time. Harold envisions the meet rotating around to different LSCs. There would be no LSC teams, but just a meet where coaches could bring their fastest age group swimmers as a team to end their season in a highly competitive meet. Harold gave out meet information from the Southern Zone's Age Group Sectional meet as well as Pacific Swimming's 2012 Far Western Short Course Champs as examples of the kind of meet he believes we are considering. **

Amelia reported that she is working with Steve Hennessey on the short course Age Group Championship template. There was no discussion on this meet.

TJ proposed our committee approach the LSC about adopting an All-State award, based on set times, to be awarded at the banquet. In South Carolina this award was given to every swimmer who achieved two AAA times, in North Carolina, which is more comparable in size to Virginia, swimmers had to achieve two AAAA times. It was noted that Maryland and other LSCs have a similar award. Swimmers could be given a t-shirt or sweatshirt or something they would like and use that said VIRGINIA SWIMMING All State Swimmer or something like that on it. Money

saved from not attending short course zones could be used for this award. Amelia said she would put together a subcommittee to further study this idea.

Amelia reported that all the Swimmer of the Year information is in. She asked for clarification on the top 10 lists – how they are compiled and when swimmer's age up. Jessica had left the room for officials' meetings but everyone felt sure she could explain how the lists are compiled.

It was noted that the previous evening the Board of Directors had awarded the meet bids for the Age Group and Senior Championships for both courses. HOKI is to run both Age Group meets and PSDN is to run both Senior meets. There was discussion regarding the reasons the meets were awarded in this fashion. Some felt the meets should alternate so that age group swimmers in the northern area of the state didn't continually have to drive to Christiansburg. It was explained that the board said that not everyone had the necessary information in to the technical planning chair in the time it was needed and ultimately the HOKI team was given its preference of meet as it submitted its bid and financials within the required timeline.

A motion was made to adjourn. Seconded. Meeting adjourned.

** As an addendum, in the technical planning meeting, Ted Sallade indicated he believed he could run the meet this spring – 2013.

Respectfully submitted,
Lisa Liston