

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020
10:00 am
Zoom Conference Call

MINUTES

Call to Order

Bryan Wallin

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 am

Consent Agenda

- Minutes from February, March and April Board Meeting Emily Fagan
 - The minutes were approved with one correction.

General Chairs Report

Bryan Wallin

- USAS may decide before January 2021 about modifications to Olympic Trial times.
- USAS hinted that they may not open the entire country up at the same time. Instead, they may open up sections or zones. An announcement about summer meets may be announced next week. The Pro Series meets may start up in November with CSAC tentatively hosting the first meet. No definitive statement about the Junior meet in August. More information to follow this week.

Executive Directors Report

Mary Turner

- Virtual Swim Biz information will be in the Executive Directory report for HOD.
- USAS will focus on helping financially strapped clubs who have not received government or LSC support.
- Mary suggested possibly holding a Town Hall Meeting for parents, athletes, coaches and team leaders. Town Halls have been used in other LSCs.
- Facebook and Instagram accounts are now set up for the LSC. Search for "Virginia Swimming."

Finance Division Reports

- Finance Committee Bill Geiszler
 - No report
- Treasurer Report submitted
 - To date, twenty-seven clubs have applied for grants for a total of \$23,500.
 - The teams who are already Safe Sport certified have not yet been paid. Safe Sport grants will be announced at HOD.
 - Revenues are likely done for the year with a \$200,000 deficit from budget. Revenues received during this month include OME fees for Senior Champs and the second payment of the SC sectional rights fees as well as invoiced registration fees from March.
 - Mary suggested if we need to review the definition of reimbursable meets if national meets become more regionalized. USAS has not yet announced these meets.
 - Bob estimates we will have approximately \$240,000, excluding reserves by September 1 without the second set of grants.

Administrative Division Reports

- Officials Committee submitted
- Technical Planning Committee submitted
- Open Water Committee Stephanie Suhling
- Disability Committee submitted
- Diversity Committee Peter Maloney
- Rules and Regulations Coordinator Kevin Hogan

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020

10:00 am

Zoom Conference Call

- National Times and Records Coordinator Terry Randolph

Age Group Division Reports

- Age Group Committee Drew Hirth
 - Report submitted
 - Attendance was higher than normally have at a face to face meeting.
 - Discussion about extending the time standards and qualifying period begins on January 1, 2019.
- Zone Team Coordinator Maureen Tolliver
 - The refund is underway for deposits made for banquet facilities and accommodations. Maureen has also talked to the apparel outfitter, so they are aware of the meet cancellation. Qualifying times and meet dates are posted on the Zones webpage.

Senior Division Reports

- Senior Committee Steve Hennessy
 - Minutes submitted.
 - The meeting saw more participation from the public with the webinar format. Conducting committee meetings in the webinar format is ideal. The Q&A function is not a chat, but questions are answered throughout the meeting.
 - Participation at Senior Champs meets discussion included the need to add breaks at Senior Champs before and after relays. Entry deadlines will be roll back to 10 days prior to the start of the meet, but OME will open for late qualifiers. Credit card payments in OME will no longer be accepted by the LSC as a cost saving measure. The transaction fee is more than five percent.
 - Subcommittees were formed for the following topics:
 - Moving SC Senior Champs to late November/early December
 - Virginia Senior Circuit
 - Region Champs Format: The full Senior Committee discussed timelines and a four-district format. There is concern about moving to four districts for 13 and O because some of the districts may have less than 300 athletes. It was noted that JRSSC had fire marshal issues on Saturday. Mock meet announcements or order of events for each scenario will be created.
 - LC Season Planning: The LSC likely not have a LC exclusive format. Coaches are interested in a phased approach with some level of competition. The subcommittee will recommend a timeline for when sanctioned meets will occur. Use of August and September for practice and meets are being considered.

Safety Division Reports

- Safety Committee Gordon Hair
 - No report
- Safe Sport Committee Maureen Tolliver
 - Financial incentive will be offered by VSI to get clubs safe sport certified. The grant announcement will take place at HOD.
 - USAS now holds weekly meetings to help get clubs certified.
 - Maureen will report about this week's Zone Safe Sport meeting at the May 3 BOD meeting.

