

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.

Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes

March 18, 2025

8:00 PM

Call to Order/Roll Call: Jeff Sargent called the meeting to order at 8:02 pm.

Board Members: Jeff Sargent, Greg Pinchbeck, James Doak, Kristen Finnegan, Caroline Ward, David Heller, Ronnie Vaughan, Brandon Foster, Kathleen/Davide Mendonca, Jeremy Virgil, Adriana Schack, Margy Sargent, Robert Adams-Michaud, Jason Paige, Sue Lecza

Absent Board Members: Lauren Lazar, Dennis Flores, Sara Omar, Penny Lazar, Lily Archibald, Ava Ward, Dave Fine, Seana Bedard, Niall Easton, Jim Robison, Steven Cusano, Kaeley Steinnagel, Emmanuel Lanzo, Rick Lewis, Dylan Lee, Samantha Hayley, Sarah Avery (Basile)

Approval of Agenda

***MOTION made to adopt the Agenda as distributed
Passed unanimously***

Approval of Minutes

***MOTION made to adopt the Minutes from 02.18.25
Passed unanimously***

OFFICER REPORTS

General Chair Report – Jeff Sargent - Concluded AG Championships and Regionals and Seniors. Very well run. Good luck to all of the athletes going to zones, sectionals. Spent last week at TYR pro- quality time with Joel from USA Swimming. He is helping with membership and evaluating where we are losing swimmers- will be at open water nationals with a bunch of USA Swimming people. Every committee needs to have turned in their budget, don't see any significant changes in budget moving forward.

Administrative Vice-Chair –Greg Pinchbeck- Going to Open Water Nationals- want to thank the officials for helping at all of the meets. Governance- 2 items:

1. By-laws- earlier today sent a revised bylaw document that has been discussed many times. Changes are highlighted within the document. Two week comment period. Board should review and reach out with comments/conversation. Adopted all of USA Swimming roles , we only added two more roles. We added officials, program development, and added another athlete to make the total 16 people.
2. Elections are coming up- Dave Heller working on the slate of candidates. Asking for nominations. Everything is on schedule. We were approached by a swimmer to do an internship- allowing her to do that - no pay- month of May. USA Swimming member- it will be a couple of hours a week. She will help with some projects. Will follow Safe Sport protocol.

Finance Vice-Chair – **James Doak**- nothing to report

Program Development Vice-Chair - **Jason Paige**- Haven't been able to meet. Will meet this Thursday. Will discuss and review 2025 SC meets and the athletic reimbursement policy. Have Wesleyan locked up for 2025 LC- working on time standards. Considering two sites for AG Championships- break up the preliminaries and finals. Finals at Wesleyan. Planning SC/LC 2026- summer of 2026 is a little strange- zones is earlier so figuring out regionals. Zones will be held July 29, 2026.

Program Operations Vice-Chair – **Jim Robison**- nothing present

Athlete Representatives - **Samantha Haley, Caroline Ward**- Feedback over Senior Champs. Agree that secondary cuts for bonus events will be great- give opportunity to more swimmers to have a full schedule but at the same time will keep it competitive and efficient. Set up a zoom to talk about the feedback or ideas with other athletes. Eastern Zone Athlete meeting- Remind swimmers that they are organizing an athlete summit. There will also be a virtual athlete workshop on April 6th, we can send up to 4 athletes. Caroline is the only one who can attend. Hopefully learn from the meeting. Found one more athlete for the virtual summit. There will be a bunch of different workshops like problem solving and conflict resolution. It will be held on a Sunday afternoon.

Treasurer- **Susan Lecza**- not a lot to report. Membership registration- more back in line with what was expected. Still higher than what was budgeted. Surcharges a little higher but pretty consistent. Operating expenses- 184K profit. We collect all revenue up front. 9K less than where we were last year. Still have 1.1 million in the bank.

Safe Sport Coordinator- **Jeremy Virgil**- March 26- Safe Sport courses will change.

Senior Committee Chair - **Adriana Schack**- Haven't had time to meet in March. Started planning senior champs LC and 2025/2026 SC calendar.

Age Group Committee Chair- **Ronnie Vaughan**- Would like feedback from 14/U athletes and coaches about AG. Meeting next week to recap the championship season.

Coach Representatives- **Sarah Basile, Steven Casanova, Robert Adams-Michaud**- Junior coach rep nominations are out until March 25th. Get nominations in. A lot of positive comments about the meet this weekend.

Coach-at-Large- Kristen Finnegan- 3 core points: education, network and mentorship. Through online forum- geared towards CT. Open to all coaches not just females. Trying to get more women engaged. Share drill sets, networking needs.

Officials Chair- Dylan Lee/Margy Sargent- Good numbers- for online clinics- events and in person option. Want to encourage 16/17 year olds to become junior officials. We have 3-4 as of now. They can't run the meet but can officiate at 12/U session.

Open Water Coordinator- Vacant- State Championship coming up at Quasay Park- all set there. Doesn't conflict with SAA. Date is secured. Want to put BID package together with a video to bring Zones Open Water Championships back to CT. Only have 6 minutes to present BID by video.

Adapted Swimming- vacant- still looking to fill the position

Operational Risk Coordinator – Brandon Foster- Three incidents this month. Two were from the same household. One involved an official who tripped on the bulkhead.

Registration/Membership Coordinator – Kathleen/Davide Mendonca- Next week all of safe sport gets updated.

Zone Team Coordinator –Seana Bedard- not present

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Dennis Flores- not present

PUBLIC COMMENT

- Want to open up the Zone application to coaches for the rest of the month- better sooner than later.
- 13 CT state and residential records broken over one weekend with another one broken at Miss Porter's to make it 14 total records broken in one weekend.
- At AG 7 relay records were broken. 4 relays broke the resident and state of CT records.
- Regular season BIDs close 3/28 @ 5 pm

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- BOD meeting- 4/15/25- at 8 pm via zoom

Meeting was adjourned at 9:03pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lauren Lazar

Secretary