

Florida Swimming Meeting
1/12/15
8:00 p.m. Online Meeting

Those in Attendance: Jeff Smith, Bill Vargo, Charlie Rose, Scott Caron, Cashel Mack, Justin Corrieia, Brent Arckey, James Dougherty, Maria Zambito, Elizabeth Richardson, Dale Porter, Mike Brady, Crystal Tavares, Susan Curnutte, Fred Lewis, John Bruenning, Rob Ruth, Terry Maul, Don Henshaw, Sherwood Watts, Adam Epstein, Steve Lochte, Stephen Plapp, Helen Kelly, Cori Welbes, Gregg Cross, Brian Welter, and Christian (?—athlete rep)

The meeting was called to order at 8:01 p.m.

Jeff announced that he would be recording the meeting.

Additions to the Agenda that was sent out: Area 6 champs issue brought forward by Scott Barlow.

Jeff mentioned that a lot of the items on the agenda were on there as reminders to committees and individuals re: projects that were discussed in our October 2015 meetings.

The first item is the Awards Banquet for athletes which has been proposed for the October 2016 FL Swim meetings in place of the BOD dinner. Jeff mentioned that Justin Correia would be working with him on this concept----Justin not present at this time.

The second item, also with Justin is the Coaches Mentoring program.

Mark McCaw was asked to speak on the Larry Shofe award. Mark mentioned that there is only a small amount of money in the fund, and questioned what we are going to do with it moving forward. There was some discussion as to ways to disperse/ assign it, and it was decided to put together a committee headed by Sherwood Watts to determine best use for the funds (\$6000).

Next item is rule 233.46 which puts criteria on the number of officials a team must have in order to host meets. The officials committee would like to keep the ratio requirement, but is favor of allowing a grace period. They are in favor of relieving the requirement for dual meets, or intra-squad meets. The officials are concerned that the LSC will not continue to bring in new officials without this rule. Stephen is working on the rule, and will get back to the BOD. John Bruenning, and Bob Ruth will assist.

Scott Caron was asked to speak on championship meets, and the person assigned to entries. He stated that moving forward this decision will be up to the meet host in conjunction with the Age Group and/ or Senior Chair.

Leap II: Justin Correia is working on this. The money needed to bring FL Swimming up to Leap II standards would be a wash, but it is important for the LSC to do this.

The next item is Rule 221.3 which speaks in reference to closed meets. There was discussion as to the history and background of this rule 8-10 years ago. Steve Lochte spoke on the “definition” of both an invitational and an open meet. Rule 221.4 states that meet dates should specify open or close meet on original bid. Fred made mention to legal ramifications of this rule. Several people expressed that we should reevaluate the rule. A Committee was formed to amend the rule and then present to the BOD (Steve Lochte, Fred Lewis, Terry Maul, and Maria Zambito).

The next item brought to discussion was the need for the LSC to retain an attorney. There have been two potential legal challenges within the LSC this past year. He mentioned the possibility of retaining a large firm or a small private practice. Mark suggested that the LSC put out a request to all teams to hire someone to represent the LSC. Jeff asked Helen to act on the announcement. Motion was made to do this, seconded, all **approved**.

Jeff mentioned that the LSC has had some computer issues and that Helen is working on a solution that will allow an off-site back up for FL Swimming.

Vargo was asked to speak on the office position. He stated that resumes are due 1/31. They will be sent out to the committee to rank. Interviews will be in March. The committee will submit the top 2 to the executive committee in April for selection.

Helen spoke on club charters and past due fines. There are only 3 previously chartered clubs not currently renewed. They are actively pursuing past due accounts. Accounts not settled will be sent a certified letter.....another reason it would be good to have an LSC attorney to review. Mark McCaw stated that we are being way more aggressive to collect funds due the LSC.

Gregg Cross spoke on Open Water Swimming. He talked about the 1st open water zone team and its participation in last summer’s event in North Carolina. It was a huge success, and FL Swimming finished 2nd. We are hosting the Zone competition this year in Ft. Myers. He has put in a request for a budget, as we would like to host a zone camp in Clermont. We have invited Heather (Henshaw) to run this camp for us to help get the team ready to compete in June. We are once again hosting Nationals, the FL Swimming Championships, and the All Star challenge in Ft. Myers.

Cori Welbes spoke on a possible Senior event in the Spring. She expressed a need to help our Senior athletes in the transition to college life. She discussed some swimmers we have lost due to possible struggles with college life. It was suggested to bring in some college age athletes to talk to the group, and share experiences vs. expectations etc. It would be beneficial to provide the athletes with a “tool box” as they head off to college. It was asked that Cori come up with a budget and run it by Mark. Motion to approve theory of Sr seminar....all **approved**.

It was brought up that there was a technical planning meeting in which athletes were not invited. Jeff reminded members that the chair of each committee is responsible for making sure that athletes are aware of and invited to each meeting so that there can be appropriate representation.

Jeff brought up the athletes ruling at the end of the HOD meeting in October, and requested that the BOD go back to the HOD with a request to change wording. Current ruling reads athlete representation has to be a minimum of 20%. There is no ceiling on the number of voting athletes, and is currently up to the Senior Athlete Chair. There was discussion on the reasoning behind this requested change. It was reiterated that the BOD cannot vote to change bylaws, but can make a recommendation to the HOD in October. Jeff stated that he would like to see the BOD make a recommendation to change the wording to 20% plus 1 as opposed to a minimum of 20%. Motion was made, and all **approved**.

Scott Barlow brought to the BOD a concern about the Area 6 Area Champs. There was an issue with the venue that the area had agreed to have the meet at, and the agreed upon host, moved the meet to another pool, on the agreed upon date. The pool it was moved to however, has a meet the previous weekend, hosted by their home team. There was discussion and it was suggested that Area 6 have a conference call and re-vote to determine host and location of this meet.

Our next regularly scheduled meeting is on October 8th, 2016

Motion to adjourn , Adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cashel Mack
FI Swimming Secretary