

DRAFT

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.

Board of Directors

Thursday, April 23, 2020

7:30 PM, Teleconference Meeting

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

Mission Statement: Connecticut Swimming provides opportunities for swimmers to enrich their lives.

MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order/Roll Call: General Chair, Ellen Johnston (EJ) called the meeting to order at 7:34 pm.

Present Board Members: Kristen Finnegan, Dennis Flores, Todd Gordon, David Heller, Ellen Johnston, Susan Lecza, Rick Lewis, Jen Lyman, Joan Lynch, Meghan Lynch, Davide Mendonca, Kathleen Mendonca, Claire Michalik, David Modzelewski, Duffy Mudry, Richard Nolan, Jason Paige, Greg Pinchbeck, Dave Pite, Matt Pohlman, John Scaldini, Kaeley Steinnagel, Mark Wollen

Absent Board Members: Kyle Brown, Maddie Haley, David Heller, Jen Lyman

Also Present: Nan Cooper

Announcements – Ellen Johnston

New format of these bi-weekly meetings will be Announcements, New Business followed by Reports of Officers.

Letter regarding LC meet cancelations: The letter went out to membership after the Emergency Board Meeting on Monday. Received lots of positive feedback, meet hosts were appreciative. Positive comments regarding continuing to brainstorm. EJ added an email address to receive questions/comments/etc from members. Most were complimentary, one gave some useful suggestions, and one said swimmers want to compete please keep that in mind.

USA Swimming said important to NOT put pressure on athletes when they are able to get back into the water. Let them go at their own pace; be careful with starting up too quickly. USA Swimming coming out with revised scheduling soon; want to start Pro Swim Series in November.

For Olympic Trials, time standards have not yet been revised; waiting to see when most swimmers are able to get back in. Don't want more than 1,500 swimmers maximum at Trials.

USA Swimming Swimbiz Seminar: Tools will be free to all team to assist with 'how to market your team'. USA Swimming BOD meeting tomorrow...discussing memberships, and offering guidelines for teams for when facilities start to open.

Nominating Committee – somewhat on hold right now.

Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

New format of these bi-weekly meetings will be Announcements, New Business followed by Reports of Officers. Old Business should be covered in Reports of Officers section as necessary.

Adoption of Minutes from April 9, 2020 Board Meeting

***MOTION made to adopt the Minutes from the April 9, 2020 meeting (as distributed).
Passed unanimously.***

New Business

Covid-19 Stimulus Update – Ellen Johnston

Approximately 150 coaches have taken advantage of the coach stimulus payment so far.

Scholar Athlete Program and Meet Eligibility Requirement – Rick Lewis

Discussed revising Scholar Athlete requirement for athletes who were intending to use the canceled WHAT short course meet in March as their meet requirement. Any swimmer that intended to use the canceled WHAT short course meet (and WAS entered in the meet), may include that meet in their required meet count. Other than that meet, there is no impact to this year's scholar athlete program requirements. Will need to discuss requirements for the 2020-2021 year due to lack of long course meet schedule.

Reports of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Coordinators

General Chair Report – Ellen Johnston – nothing additional.

Administrative Vice-Chair – Rick Lewis – nothing additional.

Treasurer – Sue Lecza – Sue is writing checks for HOD reimbursements, sanction fees reversed and payments to 155 coaches so far for coach stimulus payment.

Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon – Currently running models with various scenarios – will have a better idea of the budget requirements once we see clear to having a season in the fall.

Age Group Committee Chair – Dave Modzelewski - looking forward to meeting with Technical Planning and Age Group Committee to come up with ideas/formats.

Senior Committee Chair - Jason Paige – holding pattern right now

Technical Planning Committee Chair – Kaeley Steinnagel – TP/Program Development – PD didn't have much on agenda since all old business related to LC season. TP had brainstorming session regarding 'what-ifs', minutes have been distributed...basically a list of thoughts. No decisions are final...just thoughts that are out there. Including officiating, how run meets in various scenarios, teams helping each other, will continue to develop this list with regular weekly/bi-weekly meetings. Changes in Scholar-Athlete came out of TP, went to PD, and approved by PD. PD will review for 2020-21.

Mark Wollen brought up idea of live-streaming swim meets if cannot have spectators. Trying to build our resources coaches/parents/families that we can turn to if need help coming up with creative ideas. Spencer Hartmann may be a resource for this. Mark Pohlman went to school for broadcasting. If anyone knows someone or are someone who could help with this, please let us know. Please send email to Kaeley Steinnagel so she can build list of resources that we have within our LSC.

Program Ops Vice Chair – Mark Wollen – everything up in the air. Awaiting some direction and ideas...will be open to giving out sanctions to anyone with creative ideas to get official times, when becomes possible.

Officials Committee Chair - Dave Pite – Zoom meeting April 15th – great turnout. Just waiting to see what is going to happen. Now in holding pattern. Mike Huffman, Ed Beck and Dave Pite – working on how might run virtual meets. Holding another officials Zoom meeting next week.

Operational Risk Coordinator – Duffy Mudry – nothing additional to report.

Coach Representatives – Kristen Finnegan – elections for Junior coach rep going on now. Without having AG championships (where voting usually occurs), may change response rate.

Athlete Representatives – Claire Michalik/Meghan Lynch

Claire discussed the Eastern Zone Athlete Rep call there were on on Monday. Checking in with all reps for Eastern Zone...a new resource. Kaeley asked if it might be possible to reach out to senior swimmers to get their senior pictures, or a baby picture, or something to give them a virtual tribute/recognition since they are not having graduation and other ceremonies

Safe-Sport Coordinator - Greg Pinchbeck – was supposed to be at 3-day safe sport meeting. Eastern Zone will be getting together by Zoom meeting to discuss enforcement actions that can be taken, and discuss various topics. Trying to learn what others are doing within the Zone.

Will be sending email on Safe Sport weekly training sessions for athletes as well as parents. These sessions are available on Wednesdays from 3:00-4:00pm. Another option for training if anyone wants to participate. Will continue to be looking at safe sport options, and ways to efficiently get parents to complete the required training. Would be a good idea to get it done now (since many people currently have more time available). Hoping to get more information on MAAP. Suggestions include: doing the MAAP training during dryland (for 18& overs), and do it with parents at your team opening meetings.

Coach-at-Large – Matt Pohlman

Will follow-up with Ellen on rescheduling of Swimposium, timing, etc.

Zone Team Coordinator – John Scaldini – nothing new to report.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion – Dennis Flores

Dennis sat in on conference call with Eastern Zone LSCs – updated each other on progress. Feels like we have good representation in CSI, will like to continue to make all aware of DEI and be proactive. EJ – looking to support outreach members when meets start up again, will need to look at in accordance with other budgeting items.

Jason, Duffy, Sue, Dennis, and Ellen set up committee to work with Dennis to ensure DEI athletes are supported appropriately.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, May 7th via teleconference at 7:30PM. Meeting was adjourned at 8:43PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Joan Lynch
Secretary*