

Connecticut Swimming Program Development Meeting

Minutes of October 10, 2013

7:30 pm Teleconference Call

Attendance:

Present: Jeff Scobee, Dave Reilly, Mark Kinne, Randy Erlenbach, Henk Jansen, Jim Robison, Dave Laudati; Mark Sedlak

Absent: Matt Hurst, Maddie Snow, Josh Furth, Coral McNary, Garret Mazzioti, Kaeley Steinnagel

Call to Order

Meeting called to order @ 7:35 PM

Approval of Agenda

Agenda was reviewed and approved with no changes

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Jim: *Approve the minutes from the May meetings of Program Development, seconded, no discussion, approved.*

Committee Reports

Senior Committee

Randy reported that the SR Committee reviewed the short course time standards, discussed minor language revisions surrounding bonus events in the championship meet announcement and reviewed the profitability of the LC Senior Invitational meet.

Motion by Henk: *Approve the 2014 Senior Championship times as proposed by the Senior Committee, seconded, no discussion, approved.*

A further discussion was held with respect to the financial viability of the LC Senior Invitational meet. The Senior Invite is a CSI sponsored meet conducted by a CSI club, it is considered an important part of the overall Senior program. The concern is that it may be difficult to attract bidders to the meet if the profitability is not acceptable given the extra costs of a trials/finals format. The PD committee recommended that the SR Committee assess the underlying financial information, present options and make a recommendation based on their findings in an upcoming meeting.

Age Group Committee

Dave Reilly reported that the Age Group Committee reviewed the existing policies and procedures for SC Age Group Zone All-star meet registration. The general perception of the AGC is that the new process and procedures implemented last SC season were effective. However, a number of opportunities for communication improvement and team selection were identified. A sub-committee of the AGC will be focused on these opportunities this upcoming season. No further changes were recommended.

Additionally, Dave reviewed the process and criteria used to evaluate the SC time standards for all age groups. The committee reviewed line-by-line leveraging previous meet results and expected participation information to revise the standards where necessary. This review is a difficult process and involves a great deal of diligence and knowledge – the PD Committee expressed appreciation and gratitude to those involved.

Motion by Henk: *Approve the 2014 SC Regional and Age Group Championship times as proposed by the Age Group Committee, seconded, no discussion, approved.*

Technical Planning Committee

Henk reported that the Technical Planning Committee entertained discussion on concerns raised around the validity of custom meet times recorded in CT Swimming's FAST database. These times can be used for meeting qualification standards for CSI Championship meets. The concern is that qualifying times could be achieved at meets that don't follow the same diligence around time verification and that may not have officials with the appropriate level of certification. Particularly in light of the recent increase in rigor around the administrative aspects of meet management (Administrative Official requirements) the Committee agreed that a tighter definition of allowable times was required.

Motion by Henk: *to only allow times from meets sanctioned, approved or observed by USA Swimming or attested by a USA Referee into CT Swim's FAST Database. Subsequently, Championship meet announcements should strike out '...or ~~CIACA/Independent Referee.~~' from the sentence "The results of any USA Swimming sanctioned, approved or observed meet or a meet attested by a USA Referee ~~or CIACA/Independent Referee~~ will be accepted as proof of time", seconded.*

A lengthy discussion ensued that included comments; confirming that this discussion had no impact on the USA Swimming times verification for SWIMS (section 202.5), custom times would still be accepted if they were observed and validated by a USA Referee, the intent of the change was to provide consistency in the application of rules and timing standards.

After the conclusion of the discussion the motion was unanimously approved.

Additionally, the Committee started preliminary conversations on potential proposals for inclusion in next years submission to the Budget Committee aligned with improving the facilities and programs of CT Swimming.

Diversity and Inclusion Committee

Dave Laudati provided an update on the early activities in the formation of this committee. They have done some investigation of opportunities to promote diversity in the sport on a local level. He is looking for additional members from the coaching community to participate and help shape the programs. A few of the focus areas are:

- Find ways to promote swimming to a broader audience.
- Plan a state wide Make Splash event in April/May□
- Have a diversity camp/clinic for CT Swimmers

Old Business

None

New Business

- Set LC Championship Season Dates

The Committee discussed options for LC Championship dates (see information below). Wesleyan has informed us that the facility would not be available for rental on the weekend of July 4th and July 24th-27th (would have been the traditional weekend for the AG Championship Meet). The facility is available the following weekend, however, that would result in CT missing the entry deadline for the AG Zone All Star meet. A discussion ensued with respect to alternative venues and options. It was decided that the issue would be tabled until the November 12th meeting to provide time to research options.

- July 10-13th - *Senior Championship preferred date*
- July 17th-20th
- July 31st-Aug 3rd
- July 24th-27th (*Eastern Zones Super Sectionals*)
- August 6th-9th (*Eastern Zones All Star*) – entry deadline July 31

Announcements

None

Adjournment

Motion to adjourn, second, motion approved for adjournment at 8:35 PM.

Minutes respectfully Submitted by Jeff Scobee, Chair