

Minutes of the Technical Planning Committee

April 13, 2014

Members present: Lisa Liston, Dave Henderson, Bob Herlinger, Tyler Ducar, Terry Randolph, Justin Smith

Guests: Steve Hennessey, TJ Liston, Steven Phillips, Peter Maloney, Jessica Simons, Scott Baldwin, Kevin McHaney, David Strider, Ted Sallade, Mike Clesner, Sam Gaddie

The meeting was opened and the meet schedule as bid so far for the 2014-2015 season was presented. There are no conflicting bids so far. Age Group Champs will be held in Richmond short course and Sr Champs in Christiansburg, and then will flip for the summer with long course AG Champs in Christiansburg and long course SR Champs in Richmond. The Northern Region meet has been bid by the RAYS at CSAC in Richmond. The committee voted to stop using the region designations and use LSC-1, LSC-2, and LSC-3 to allow for distribution of the teams in a different manner. Until the Stafford pool comes online (in hopefully a year to year and a half) there will probably have to be some rotation of teams in the Richmond and Northern Virginia areas in terms of Region and Summer Awards assignments.

Bob Herlinger noted that his October meet is no longer a closed Y meet, but is open to USAS teams. Lisa said that the bids come to her designated as LSC meets or Open meets and she doesn't believe people realize they are making bids that limit their participants to Virginia Swimmers. Open is not an option on the bid form on the website. Lisa was asked to have Michael change the form to include Open as one of the options. There was a question about the QDD meet bids that are listed as Open, but limited to only three teams. They don't know who the teams are yet, so Lisa had left the bid as Open, but in reality they will be closed meets, or as Terry suggested, limited meets.

The committee did not want to limit the 13 & over session timelines any more than already provided under USAS rules. They were not in favor of fines at this point. There was a reminder that host teams cannot separate 12 & under distance sessions out to avoid the 4 hour limit for 12 & unders.

Lisa had a question about intrasquad meets - did teams know they could run these? She was told this is one of the choices on the meet sanction request form on the website so teams should know. These meets are handled by the Admin Chair.

Lisa had raised the issue of approvals for Y closed meets, and she continues to press for VSI to issue these approvals. Terry Randolph stated that the National Y had asked that Y dual meets not be approved. Lisa argued that other LSCs do issue approvals. Jessica argued that some LSCs do not issue approvals for Y dual meets. Lisa would like to see VSI member clubs who are also Y registered be able to run dual meets with approvals so that the USAS member swimmers' times can be entered into the USAS database. She believes that VSI does have the choice to issue approvals.

QDD had also asked to run some developmental meets that would include non-USAS registered athletes. It turns out that these meets must be approved directly by USAS. See rule 202.4.4

Lisa would like to have the Admin Chair included on the list in the P & P that states who receives draft meet invites. She also suggests that the meet ref should be included for VSI Championship series meets.

She will get with Kevin Hogan to include this as a P & P change in an upcoming meeting. Terry points out that it is the meet ref's responsibility to be in contact with the club and be aware of the meet invite well before it gets to the sanctioning committee.

It was noted that fines from meets are collected and kept by VSI as provided for in the P & P. The consensus was that this is a good policy.

In conversation about the fee matrix it was noted that the reason the sectional meet fees were so high is that the Zone sets those fees and we have no control over that. Despite the fact that the Zone does not get any of that money back.

Lisa wanted teams to be aware that if their team is in arrears with rebate fees and financial forms, they will not be issued sanctions on upcoming meets. Most teams appear to be up-to-date.

TJ added that the Senior Committee of USAS is looking at bringing forward a new meet called The Meet of Legends or The Legends Meet or something to that effect. The qualifying times are likely to be between sectional times and Junior National times. There will be either two meets or four meets. The particulars have not all been hammered out.

There was a motion to adjourn. Seconded. The Technical Planning Committee adjourned.

Submitted by,
Lisa Liston