

DRAFT
CONNECTICUT SWIMMING, INC.
House of Delegates Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, October 29, 2019, 7:30 PM
High Plains Community Center, Orange, CT

MINUTES

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

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

Call to Order/Roll Call: General Chair Ellen Johnston (EJ) called the meeting to order at 7:40PM.

Present Board Members: Kristen Finnegan, Ellen Johnston, Sue Lecza, Jen Lyman, Joan Lynch, Davide Mendonca, Kathleen Mendonca, Duffy Mudry, Jason Paige, Greg Pinchbeck, Dave Pite, Matt Pohlman, John Scaldini, Kaeley Steinnagel, Mark Wollen

Absent Board Members: Kyle Brown, Ed Doernberger, Todd Gordon, Maddie Haley, David Heller, Meghan Lynch, Claire Michalik, Richard Nolan, Dave Reilly

Clubs Present: AJSC, ARAC, BEAR, BULL, CAC, CCSU, CDOG, CPAC, FFLY, FINS, FVYT, GLAS, GRIT, GRYM, GWYB, GYWD, HHAC, HMST, LEHY, LST, MAC, NCA, NCY, NFAF, NMBS, NSC, NWYL, OAK, OXO, PAC, PACK, PSDY, RAC, RAYS, RYWC, SAQ, SEAL, SHKS, SHU, SLAC, SMST, SOCO, SWAT, SYS, TP, UCON, VSYM, WAC, WEST, WHAT, WOLF, WRAT, WRTS, WWRX, WYW, YALE, ZEUS

Clubs Not Present: BSY, CAT, FFLY, HNHS, HNHY, ICSC, IVY, MJCC, MSC, NMEG, SJCC, SSAC, TAC, WFYD, YCST

Approval of Agenda: A **MOTION** was made to accept the Agenda for this meeting, as distributed. Unanimously approved.

Adoption of Minutes: A **MOTION** to accept the minutes of the May 14, 2019 House of Delegates Meeting was unanimously approved.

Welcome/Announcements/General Chair's Report – Ellen Johnston:

EJ welcomed everyone to the meeting. She especially thanked Sue Lecza, Marc Wollen, Ed Becker and Nan Cooper for working hard to get the revised draft of CSI By-Laws ready for this meeting's vote. Once approved, the bylaws will go to USA Swimming for approval. The HOD is the only body that can approve revisions to the bylaws.

EJ discussed how CSI continues to be a very vibrant organization, with swimmers excelling at every level from beginner up to international competitions. She commended our officials for working so hard at all levels, up to TYR meets and National Championships.

EJ once again thanked Nan for consistently providing a wealth of information and knowledge, stating how fortunate CSI is to have her working for us.

Announcements from USA Swimming Convention in September: Diversity and Inclusion will now be known as Diversity, Equity & Inclusion. There is no longer a Zone Board of Review...only a National Board of Review. She noted that USA Swimming has not increased registration fees in a while, and related discussion was tabled for this year while a task force has been assembled to work on this.

EJ finished her remarks by saying we are all here for our swimmers. The upcoming CSI Awards Banquet will show how wonderful our LSC is done at the pool and in the classroom. Thank you all for helping these young people develop as their coaches, parents and volunteers.

Reports of Officers, Committee Chairs, and Coordinators

General Chair – Ellen Johnston (report above with Welcome)

Administrative Vice-Chair – Dave Reilly - No Report.

Treasurer – **Sue Lecza** - SL distributed and reviewed the financial statements as of (and for the year ended) August 31, 2019. CSI ended the year with profit of \$94K, significantly higher than budgeted. She noted two major variances from Budget: (1) Registration Fees were up \$59K due mainly to increase in registration fee per swimmer increase from \$70 to \$75. Athlete count remained about the same. (2) Expense items that did not happen; the Senior Training Camp and the Short Course Zone meet travel expenses. (The Senior Training Camp will start up again after this Olympic year.)

Finance Vice-Chair – Ellen Johnston (for **Todd Gordon**). CSI is financially solid, and is continually looking for opportunities to invest in the future of our swimmers.

Age Group Committee Chair – EJ reported that **Gordon Brown** has become a new Dad, and has resigned from the Age Group Chair position. EJ has asked Dave Modzelewski to step into the Age Group Chair position for the rest of this year, and he has agreed to do so.

Senior Committee Chair – **Jason Paige** – Jason stated that Maxine Parker from CPAC is the Swimmer of the Year, as she is ranked 20th in the world in 50 Free, and Matthew Torres, a Para Pan Pac gold medalist in the 400 Free is the Paralympic Swimmer of the

Year. Jason also reported the Senior Travel Reimbursements have been increased slightly from prior year due to the upcoming Olympic year and additional anticipated travel. Jason also discussed the LCM Senior meet upcoming in March.

Technical Planning Committee Chair – Kaeley Steinnagel – 1,300 people coming to the CSI Awards Banquet. Too bad if missed deadline. Did get a bunch of giveaways from USA Swimming DE&I.

