

# Ohio Swimming, Inc. Board of Directors Special Meeting

Wednesday, August 23, 2022 @ 8:00 pm

Via Zoom Conference UNAPPROVED MINUTES

## In Attendance:

| Voting BOD Members:                  |   | Committee/Coordinators (Non-voting) |   |
|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| General Chair – Todd Billhimer       | X | Disability – George Leatherman      |   |
| Admin Vice Chair – Steve Connock     | X | Asst. Coach Chair – Amy Saribalas   | X |
| Senior Co-Chair – Chris McKinney     | X | Operational Risk – John Pristash    | X |
| Senior Co-Chair – Teresa Fightmaster | X | Camps – Craig Schoenlein            |   |
| Age Group Chair – Kevin Rachal       | X | Open Water – Chip Carrigan          |   |
| Technical Planning – Kyle Goodrich   | X | Zone Team – Brent Peaden            | X |
| Finance Vice Chair – Joe Waller      | X | Office – Erin Schwab                | X |
| Treasurer – David Lloyd              | X | Office – Kristi Princell            |   |
| Officials – Anissa Kanzari           | X | Gov Committee – Mark Koors          |   |
| Safe Sport – Lew Timberman           | X | Gov Committee – tbd                 |   |
| DEI Chair – Terry Anchrum            |   | Gov Committee – Edgar Caraballo     |   |
| Coach Chair – Rich Morris            | X | Gov Committee – Carolyn Strunk      |   |
| Secretary – Christi Holmes           | X | Gov Committee – Dan Cherok          |   |
| Ath Rep (Senior) - Jessey Li         |   | Admin Review Board – John MacKay    |   |
| Ath Rep (junior) – Maren Patterson   |   | Sanctioning – Mark Johnson          | X |
| Ath Rep At-Large – Max Christensen   |   | Ex-Officio Athlete – Alyssa Uhlman  |   |
| Ath Rep At-Large – Ian Sander        | X | Ex-Officio Athlete – Claire Kemmere |   |
| Ath Rep At-Large – Laura Zipes       |   | Ex-Officio Athlete – Addison Linard |   |
| Ath Rep At-Large – Tristan Prizler   |   | Ex-Officio Athlete – Ethan Fang     |   |
| Ath Rep At-Large – Jake Karulf       |   |                                     |   |
| Ath Rep At-Large – Julia Bohl        |   |                                     |   |

Todd B. called the special meeting to order at 8:03pm.

The purpose of the special meeting is to discuss two issues raised by Erin S. See attached document for the background of these items and her recommendations/proposals.

- Issue #1 – New Membership Category – Administrator – LSC Fee

Erin S. began the discussion by reminding that the HOD usually decides on LSC fees, but since the new SWIMS 3.0 is going LIVE on Monday, August 8, 2022, the BOD needs to address the LSC surcharge for this new category of membership. Erin S. reviewed the background of the issue and suggested that the fee be set at \$8, like the fee charged for the seasonal membership. She also mentioned that the BOD could choose to not charge an LSC fee; it is a board decision. Christi H. suggested charging the same fee as the regular membership vice a reduced amount of \$8 since those purchasing the memberships in the new category are already getting a discounted price. Steve C. asked for clarification about who qualified for the reduced rate membership. Erin S. explained that members who have direct influence over athletes must remain members at the premium level. She also clarified for Teresa F. that this fee would be added to the USA-S membership fee of \$30. Kyle G. asked if, from a budgetary standpoint, if the LSC needs to add the fee or if this is something that we could table until next year. Joe W. supported charging the fee, particularly due to the higher costs of LSC championship meets. Steve C. added that there will likely be a perceived value for the nominal fee considering this new lower cost membership. Joe W. and Steve C. suggested that the fee be \$13. **Motion was made and unanimously carried to set the LSC fee for the new Administrator membership category at \$13.**