Athlete Committee Reports

Madison Wallin

- The committee developed their meeting agenda for today's athlete committee meeting.
- They will do regularly scheduled zoom meetings to better connect with athletes.

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020

10:00 am

Zoom Conference Call

- They will also ask for athletes to serve on committees.

Coaches Committee Reports

Mike Salpeter

- The coach committee echoed support for the Zoom webinar format for their committee meetings.
- Teams are stressed about the return date. The consensus with the coaches is they prefer to run meets, but not necessarily have a designated championship meets. A Senior Champs progression with a meet in November/December is popular among the coaches with a secondary meet in March.
- The Athlete committee needs to voice opinions about the meet progression.
- More athlete representation is requested for the coaches committee. The committee requests at least four athletes be added to the committee.
- Tech planning meeting was preemptive as many things were voted on by age group and senior committee. Mike proposes that John Stanley take over the tech planning committee as he is on the board.
- Morgan asked about teams having an even playing field for getting back in the water. Public, private and coach owned water will likely have differing progressions with returning to the water based on facility limitations. She suggests a bill of rights for teams so there is not mass transfers. Morgan reported that at the USAS Senior Development committee, there was discussion about the regional meets but not as championship meets. Clubs need to be protected and club structures may be at risk. The BOD needs to protect clubs and athletes to make it as fair as possible. Clubs should not disappear because of the virus. Mary offered that a bill of rights was brought up at the LSC leaders meeting and it may be difficult because we cannot prevent transfers. A type of agreement between clubs that creates good sportsmanship and helping each other out should be facilitated by the BOD. An agreement between all clubs that no transfers will be accepted before September would be a supportive thing to do across the LSC.
- Mary also mentioned a 30/60/90 day plan based on when teams return to the water. She recommended that Drew and Steve meet with Mary to create plans for VSI. Steve and Mike observed in the meetings that teams are willing to move from a formal LC season and just want to return.
- The athlete voices still need to be heard on the when to hold meets and why type of meets issue.

New Business

- Second Stimulus Package to LSC clubs
 - Bill said they will have a decision the first week of May after all grant requests are received and the end of the month financial report is completed.
- Technical Planning Committee's Recommendations for a tentative meet schedule 2020/2021
 - Coach, Age Group and Senior committees will make recommendations to the BOD about meet schedule.
 - The Tech Planning Committee's job is to make a recommendation before it goes to the BOD.
 - Mary offered that each committee's job descriptions are in the Policies and Procedures. The committee makes recommendations to the BOD and HOD for a firm schedule for the upcoming year.
 - Tech Planning is holding weekly meetings.
 - John Stanley offered that there has been controversy about choices for meet hosts on proposed meets. Most meet decisions are made with input from age group, senior and coach committee.
 - Mike asked why the tech planning committee meeting was not open. Mary reminded the group that we are only a week into hosting webinars. Future meetings will be open. Meet hosts used to attend the tech planning meeting so they could support their bids.
 - In previous years, tech planning is usually last meeting. The BOD did not think about the order in which the meetings were held.

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, April 25, 2020

10:00 am

Zoom Conference Call

- Steve proposed a motion that VSI delay the announcement of the 2020-2021 meet schedule to June 1. The motion was approved.
- Tech planning schedules are announced to the HOD, but not approved by the body.
- The Board agreed that Tech Planning meetings will be published and will be open meetings. Meetings will be held weekly with the next meeting on Tuesday, April 28. Mary will change the next meeting to a webinar.
- Drew offered that the loss of face to face meetings we have also lost the collaboration of coaches to resolve things in an organic way.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 pm

In attendance: Drew Hirth, John Stanley, Dave Henderson, Bryan Wallin, Chad Onken, Morgan Cordle, Maureen Tolliver, Emily Fagan, Bill Geiszler, Mike Salpeter, Steve Hennessey, Bob Rustin, Mary Turner, Maddie Wallin, Jenni Ryniewicz, Jack McCann, Logan Euker, Jessica Simon, Karen Keenan

Our next meeting is Sunday, May 3, 2020 at 2:00 pm

