

CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.

Board of Directors

Tuesday, September 15, 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, Maddie Haley, Dave Heller, Ellen Johnston, Rick Lewis, Jen Lyman, Joan Lynch, Meghan Lynch, Davide Mendonca, Kathleen Mendonca, Claire Michalik, Duffy Mudry, Greg Pinchbeck, Dave Pite, Matt Pohlman, John Scaldini, Kaeley Steinnagel, Mark Wollen

Absent Board Members: Kyle Brown, Dennis Flores, Todd Gordon, Sue Lecza, David Modzelewski, Richard Nolan, Jason Paige

Also Present: Nan Cooper, Thomas Dupont, Bill Evison, Emily Fox, Spencer Hartman, Ronald Vaughan

Announcements – Ellen Johnston

Announcements will be covered in agenda items and Ad-Hoc Committee Reports.

Approval of Agenda/Additions to Agenda

Additions to 'New Business' Agenda items:

- Coach of the Year Election – Mark Wollen, David Pite

MOTION made to adopt the Agenda as distributed with this addition.

Passed unanimously.

Adoption of Minutes from July 16, 2020 Board Meeting

MOTION made to adopt the Minutes from the July 16, 2020 meeting, as distributed.

Passed unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

House of Delegates – TBD – Ellen Johnston

Ellen Johnston, General Chair, suggested an outside amphitheater as venue at the Westport YMCA for the fall HOD Meeting, with a ZOOM option for those preferring not to attend in person, or unable to attend in person. A tentative date of October 24th was suggested, whether it be in person or on ZOOM. Pros and cons were discussed in depth.

MOTION was made to conduct the HOD meeting on Oct 24th at 12:00 noon at the Westport YMCA Amphitheater, or alternative outdoor facility, with in-person attendance not being required, and Zoom option available for those who prefer to attend virtually.

Passed with a vote of 13-4.

NEW BUSINESS

Return To Competition Parameters – Mark Wollen

Mark Wollen reviewed the 2020 "Return to Competition" Season Meet Sanctions/Approvals Parameters, previously distributed to all Board members. These parameters were prepared to be used for all meets held during the time period from August 1, 2020 and ending TBD.

2020 "Return to Competition" Season Meet Sanctions/Approvals Parameters:

1. "Return To Competition" (RTC) is borrowed from USA Swimming.
2. Return to Competition definition: As the Long Course season was cancelled, and the Short Course season is still in the future, Return to Competition (RTC) will be the name of the season commencing August 1, 2020 and ending TBD.
3. The House of Delegates attendance requirement is waived for clubs wishing to apply for a sanction.

4. RTC times will be official and loaded into SWIMS and FAST, assuming USA Swimming Technical Rules are followed.
5. RTC meets will not be eligible for CSI program recognition such as Top 16, Scholar Athlete, Travel Assistance, etc.
6. By Invitation meet requirements are waived.
7. The Sanction Deposit Policy and Surcharge Policy are waived for RTC meets where no fees normally subject to surcharge are collected.
8. CSI reserves the right to implement the Sanction Deposit Policy and Surcharge Policy if fees of any kind are collected. Collection of fees is subject to approval by Program Operations at the time the sanction/approval is issued. Retroactive collection of fees is not permitted.
9. No blackout dates.
10. All the above is subject to change should USA Swimming modify its LSC sanction requirements, public health mandates change, or other mandate imposed by a governing body.

MOTION made to adopt 2020 Return to Competition Season Meet sanctions/Approvals Parameters as distributed. Passed unanimously.

2021 Club Membership Dues and House of Delegates Fees – Davide and Kathleen Mendonca

Davide Mendonca discussed various issues related to HOD Fees and Membership Dues, resulting from the pandemic and related issues.

MOTION made to waive HOD penalty fee for this year. Passed unanimously.

Discussion ensued regarding Club Membership Fees of \$300. Discussion tabled until the next BOD Meeting, where additional information and analyses will be presented regarding the financial impact of waiving a portion or all of these fees.

Athlete Registration Policy and Non-Compliant Adult Athletes – Davide and Kathleen Mendonca

Davide shared the document 'Registration Policy for Athletes Competing in CSI Sanctioned Meets' for all to see. Davide proposed the need to address non-compliant adult athletes in this policy.

MOTION made to add a paragraph after the first paragraph of the Registration Policy, as follows: An adult athlete (age 18& above) not 100% compliant with Safe Sport requirements would be considered the same as unregistered swimmer. Passed unanimously.

