Age Group Committee Meeting

6/5/24

11am

[Last Meetings Minutes/Summary](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1ooMDmt4bFHo5UcqQrCfz9emouMCLYBWx2bZSQ_1DNBc/edit?usp=sharing)

Agenda:

* Championship Dates for 25-26 SCY/LCM
* [“The ORCAs” Age Group Award Ceremony - ISCA](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1y-fhuauBdt4mvvR7NpVNtswysh9-l6c9PXJ_UJnMcLI/edit?usp=sharing)
* Age Group Themes
* Zones Coaching Staff Applications Open
* Additions?

| **Meeting summary for AG Committee Meeting. (06/05/2025)** |
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| **Quick recap**The meeting covered discussions about upcoming swimming events, including championship dates, meet formats, and scheduling coordination between different age groups and LSCs. The group explored ideas for new programs and events, such as an ISCA-sponsored awards program and a Safari-Dinosaur themed event, while also addressing logistics like announcer roles and meal planning. Various administrative matters were discussed, including zone coaching applications, championship date finalization, and the need to coordinate with other LSCs to avoid scheduling conflicts.**Next steps*** [Ronald to share information about the ISCA "Golden Goggles" event with Jeff and the Board.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c735122-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Ronald to discuss with athlete representatives about their involvement in announcing and social media coverage at age group meets.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c735618-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Ronald to inform Jason Page about the agreed summer championship dates.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c735884-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Yolanda to order iced coffee and necessary ingredients for the age group meet.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c735a96-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Yolanda to consider adding a taco bar or walking tacos option for one of the dinner meals at the age group meet.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c735c76-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Steve/Ronnie to coordinate with athlete representatives for assistance with announcing at the age group meet.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c735e4c-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Ronald to finalize themes for the age group meet, including pajama party and safari/dinosaur day.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c736040-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Ronald to work with athlete representatives on creating positive message clips for distribution at the age group meet.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c736220-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)
* [Coaching staff to submit applications for zones coaching positions if interested.](https://tasks.zoom.us/?meetingId=VRQBZD82Q6eTxm%2Fn%2FXt%2Flw%3D%3D&stepId=5c7363e2-4224-11f0-835b-fa66818d443f)

**Summary****Swimming Programs and Meet Updates**Ronald and Kyle discussed recent activities, including the Wilton trials finals and finalizing entries for June meets. They mentioned improvements to meet announcements, simplifying formatting and making templates easier to use. Ronald shared that Summer Fink from ISCA had reached out about creating a "Golden Goggles" program for 18-and-under swimming, similar to the existing program for senior swimmers.**ISCA St. Petersburg Swimmer Recognition Event**Ronald presented an idea for an ISCA-sponsored event in St. Petersburg that would recognize top age group swimmers from each LSC, including both individual and team awards. The event would feature clinics, open water swimming, and swimming at the Spa pool, with funding provided for LSCs to send their top performers. While the group found the idea interesting, they expressed concerns about accessibility and the fact that it's not USA Swimming-sponsored, as ISCA has mixed reception in the state. Ronald agreed to share the information with Jeff and the board for further consideration.**Senior Championship Date Coordination**The group discussed championship dates for the upcoming season, focusing on the seniors' short course competition. Ronald explained that seniors are considering holding the meet in December, February, or March, but each option has its challenges. December could conflict with winter travel meets, while February won't work due to Wesleyan's availability and a different facility would need to be used. March would be at Wesleyan first 2 weekends, seniors then age groups. The discussion highlighted the need to coordinate with other local teams and swimming clubs to find a suitable date that works for everyone.**Swimming Meet Scheduling Updates**Ronald discussed the scheduling of age group and senior meets for short and long course seasons.. Ronald emphasized that seniors' scheduling decisions would determine how other age groups are organized, and various format options were discussed if seniors choose to move their meet.**Swimming Competition Scheduling Coordination**Ronald and MaryKate discussed the scheduling of age group and regional swimming competitions, emphasizing the need for a post-regional meet to accommodate senior swimmers. They agreed on the timing for regional and senior meets, with regionals in June and seniors from July 9-12, while also considering the impact on long course meets. MaryKate raised the possibility of bidding for the open water zone meet to return to Connecticut in 2027, and Ronald noted the importance of coordinating with other LSCs to avoid scheduling conflicts.**Age Group Themes Planning**The group discussed potential themes for an upcoming event, with Steve suggesting dinosaurs and Ronald considering a pajama party theme. They decided to combine a safari theme with a dinosaur day, including an inflatable dinosaur at the pool. Ronald tasked Henk with purchasing a dinosaur for the event. The group also briefly considered other options like neon and party themes**Athlete Clips for Positive Engagement**Ronald and Steve discussed the popularity of clips among athletes and the potential for using them as a tool to promote positivity and engagement. Ronald suggested involving athlete representatives in creating and distributing custom clips with empowering messages, while also exploring opportunities for them to enhance their social media presence at meets. They agreed to further discuss ideas with the athlete reps to create memorable experiences for the kids.**Athlete Representatives to Handle Announcements**The group discussed announcer roles for upcoming events, with Steve expressing interest in continuing his announcer duties while potentially having athlete representatives assist him. Ronald suggested not adding an announcer slot in the sign-up form, preferring to have athlete reps take on the role instead, though Steve would remain the backup if needed. Yolanda was informed not to include an announcer slot in the sign-up, as the plan was to have athlete representatives handle announcements with Steve as a backup.**Event Meal Planning and Options**The group discussed meal planning for upcoming events, confirming that taco nights and Sunday Chinese food would continue as traditions. Ronald requested that vegetarian options be available for all meals, and Yolanda agreed to ensure this was included. The team also addressed the need for cold coffee, with Ronald suggesting pre-made coffee stock be refrigerated for iced coffee, and Yolanda agreed to investigate options for iced coffee.**Event Food and Championship Dates**The group discussed food options for an upcoming event, with Yolanda proposing a taco bar and Ronald suggesting walking tacos as a mess-free alternative. They also briefly touched on zone coaching staff applications being open and the need to finalize championship dates, with Ronald mentioning that the summer date was set but the short course date was still pending seniors' decision. |
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