

**Connecticut Swimming Inc.**  
**Board of Directors Minutes**  
**February 16, 2011**  
**7:30 pm, Orange, Connecticut**

**Vision Statement:** Connecticut Swimming...better life through swimming

**Mission Statement:** Connecticut Swimming promotes the pursuit of excellence in swimming and in life through competition and education

**Present:** Ed Becker, Jeff Gray, Chris Hug, Dan Mascolo, Bob Shearer, Judy Snow, KaeleySteinnagel, Bonnie Strittmatter, Mary Westcott, Ed Doernberger, Lexi Koukos, Cooper Kearns

**Not Present:** Hilary Berger, Peter Boucher, King Lee, Rick Lewis, John Spadafina, Mike Huffman

**Other Not Present:** Nan Cooper  
Meeting is called to order at 7:30pm

**Approval of the Agenda** Chris Hug added three policy considerations under the Strategic Framework Document, including (a) a Policy on Club Recognition; (b) a Policy on Coach's Excellence; and (c) a Policy on Meet Programming. The Agenda was approved with these additions.

**Approval of the Minutes** – The minutes of the prior Board meeting on January 19, 2011 were approved without modification.

**Announcements** – None

**Old Business** –

**Athlete Representative Election** – The Board was presented with and discussed a proposed procedure to elect athlete representatives, as permitted in the bylaws enacted in May 2010. In discussion, the importance of promoting the existence of and participation of the election process was discussed. The Board also discussed the wisdom of recruiting athletes recently graduating from college. The specific proposal was amended as follows: Add a paragraph 7 to state: "In the event the Senior Athlete Representative is a nominee for election, an independent person selected by the General Chair shall serve in the role of Senior Athlete Representative hereunder."

A Motion was made to adopt the election procedure as written and circulated with the Agenda. That Motion was denied. A Motion was then made to approve the election procedure with the amendment. With this amendment, the proposal was adopted and effective immediately.

**Ad Policy and Procedure** – The Board was presented with and discussed the “Advertising/Sponsorship Policy and Procedure For Connecticut Swimming, Inc.” During the course of the discussion of this proposal, Chris Hug informed the Board of his discussions with a potential sponsor, Marriott. Marriott has approached CSI to offer programs to CSI and its Members. In the course of this discussion, the Board discussed the concern about allowing communication with individual members. Communications by Marriott through CSI to Club contacts and coaches appears acceptable, but not necessarily to individual Members. No change in the Policy was deemed necessary. If sponsorship is presented, the Board believes further discussion should ensue concerning the manner and type of contact with Members. The Policy was Moved and approved as presented.

**Strategic Framework Document** – Chris Hug presented the Board with three ideas for discussion.

The first idea was to implement a Policy regarding Club Recognition. The purpose of the Policy would be to promote financial and administrative stability in our Clubs. Beginning in September 2012, Clubs that have attained at least Level 1 of the USA Swimming Club Recognition Program would be recognized at that Annual Awards Banquet; receive recognition on the CSI website under the FAST program; and in bidding for meets, immediately prior to resolving meet host conflicts by casting lots, preference will be given to the proposed host team that has passed Level 1 of the USA Club Recognition Program. Much discussion ensued. Chris Hug agreed to write up a Policy for the next meeting given that the initial reaction was somewhat favorable. Further discussion is needed.

The second idea was to formulate a Policy to Encourage Coaching Excellence. The purpose of this Policy is to promote excellence in coaching by encouraging professional education. The proposal set up concepts of “Recognized Senior and Age Group” Coaches. For Senior Coaches, special recognition would be given to coaches with 5 years of experience; at least a Junior National qualifier, or higher; and have taken at least four hours of professional competitive swimming education courses in the previous 24 months. The Age Group Coach recognition would require: 5 years of experience; an age group qualifier in the last 3 years; and at least 4 hours of professional competitive swimming education courses in the previous 24 months. This proposal generated spirited discussion and little consensus was reached over the individual requirements. However, there was a general consensus that the purpose of promoting excellence in coaching through professional education is a worthy purpose. At the request of the General Chair, the issue is to be considered by the Age Group, Senior and Technical Planning Committees.

The third idea was postponed to the next meeting due to time considerations. No motions were made as to these proposals.

## **New Business –**

Nominating Committee – Chris reported that the Committee has met and actively procuring candidates. Dave Heller is the chair of the Committee.

Eastern Zone Meeting – Any one wishing to attend should contact Chris Hug.

Open Water Clinic –The Board considered a Motion to appropriate \$2,000 to send Dave Heller to the next Open Water Clinic. The Motion passed.

**Officer's Reports** – The reports of the officers were available for review. The following comments and questions occurred.

**General Chair:** Chris Hug: nothing added

**Vice Chair:** Rick Lewis: not present

**Treasurer:** Mary Westcott reported on the healthy financial condition of CSI

**Finance:** Bonnie Strittmatter:reported on the our healthy financial condition

**Age Group Committee:** King Lee: not present

**Senior Committee Chair:** Bob Shearer: nothing added

**Program Development Vice Chair:** Jeff Gray: nothing added

**Program Operations Vice Chair:** Mike Huffman: not present

**Technical Planning Committee Chair Kaeley Steinnagel:** reported that new legislation has been proposed that affects the minimum depth of pools for diving. Chris Hug in consultation with Ed Doernberger will review.

**Coaches Representatives:** Dan Mascolo and John Spadafina: nothing added

**Athlete Representatives:** Cooper Kearns and Lexi Koukos: nothing added

**Safety Committee Chair:** Peter Boucher: not present

**Officials Committee Chair:** Ed Becker: nothing added

**Registration/Membership Coordinator:** Judy Snow: reported that the current number of members is now over 5,000. However, there are approximately 1000 more female athletes than male athletes, mostly concentrated in the 12&U age groups. The Age Group Committee was tasked with reviewing the trend for potential action.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30.

Respectfully Submitted,

Hilary Berger

Secretary, Connecticut Swimming