

# CONNECTICUT SWIMMING

House of Delegates

Saturday, October 1, 2016

Courtyard by Marriott, Shelton, CT

## MINUTES

General Chair Ellen Johnston (EJ) called the meeting to order at the Courtyard by Marriott in Shelton, CT at 9:10am.

**Present Board Members:** Ellen Johnston, Dave Reilly, Todd Gordon, Kaeley Steinnagel, Mark Sedlak, Jason Paige, Henk Jansen, Nancy Wargo, Erin Ritz, Lindsey Gordon, Jack Gray, Miku Takabayashi, Joan Lynch, David Heller

**Absent Board Members:** Susan Lecza, Jim Robison, Dave Modzelewski, Clayton Morikowa, Victoria Fletcher, Ed Doernberger, Chuck Clark, John Scaldini, Rick LaFrenierre

**Clubs Present:** AJSC, ARAC, BDEV, BEAR, CAC, CAT, CCSU, CDOG, CPAC, FINS, FVYM, GLAS, GRYM, GWYB, GYWD, HHAC, HMST, ICSC, IVY LEHY, MAC, MJC, MSC, NCA, NCY, NFAF, NMBS, NMEG, NWYL, OAK, OMNI, OXO, PAC, PSDY, RAC, RAYS, RYWC, S70, SHKS, SHU, SJCC, SLAC, SMST, SOCO, SYS, TP, VALY, VSYM, WAC, WEST, WFYD, WHAT, WRAT, WRTS, WWRX, WYW, YCST, ZEUS

**Also Present:** Ginger McCurdy

### Roll Call of Attendees

**Adoption of Minutes:** A motion to accept the minutes of the May 17, 2016 House of Delegates Meeting was unanimously approved.

**Welcome/Announcements/General Chair's Report:** General Chair EJ welcomed all in attendance to the Fall 2016 House of Delegates Meeting. She noted that the CT LSC is very vibrant, and three new clubs were approved this week: Shoreline Aquatic Club, Stamford JCC and Middlesex. She noted that CT is currently at Leap 1, and aspires to get to Leap 2 or Leap 3 in the near future. She explained how she just returned from the USA Swimming Convention, which confirmed for her that CT is doing well and is an advanced LSC. We have 6,300 athlete members, in addition to many coach and volunteer members. She noted CT Swim is very fortunate to have Nan Cooper and Ginger McCurdy working in the CT Swim Office.

### Reports of Officers

**General Chair – Ellen Johnston (report above with Welcome and Announcements)**

**Administrative Vice-Chair – Dave Reilly No Report.**

**Treasurer – Susan Lecza No Report**

**Finance Vice-Chair – Todd Gordon (TG)**

TG stated that CT is one of the best LSC's financially in the USA. Last year's financial results were right on budget. He said there is good management in all disciplines, and registrations are slightly above budget. He is always looking for prudent investment management, and looking for ways to provide investment back to our teams/swimmers for productive programs, so please contact him with any ideas.

**Age Group Committee Chair – Mark Sedlak (MS)**

MS stated that he is working on Short Course Age Group Championships, and is hoping to have time standards completed for approval within the next couple of weeks. He and his committee are looking at the format for Regionals, trying to make it a better experience for swimmers (especially for LC Regionals).

#### **Senior Committee Chair – Jason Paige (JP)**

JP discussed he is reviewing formats for Senior Championship meets, and what is available for the secondary tier of swimmers, perhaps providing an opportunity to compete in a T/F championship meet to provide more opportunity for them to get to the next level. He is working on Senior Championships, trying to get Short Course Seniors information out by the end of October, and Long Course out by the end of March. JP stated he is also working to clarify the ‘Swimmer of the Year’ definition to assist with selection.

