

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
VIA Teleconference
Wednesday, June 11, 2014
7:30 pm

Call to Order/Roll Call: General Chair, Rick Lewis call the meeting to order at 7:38pm

Present: Rick Lewis, Sue Lecza, Todd Gordon, Lauren Bullock, Dave Reilly, Randy Erlenbach, Henk Jensen, Kaeley Steinnagel, Nancy Wargo, Ed Doernberger, Judy Snow, Brooke Hendee.

Unconfirmed: Jeff Gray, Dave Heller, Mark Sedlak, Jim Robison, Jeff Scobee, Matt Hurst, Ed Heath, Dave Laudati, Coral McNary, Josh Furth, Madeline Snow, Garrett Mazziotti

Other: Nan Cooper

Addition to Agenda: Meeting Schedule, motion/approved with addition of an organization chart review.

Minutes - Motion to amend. David Heller requested correction to section regarding Nominating Committee to read, those interested in a board position, should not volunteer for the Nominating Committee. Approved.

OLD BUSINESS

Surcharge Reduction Proposal - (Jeff Scobee/Henk Jensen) No discussion.

NEW BUSINESS

Facility Surcharge – The WRAT meet was discussed and whether the swimmer facility surcharge collected for their recent meet at Wesleyan should be part of the CSI surcharge collection. Considerations raised about the matter involve the Senior Committee, and whether CSI needs to put a facility surcharge for AG/Seniors or is it considered part of the expenses. The situation was referred to as pandora’s box and the question was raised that “if something extra ordinary not related to athletes, should the surcharge cover it?” It was suggested a formula be determined to calculate to costs and time should be spent deciding how to handle the situation.

Randy raised the point of wanting to be sure we are always in a healthy position to offer meets for athletes. If there is no incentive for teams to host, they won’t. As an organization, it’s tricky to decide what is the proper profit. As costs rise, hosting teams need to reevaluate how they profit. Nobody wants to lose money. Budget questions are important and surcharges are major considerations. Rick stated Senior Championship would not have a no surcharge this summer and surcharges for other meets are already up this summer. Others agreed a loss would be okay this summer.

Rick mentioned a facility fee was not included in the surcharge and no policy was developed. He also stated the meet entry fees are up for the Sharks meet in a few weeks at Wesleyan and the Sharks went to session fees. Further discussion took place about teams trying to keep their numbers down at the meets and an alternative was to increase sessions to 3 instead of 2. Warm ups are shorter.

The group agreed to discuss what worked and what didn’t at the end of the summer. Comments regarding the intent is not to circumvent the surcharge, but to protect against losses in the future. Further discussion took place about session fees being charged instead of event entry fees and those swimming several events make out better than swimmers in less events.

Todd made a motion to exempt teams that have already had meet and elevate a request to reduce the penalty to those that didn’t have the opportunity to those that were able to plan ahead. So, the surcharge would be forgiven. Dave R. stated teams that went to session fee instead of event entry fees should also not be responsible for surcharge. Todd noted the need to find what is equitable. Simplifying the situation, 5 meets will be held at Wesleyan; 3 were bid, and 2 weren’t. The motion was revised to Rebate \$400 per

meet to host teams to offset the facilities fees. Nan asked if entry fees have been covering the costs. Dave R. stated 3 bid meets approx. net \$15,000 - \$18,000. The WRAT meet at Wesleyan was not set up to net a large profit. UCONN is charging more than Wesleyan. Todd withdrew his motion and it was agreed, in long term, a policy needs to be developed. Dave R. stated Bill Ball added in between sessions to offset costs and increase profit. There was room in the WRAT meet to do the same.

WRAT was asking for \$530. A motion was made that surcharge not be reimbursed and seconded. The motion passed.

Review of the Meet Host CSI House of Delegate Attendance Requirement Policy – (Lewis/Steinnagel) The overall goal of the policy was achieved. However, the past May meeting, a couple of meet hosts were unable to attend due to emergency. Multiple ways can solve the issue were discussed.

Fall House of Delegates - (Rick Lewis) A meeting with a speaker for all to attend while providing the opportunity for those that were unable to attend to do so. If we don't, the meets will be reduced by at least 25% next year due to HOD lack of attendance. Two HOD meetings per year provide multiple positive outcomes and would be good for the LSC.

Volunteer of the Year Ad Hoc Committee – (Rick Lewis) Last year, Kaeley, Todd, Rick, Dave Heller worked on the committee. An email will be sent out and everyone is encouraged to join.

