

Board of Directors Meeting - February 24, 2013 at 2:00 PM

- A. Regional Championship Meet
- B. Fines imposed on non-registered swimmers
- C. Athlete Representatives
- D. Athlete Travel
- E. Late Meet Entries for State Meet
- F. Hall of Fame

Attendees:

Shawn Drake – General Chair

Anita Parisi – Secretary/Treasurer

Blake McCauley – Sr. Athlete Rep

MaryJo Heye – Admin Vice Chair

JonDavid Williford – Age Group Chair

Scott Berry – Senior Chair

Matt Adams – Technical Planning

Evan Johnston – Registration Chair

I. Regional Championship Meet

After the first year of the Regional Championship meets, a discussion on its success was held by the BOD. The coaches from the North Regional Championships stated that the meet was small, especially in the afternoon sessions, but that with the medal ceremonies, the grab bags, and the number of new state qualifying times, the meet was definitely a success. The coaches from the South Regional Championships felt their meet was too small and lacked excitement, definitely not a “championship” meet. After the discussions, there were three major votes:

- A. Proposal to cancel the Regional Championships and revert to Last Chance meets. Blake, Anita, Scott, and Matt voted to keep the Regional meets. MaryJo, Evan, and JonDavid voted to cancel. The vote to cancel lost. The Regional Meets will be held in 2014
- B. Proposal to take the 15-18 year olds out of the State Championship Meet. This vote came as a result of the fact that there are too many championship meets for the seniors (high school, state, sectionals, jr nationals, etc.) and that the State Championship meet should be more for the 14&under age group swimmers. The opposing view is that the State Meet is still a Team meet and that 15-18 year olds are still “Age Group” swimmers. All but MaryJo voted to keep the Senior swimmers at the State Meet.
- C. Proposal to modify the Regional Championships as follows:
 - a. Add 8&Under 25 yard events
 - b. Only allow events that are offered at the State meet for each age group.
 - c. If a swimmer ages up between the Regional Championship and the State Meet, the swimmer can choose to swim in the Regional meet as the older age group, but must swim as that age group for all events.
 - d. A disqualification is considered a No Time, and hence, the swimmer is not eligible for competition, if there are no other “times” for the swimmer.
 - e. There shall be only one session per day and all age groups will swim in that session, at least until the meet becomes large enough to split it again. An exception may be granted, if the 500 needs to be swum as a separate session to avoid time constraints.
 - f. Relays will be held at the discretion of the Regional group of teams. Matt suggested that relays be held for 12&unders only.
 - g. A new order of events may need to be proposed at the Fall HOD.

II. Non-Registered Swimmers

There have been swimmers who somehow compete in the meets without being registered. USA Swimming has a “maximum” penalty that an LSC can impose for this, but our LSC does not have any penalty. Should we? Discussion focused on causes of the errors and the penalties harming the swimmers versus the individuals causing the errors. A proposal was made to impose a \$25 fine per event to the Team and to also invalidate the swimmers’ times. The proposal was tabled until Evan finds out if USA Swimming also invalidates times for this infraction.

Notes:

- 1) In theory, a specific rule should only be written if it further clarifies a USA rule - hence, ASI can charge up to the USA Swimming maximum of \$100 per swimmer per entry, without having any specific mention in the ASI handbook.
- 2) The rule for USA Swimming is only in the "Registration" section of the handbook and it refers to meet entries. The penalty is for false representation of a meet entry. USA Swimming assumes that the hosting club is to perform an adequate pre-meet recon and then assess the penalty, as well as, register the swimmer before the meet starts! Therefore, the error, if the swimmer actually competes is due to the lack of adherence to the pre-meet recon and subsequent competition eligibility by the hosting team.
- 3) There is not any mention in the USA Swimming rule book about penalties if a swimmer swims without being eligible. Obviously, there are rules that say they are only eligible, if they are registered. So, one could make the case that if the swimmer was not eligible to swim, then they are disqualified from the races and their times don't count.

III. Athlete Reps

- A. Shawn worked on the Athlete Rep applications and distributed them on January 9th to the coaches to distribute to their senior swimmers (13&older).
- B. On February 13th, ASI broadcast via email the “resumes” of the candidates who applied for the athlete rep positions.
- C. At the State Meet, the voting will be held with the following specifics:
 - a. Only swimmers 13 and older can vote
 - b. There will be an introduction of the candidates at the end of the Parade of Athletes
 - c. The voting will occur during the Saturday prelims session.
 - d. There will be a table set up on the pool deck with ballots. Shawn will monitor the voting at the table.
 - e. Anita, Scott and Matt will count the votes at the end of the prelims on Saturday.
 - f. Shawn will announce the winners after the votes are tabulated.

IV. Athlete Travel

- A. Anita and Scott worked on the Athlete travel policy and presented it to the BOD. It includes different levels of funding based on the different levels of competition. The goal is to meet the budgeted amount of \$9000 for this year and have room for growth in future years (so that the funding formula does not have to change for a period of time). There are not different levels of funding for the number of qualifying times attained (i.e. if you make Junior Nationals in one or many events, the funding is the same).
- B. Discussion centered primarily on funding NCSA events as they are not USA-Swimming sponsored events and we are a USA – Swimming organization. However, the BOD determined that the meets are still a motivational tool for our senior swimmers, that the times for USA Jr Nationals are too fast

and there needs to be a bridge from Sectionals to USA Jrs, and that there are still a lot of national exposure to our LSC and for our swimmers at the NCSA meet that makes it a reputable event.

C. The new funding consists of:

- NCSA Spring, NCSA Summer and USA-S Winter Junior National Meets: \$400
- USA-S Summer Junior National Meets: \$600
- Senior National Meets, including US Open Meets: \$800
- Olympic Trials: \$1000

V. Late Meet Entries for the State Championship

There is a team who has not submitted their State Meet Entries by the deadline. The BOD discussed the results of this infraction. There were lots of opinions on penalties ranging from financial to cancellation of team points. It was decided that the team will be assessed “deck entry” fees for each of their athletes as stipulated in the sanction (when a swimmer is not entered at all in the meet, they are allowed to deck enter). However, the financial penalty will be paid to ASI and not to the hosting team.

VI. Redundancy in Sending Items for Swim Meets by teams as specified in the meet information

Evan discussed his frustration in the redundancy in providing all of the required paperwork and monies as designated in the meet information for all of the meets. In this current technological age, are all of the paper copies really needed? He is going to talk to Ed about this.

VII. Summer Meet Qualifying Times.

It was voted that the State Qualifying times for Long Course will be BB times.

VIII. Hall of Fame

There was discussion on the Hall of Fame procedures and financials. Resolutions:

- A. Recommendation to the HOF committee that athletes (divers and swimmers) who are not members of ASI be financed by the groups of which they belong. (e.g. Arkansas Activities Association or the student’s high school pay for the HS Swimmer of the year and Arkansas Masters pays for the Masters award).
- B. Recommend that the HOF emcee recognize the ASI BOD or at least the Executive Committee
- C. Recommend that the HOF allow the General Chair of ASI an opportunity to present a “State of the LSC” address.
- D. Recommend that the HOF recognize the outgoing Senior Athlete Rep with a certificate.

IX. High School Meet “observed” swims

Based on the failure to get the recent High School Championship sanctioned, there was a lot of discussion on how to make it “observed” after the fact. Herb talked to officials at USA Swimming and there is nothing to be done “after the fact” to make the previous swims “observed”. The discussion then focused on how to not let that happen again. After reviewing the bylaws/handbook, it was seen that the request for sanctioning the High School meets is a responsibility of the Coaches Chair.