#### **Technical Planning Committee Chair – Henk Jansen (HJ)**

HJ stated they are considering different options to reformat LC Regionals, looking at indoor vs. outdoor, or perhaps eliminating LC Regionals altogether. All options are being discussed. HJ stated they are also considering a change to the LC entry process, and trying to make it more transparent by using a centralized process through the CT Swim Office. Discussion ensued, highlighting issues of teams over-entering and filling up all the spaces, but then cutting the entry way back days before the meet (and how this is very unfair to host teams AND other teams who were shut out). Several meet hosts and others had concerns and questions around moving to this centralized process as it could prevent them from being able to invite outside teams on a timely basis. Next meeting of Technical Planning Committee is October 12<sup>th</sup> via conference call.

#### **Program Development Vice-Chair – Kaeley Steinnagel (KS)**

KS announced that SC Age Group Championships will be held at Chelsea Piers Aquatic Club. She also noted that MS will be point person for setting up hotel blocks in the Stamford area for CT Swim families during SC Age Group Championships, and that hotel block information will be distributed in November.

KS also stated that Wesleyan University is opting out of the PO bid process this year. They may or may not use it in the future.

#### **Safety Committee Chair – Vacant No Report**

#### **Officials Committee Chair – Nancy Wargo (NW)**

NW reported that there are 326 USA Swimming certified officials in the CT LSC, and they officiated 185 meets within CT last year (48 long course, 137 short course). That equated to 4,915 sessions worked by CT Swim officials, all of whom are volunteers. She would like you to remember to thank them and treat them well as they are volunteers and we are working hard to retain our officials.

Goals for this year include: (1) Continue the recruiting process (including distribution of a new brochure to teams to hand out to parents), (2) Improve relationship with first time parents/coaches/athletes. Dave Pite will be heading up a service to help 10&unders know what to expect when they are on deck at a meet. This will be a free service to every team, and NW would like your team to hold a session for your new/young swimmers as it also helps your meets run smoothly. (3) Make recertification more convenient by offering an online recertification clinic (currently being beta tested).

### **Program Operations Co-Vice-Chairs – Jim Robison/Suzannah Rogers (SR)**

SR discussed that Program Operations is working on setting up a Program Operations Committee, and they will be working with Nan Cooper and HJ on improving the LC meet entry process.

### **Coaches Representatives – Erin Ritz (ER)/Dave Modzelewski**

ER stated that coaches grants have been announced, and for the first time ever, there is a tie for Coach of the Year. As such, they will be working on documenting tie-breaker criteria so that there will not be a tie in future years.

### **Athlete Representative – Lindsey Gordon (LG)/Clayton Morikawa Victoria Fletcher/Jack Gray (JG)/Miku Takabayashi (MT)**

LG said she will be working on improving/increasing CT Swim presence within various social media channels. JG reported that he attended the USA Swimming convention in Atlanta earlier in September where there were athlete reps from all LSC's throughout the country. He learned a great amount about how the other LSC's operate, and enjoyed meeting Olympians and other USA Swimming representatives. JG discussed how much he enjoys being an athlete rep for CT Swim, and would encourage others to run for the office.

### **Registration/Membership Coordinator – Rick LaFrenierre**

Speaking on Rick's behalf, Ginger McCurdy announced the addition of three new teams to CT Swim: Middlesex Aquatics, Stamford JCC and Shoreline Aquatics. She also mentioned that you no longer need to have a paper membership card to show at meets. All non-athletes can get a virtual membership card on their smart phone through the USA Swimming app Deck Pass, and this virtual card is acceptable at all USA Swimming meets nationwide.

### **Announcements**

Rick Lewis announced that at the Eastern Zone level, the biggest change to come out of the Technical Planning level is that beginning in 2018, the short course EZ Age Group Championship All-Star Meet will change from an 'all-star' format to a time standard format. 2017 will remain an all-star format as it has been in the recent past.

The next House of Delegates Meeting is scheduled to be conducted on Tuesday, May 16<sup>th</sup>.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20am.

Respectfully submitted,

Joan Lynch  
Secretary

### **Guest Speaker**

Mike Unger, Assistant Director, USA Swimming