USAS Convention attendance – (Rick Lewis) The convention will take place in Jacksonville on Sept. 16 - 20, 2014. A number of people from LSC could and should attend. Email Rick asap to determine who is planning on going. In the past, 7-8 people attended. Athletes should also send an email. An award ceremony is on Saturday night. The meeting schedule was emailed by Nan.

WRAT equipment request - (Todd Gordon) Discussion took place about a \$250 equipment rental fee the team was unaware of and a change in fees. The additional equipment was not necessary. In the past, Wesleyan supplied harness and starting unit. This time, rental was a back up and extension cord was necessary. A motion was made to not reimburse and approved unanimously.

Review of Wesleyan June Meets – (Dave Reilly) – Both meets went to 3 sessions and the client response was positive. There was no difference in quality of performance and numbers on deck were below the requirement. The additional room made for a calmer meet. Negatives included tougher requirements were put on volunteers and officials due to limited time between sessions. The next two meets should be cautioned about the presence of the facilities (separate from the athletic department) and problems with the drop off facility. There were parking lot issues including signs indicating Full when they were not. Photos were taken to document how things are being done. Further discussion took place about Wesleyan not raising facility fees for AG or Senior Champs. Jeff had direct conversations with Wesleyan and dialogue helped. 350 is same number for all champs with the spectator population being increased to 341. Rick reiterated no parking on any grassy areas. All must park in a legal parking space and CSI should be proactive to prevent violations because CSI will be charged for damage to property.

Final comments were made that 3 session meets need to consider time frames to not put additional burden on officials, starters, refs, etc.

REPORTS OF OFFICERS

General Chair Report – Rick Lewis – No further report

Administrative Vice-Chair – Jeff Gray - Scholar Athlete apps available. Deadline Aug.

Treasurer – Susan Lecza – May financials are good and it is typically slow month. Surcharges and registrations are coming in well and significantly higher than last year. Things are looking very positive for this year.

Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon – No report

Age Group Committee Chair – Dave Reilly – Age Group Championships were discussed including the format of championships and Cheshire being a location and prelims/finals are Wesleyan. Tentatively, 2 sessions of prelims will include no relay only for 13/over. One relay will be run per AG. Finals will have about 400 on deck with a 5 foot bullpen in the office for holding area. Those in water don't count and the population in the stands will reduce concerns. The use of wristbands will be distributed to spectators by teams according to the ratio of swimmers. Concerns were raised about who's responsible for enforcement. Wesleyan yellow shirts can enforce behavior and policies or CSI can hire a security firm to provide enforcement. Discussion took place about video feed for parents in the upstairs classroom. Webcast is also a consideration, but would cost multiple thousands of dollars. A question was raised about using Wesleyan personnel if they're going to encounter nasty behavior. Would it be better to have outside security firm?

Discussion also took place about relays and smaller teams not being able to provide opportunities to swimmers who don't qualify. The new policy must be followed at this point.

The meet announcement was delayed due to lack of information and the proposed changes were sent out Thursday night. A request was sent out for changes to current draft and the announcement will hopefully be ready by Friday. Needs to be reviewed by Jim and meet refs.

Senior Committee Chair – Randy Erlenbach – Senior committee asked how to hire Wesleyan yellow shirts. Kate Mullen put together a list of required monitors and the info will be sent out. Outside security firms probably won't be possible. A limit of 350 people will be allowed on deck at a time. 130 swimmers won't be seated on deck during prelims. WYW will sit on ice rink. The committee will ask for volunteers to also sit in ice rink. Finals should be fine. Parking info will go in the meet information. Relays on the last day only.

Program Development Vice-Chair – Jeff Scobee – No report

Program Operations Vice-Chair – Jim Robison – No report

Technical Planning Committee Chair – Henk Jansen – No report

Coach Representatives – Matt Hurst/Mark Sedlak – No report

Athlete Representatives – Josh Furth/Coral McNary/Garrett Mazziotti/Maddy Snow – No report

Coach-at-Large – Kaeley Steinnagel – No report

Safety Committee Chair – Ed Heath – No report

Officials Committee Chair – Nancy Wargo reported 14 new starters. The committee is busy with clinics. Officials meeting date is currently on Yom Kippur and needs to be rescheduled.

Registration/Membership Coordinator – Judy Snow – Colorado is sending out lots of paper and the registration/membership will get caught up soon.

Addition to Agenda – Kaeley – Program development is being taken over from Jeff. Comments were made about implementing change and committees being uncertain about what they're allowed to pass at their levels.

Motion to adjourn and approved – 9:11.

Submitted by Lauren Bullock