

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.

Board of Directors

Thursday, July 16, 2020

7:30 PM, Zoom 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 7:35 pm.

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

Absent Board Members: Kyle Brown, Dennis Flores, Todd Gordon, Maddie Haley, Meghan Lynch, Richard Nolan

Also Present: Nick Cavataro, Nan Cooper, Spencer Hartmann, Finn Henry, Todd Stevens, Ronnie Vaughan

Announcements – Ellen Johnston

Announcements will be covered under Ad-Hoc Committee Reports.

Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Motions made to add to New Business the passing of a CSI official and the Senior Athlete of the Year. Passed unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes from June 25, 2020 Board Meeting

MOTION made to adopt the Minutes from the June 25, 2020. Passed unanimously.

Old Business

House of Delegates – TBD – Ellen Johnston: Ellen Johnston, General Chair, reported that the meeting is yet to be rescheduled due to uncertainty of State of CT Health Department requirements for large meetings. The goal is to hold an outdoor socially distanced meeting in September.

Swimposium – TBD – Ellen Johnston: No updates. USA Swimming has put Swimposiums on hold.

New Business

Coach Education Grant – Kristen Finnegan and Matt Pohlman: Kristen Finnegan, Coach Representative and Matt Pohlman, Coach at Large, presented to the Board a document outlining proposed changes to the 2019-2020 Coach Education Grant. Concerns center around the abrupt end of the 2019-20 season due to the pandemic as well as how the 2020-21 season will be affected. Unrelated to the pandemic, concern was expressed about the low number of applicants. ***MOTION*** made to combine the 2019-20 and 2020-21 seasons, commencing September 1, 2019 and ending August 31, 2021; award up to 6 grants with a

maximum of \$650 each; recipients would be permitted to buy equipment directly related to coaching; and for this period only, 2018-2019 grant recipients are eligible to apply. Passed unanimously.

Passing of CSI Official – Dave Pite: Dave Pite, Officials Chair, announced the passing of HHAC longtime official Paul Gontarski. In addition to officiating on deck, Paul often mentored new officials. Paul was a dedicated official and will be missed by the CSI community. **MOTION made to donate \$200 to the Gaylord Rehabilitation Hospital. Passed unanimously.**

Swimmer of the Year and Adapted Swimmer of the Year – Jason Paige: Jason Paige, Senior Committee Chair, proposed adjusting the Swimmer of the Year criteria for 2019-2020 due to the pandemic. **MOTION made to adjust the 2019-2020 criteria for membership and meet participation: 1.) CT membership September 1, 2019 through March 8, 2020; and 2.) participated in 2 CT sanctioned meets. Level of achievement criteria remains the same. In addition, going forward each year to award both Men's and Women's Swimmer of the Year and Adapted Swimming of the Year instead of a single recipient respectively. Passed unanimously.**

Reports of General Chair, Ad-Hoc, And Other Committees

USA Swimming Updates – Ellen Johnston: Ellen Johnston reported that USA Swimming has decreased its meeting schedule with LSCs and there is nothing new to report. Nan Cooper, CSI Administrator, is evaluating and testing USA Swimming's proposed LEAP program at the request of Jane Grosser, LSC Development, USA Swimming.

CSI Stimulus Committee Update – Ellen Johnston: As of today 4 clubs have submitted requests for operational funding. One request has been funded; 3 are in process.

Budget Committee Update - Todd Gordon: Ellen Johnston reported for Todd Gordon, Finance Chair, that different budget scenarios were being formulated.

Interim Nominating Committee Update - David Heller: David Heller, Nominating Committee Chair, reported that the Nominating Committee is meeting regularly and seeking nominees. The committee awaits the House of Delegates meeting date and will put forth a slate no later than 20 days in advance of the meeting date/election.

Meet Sanctioning/Schedule – Mark Wollen and Jason Paige: Mark Wollen, Program Operations Chair reported that there is interest in sanctioning meets. Dave Pite noted that officials for meets are needed before a meet will be sanctioned. Provisional officials, per USA Swimming, are possible and he is waiting for more information from USA Swimming. Officiating requirements will be determined after sanctions are requested. It was confirmed that Program Operations is taking sanction requests for meets held during the month of August (2020).

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Ad-Hoc Committee Update – Dennis Flores: Duffy Mudry, Operational Risk and DE&I Ad Hoc Committee member, distributed a letter from the Potomac Valley Swimming Board of Directors in support of Black Lives Matter and a call to end systemic racism and policy brutality. Duffy proposed CSI draft a statement to show that as a LSC we are listening, we wish to make CSI more diverse, and we wish to better educate our membership. Discussion revolved around avoiding politics and making racial justice and inclusion part of CSI's culture. The DE&I Ad-Hoc committee will continue to meet and bring a proposal to accomplish these goal to the next Board meeting.

Reports of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Coordinators

General Chair Report – Ellen Johnston: No report.

Administrative Vice Chair – Rick Lewis: No report.

Treasurer – Susan Lecza: Little financial activity to report.

Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon: Not present.

Age Group Committee Chair - Dave Modzelewski: No Age Group Committee meeting scheduled at this time.

Senior Committee Chair – Jason Paige: Jason held his last Senior Committee meeting in his term as Senior Committee Chair and thanked all for their support. He expressed his pride in his committee's work.

Technical Planning Committee Chair - Kaeley Steinnagel: No report.

Program Development Vice-Chair – Jen Lyman: No report.

Program Operations Vice-Chair – Mark Wollen: Mark reported that Program Operations is taking sanction requests.

Officials Committee Chair - Dave Pite: Dave reported that the Officials are meeting every 2 weeks for a virtual happy hour. A sub-committee is meeting regarding officials returning to competition.

Operational Risk Coordinator - Duffy Mudry: Duffy inquired with the Eastern Zone regarding Covid-19 task forces, or club representatives to handle Covid-19 issues, etc. At this point there are no reporting requirements for clubs.

Coach Representatives – vacant/Kristen Finnegan: Kristen reports that Coach of the Year nominations are open and voting will begin August 3. Ronnie Vaughan, Jr Coach Representative-elect, reported that Wesleyan University will not offer rentals through the 2020-2021 season.

Athlete Reps – Claire Michalik: Athlete at Large elect Finn Henry was introduced.

Safe Sport Coordinator – Greg Pinchbeck: The number of clubs participating in the Safe Sport Recognition Program has slowed down due to clubs beginning to practice.

Coach-at-Large - Matt Pohlman: No report.

Registration/Membership Coordinator – Kathleen/Davide Mendonca: USA Swimming will continue to extend CPR and in-water Safety Training certifications due to the pandemic.

Zone Team Coordinator - John Scaldini: No report.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - Dennis Flores: Not present.

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 6, 2020 via teleconference at 7:30PM.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:59 PM.

*Respectfully submitted,
Nan Cooper, Administrator*