Scholar Athlete Meet Participation Requirement for 2020-2021 – Rick Lewis

MOTION made to Table the discussion regarding 2020-2021 Scholar Athletes until we have a better idea as to what the meet situation will be. Passed unanimously.

Recognition Planning – Ellen Johnston and Kaeley Steinnagel/Joan Lynch/Duffy Mudry

Kaeley led a discussion on 2019-2020 recognition, normally done at the annual Awards Banquet in November. Top 16 will be recognized for the Short Course season, along with the usual annual awards. (There will be no Top 16 for Long Course since no meets were actually held during the Long Course season.). Nan Cooper reported that Scholar-Athlete certificates will be mailed to recipients, Hasty Awards will mail out individual Top-16 plaques along with Top-16 patches. Boathouse jackets will be available via mail order for all Top-16 athletes, as usual.

Duffy discussed a possible format for a short Awards Webinar, live-stream or recording, possibly to include personal Cameo messages from top swimmers in the world.

The Judy Snow award will be distributed at this recognition event. Applications have been submitted, and will be reviewed by the committee consisting of Kaeley, Jen Lyman and Jason Paige, to determine the award recipient.

Kaeley/Nan/Joan/Duffy will work with Nan on the information for the PowerPoint to be presented at the recognition event.

Kaeley will follow up with Jason Paige on 'Swimmer of the Year' awards, and 'Adapted Swimmer of the Year' awards.

CSI Top 16 Recognition – Kaeley Steinnagel

Covered in Recognition Planning above.

USA Swimming Convention/House of Delegates – Ellen Johnston

USA Swimming limits voting to the delegates only. Ellen will be attending. Rick will attend as Admin Chair. Claire as Athlete Rep. Kristen or Ronnie attending as Coach Rep. If anyone else is interested in attending, let Ellen and Nan know as soon as possible. Jen Lyman stated she would like to attend.

USA Swimming Zoom License for Clubs – Ellen Johnston

MOTION made to Table this item until the October meeting due to time constraints. Passed unanimously.

Coach of the Year Election

Discussion ensued regarding the ‘Coach of the Year’ nomination and election process. Per the CSI By-Laws, any coach can be nominated by a parent, coach or swimmer. The Coach Representatives administer the vote of registered coaches only.

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

USA Swimming Updates – Ellen Johnston: Nothing additional.

CSI Stimulus Committee Update – Ellen Johnston: No updates.

Budget Committee Update - Todd Gordon: Todd was not present, no report.

Interim Nominating Committee Update - David Heller: David Heller, Nominating Committee Chair, reported that the Nominating Committee needs to present the slate of candidates at least 20 days in advance of the HOD Meeting. Therefore, the next Board Meeting should be scheduled before October 4th so that the slate can be discussed at that meeting. It was determined that next meeting would need to be Tuesday, September 29th at 7:30pm via Zoom.

Meet Sanctioning/Schedule – Mark Wollen and Jason Paige: Nothing additional.

Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Ad-Hoc Committee Update – Dennis Flores: Dennis not present, no report.

Discussion

Strategy and planning so as to provide guidance for clubs

Postponed to next meeting due to time constraints.

Due to time constraints, Ellen asked if any of the following had anything of urgency to report or discuss. There were no additional reports.

Reports of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Coordinators

General Chair Report – Ellen Johnston
Administrative Vice Chair – Rick Lewis
Treasurer – Susan Lecza
Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon
Age Group Committee Chair - Dave Modzelewski
Senior Committee Chair – Jason Paige
Technical Planning Committee Chair - Kaeley Steinnagel
Program Development Vice-Chair – Jen Lyman

Program Operations Vice-Chair – Mark Wollen
Officials Committee Chair - Dave Pite
Operational Risk Coordinator - Duffy Mudry
Coach Representatives – vacant/Kristen Finnegan
Athlete Reps – Maddie Haley/Meghan Lynch/Claire Michalik
Safe Sport Coordinator – Greg Pinchbeck
Coach-at-Large - Matt Pohlman
Registration/Membership Coordinator – Kathleen/Davide Mendonca
Zone Team Coordinator - John Scaldini
Diversity, Equity & Inclusion - Dennis Flores

The next Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, Sept 29, 2020 via teleconference at 7:30PM.
Meeting was adjourned at 9:31 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Lynch
Secretary