- Issue #2 – Proposed Increase in LSC Surcharge for LSC Championship Meets

Erin S. began by talking about the increased costs of the championship meet. The current \$5 meet surcharge is not enough to cover the cost of the facility, let alone the cost of any pageantry, hospitality or any other items which make the meet special. The policy book is very clear that a facility fee or an admission fee cannot be charged for championship meets, so this proposal is essentially a work-around to raise additional funds for championship meets. OSI and host teams are losing money when hosting these meets. Pool rental costs are high; OSI does not get discounted facility costs like local host teams might. Additional funding will make a difference and help continue to make the meets special. Erin S. is proposing a \$25 championship surcharge – OSI would keep \$5, and the host team would keep \$20. Joe W. asked Erin S. for an estimate of funds raised by the current \$5 surcharge. Christi H. asked why the policy states that we cannot charge a facility fee. Erin S. explained that the facility fee was originally designed during COVID to replace/offset lost income from admission and heat sheet sales. Chris M. suggested that maybe the division of a proposed fee should be \$15/\$10 vice \$20/\$5. He also brought up

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a concern that some teams have already set budgets and advertised their all-inclusive swim season prices, so a large surcharge increases now, or mid-season would negatively affect individual teams. There was much additional discussion about how the current championship meets are funded, increasing splash fees for all meets, and current meet financial reports. Lew T. questioned the necessity some of the “extras” at the meets (pageantry, hospitality, etc.) and suggested better budgeting for the meets or possibly getting sponsorships to cover the added costs. He will not support a 500% increase in a surcharge. Steve C. suggested that we benchmark against some other LSC’s as this is likely a problem for many LSCs and mentioned that the LC JO meet received rave review and that the kids loved the format. Erin also stated that the board may want to revise policy to permit a facility fee. Todd B reinforced that we have excess in reserves to cover the championship meet losses in the short term. Joe W. agreed. Chris M. talked about possibly using some money from the travel fund to cover the costs of these championship meets too. Todd B. suggested that an ad hoc committee be established to study this issue to find possible long term solutions. Joe W. agreed and said that the Finance Committee can be involved. Todd B. will head up the ad hoc committee and will reach out to board members to form the committee. The goal will be to have a proposal within the next 3 months.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:38pm.

## NEW MEMBERSHIP CATEGORY – ADMINISTRATOR – LSC FEE RECO

### BACKGROUND:

US Center for Safe Sport has expanded the categories of individuals required to complete Safe Sport training. USA Swimming tracks the training through membership. The following individual must be non-athlete members of USA Swimming:

- Adult employees of a club or LSC
- Adults serving on the board of directors of a club or LSC
- Adult Club booster members
- Individuals in a position of oversight over the operations of a member club
- Adults with ownership interest in a member club
- volunteers who interact directly and frequently with or who have authority over athletes as a regular part of their duties
- business managers with access to club or LSC membership records and financial transactions
- webmasters
- club registrars and membership coordinators who will have access to SWIMS
- social media and communications managers

**Administrator** is a new category of membership added starting Sept 1, 2022. Those individuals listed above that DO NOT have direct and frequent contact with athletes (truly administrative support or behind the scenes) will be eligible for this membership category.

Initial communication from USA Swimming indicated that LSCs could not charge additional fees, but recent information shows that there is no rule prohibiting it.

**MEMBERSHIP FEE:** \$30 USA

**RECOMMENDED LSC FEE:** \$8 – similar to our seasonal membership category (\$30 USA fee, \$8 OSI fee)

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## PROPOSED INCREASE IN LSC SURCHARGE FOR LSC CHAMPIONSHIP MEETS

**Background:** As costs for facilities rise to the \$30,000 level for a weekend, the current \$5 surcharge, \$7000 subsidy and entry fees do not cover the costs to rent the facility and miscellaneous expenses to run the Championship meets.

**PROPOSAL:** Raise the athlete surcharge from \$5 to \$25 per athlete for all LSC Championship meets: Regional, Age Group and Senior Championships.

Regional meets – this is an OSI sponsored meet, but not 'hosted' by OSI. Teams hosting are barely breaking even, and some taking a loss from hosting the event. The proposed increase would provide additional funding for the meet host, as the current subsidy return is minimal (\$1300 for short course). Of the \$25, teams would keep \$20 of the surcharge and \$5 would still be returned to OSI for operating budget. This proposed increase is an estimated \$4000-\$8000 increase to operating the meet, depending on the meet subscription. Meet hosts should not be losing money on these meets and perhaps can offer additional perks at the meet if there is money for it.

Age Group/Senior Champs – The current \$5 surcharge has been used as operating budget for these meets, along with the subsidy and entry fees. The increase in surcharge will be needed for future meet budget.