**Kaeley is looking for two additional members of the Technical Planning Committee – if anyone interested please contact Kaeley.

Program Development Vice-Chair – Jen Lyman – Jen would like to get Chairs together to discuss the Quad Plan, so that it can be presented at the Spring HOD. Time standards will be out as soon as Dave Modzelewski gets up to speed with the requirements of the position, and Jason Paige is working on time standards for Senior meets.

Officials Committee Chair - Dave Pite – CSI has had a number of meets already. Morale is good. Record number of attendees at annual officials meeting in September. Had a number of officials training at various locations throughout the state. Record number of attendees at some of the Officials clinics. Planning to do Starter Re-certifications at several locations as well

Program Operations Vice-Chair - Marc Wollen – nothing to report

Coaches Reps – Kristen Finnegan – KF announced the Age group coach of year is Graham Bodner, and the Senior coach of the year is Emmanuel Lanzo. Both will be at the Awards Banquet to accept their awards.

Athlete Reps – Kyle Brown/Richard Nolan/Madie Haley/Meghan Lynch/Claire Michalik – sent in report that their new Instagram account is up and running and active. All Athlete Reps will be assisting with the upcoming Awards Banquet.

Operational Risk Coordinator – Duffy Mudry – all accidents that seem to happen in/around swim meets happen at end of pool when people are jumping in and around pool deck. Tripping over wires and rubber mats not down securely. Please send photos for the Banquet slide show to athletes@ctswim.org.

Registration/Membership Coordinator – Kathleen and Davide Mendonca – Registrations are ongoing. Kathleen & Davide are learning their new role, starting off with doing registrations for one large team.

Zone Coordinator Member-At-Large - John Scaldini – Some travel reimbursement have been approved for SC Zones. SC Zones is now a 14&under meet.

Short Course Zones are still done through Club entry. Long Course will continue to be done through the LSC.

Safe Sport - John Pinchbeck – MAAP still required to be signed off by all. Posted on Officials website for all to see. Must be signed every year. Athletes, coaches, officials. CSI currently working on reviewing and revising photography language for meet announcements.

New Business

By-Law Revisions – Basically new by-laws – EJ reviewed the required changes, all noted in a handout of the revised ByLaws.

Highlights:

- Governance committee will also be the Nominating Committee. Governance Committee is now a required committee.
- CSI will need to increase the Board to three Coach Reps, and the Coach-at-Large position will no longer be a voting position.
- In addition, will need to increase to 6 Athlete Reps. (Must have 20% athlete reps in attendance at meetings.)
- Quorum at committee meetings will be majority of those attending. HOD Delegate can be anyone representing the team...doesn't need to be member of USA Swimming.

After review and discussion,

MOTION was made to accept these revised By-Laws as distributed.

Passed Unanimously.

Governing/Nominating Committee – Watch for specific job duties and responsibilities will be posted online.

Swimposium – doing in spring rather than the fall. Matt Pohlman and EJ working on bringing in different kinds of speakers, etc.

Meet Cancellation Policy – discussion topic raised by Tim Quill. How did we get to this point that we now penalize teams for trying to host a swim meet. Asked the question, why is CSI penalizing teams that helped making CSI profitable, why penalize those teams

EJ explained that the Meet Cancellation Committee was put together to address the issue of late cancellations of meets, and how to discourage it since it leaves swimmers without meet opportunities, sometimes after it's too late to go

anywhere else. EJ explained it has nothing to do with the raising of funds, but everything to do with protecting the athletes from last-minute cancellations of opportunities for them to achieve time standards. EJ stated the policy can be revisited if deemed necessary by the HOD. She stressed CSI is not looking to make money on these penalties. The Committee wanted everyone to understand the severity of canceling a meet, and running a meeting cannot always guarantee a large profit.

Tim would like to make a motion to revisit the cancellation policy. EJ asking for anyone and everyone to bring forth ideas. Please email Ellen and or Nan – she will disseminate and will generate ideas to discuss in January, and bring to spring HOD meeting.

Various ideas were discussed, including an exception to the policy if the meet director finds another place for all affected swimmers to race, perhaps then they don't have to pay the penalty. And/or, the deadline of when to notify club of cancellation may need to be changed to an earlier date (currently is Monday before the meet). Perhaps that should say a month before the meet start date.

MOTION was made to request the BOD address the Meet Cancellation Policy at their next BOD Meeting, and suspend the current Meet Cancellation Policy until further discussion and research is put forth into coming up with an amended proposal.

Passed unanimously.

Kaeley Steinnagel – Reminder – Tech suit policy for 12&unders is in effect. Speedo reps are working with KS to make sure they sell suits that meet the criteria. USA Swimming guidelines will be even more specific about what will be allowed going forward. In September 2020, CSI will adapt the USA Swimming Tech Suit Policy.

2020 Spring House of Delegates Meeting Date and Location – Will be held on Tuesday, May 12th at 7:30pm (location TBD).

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Joan Lynch
Secretary