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MISSION STATEMENT OKS: To develop excellence, character, and growth in swimming for all.

VISION- STATEMENT OKS: To advance our core values of selflessness, excellence, leadership, integrity, inclusion, and development by increasing competitive swimming opportunities and developing relationships that promotes excellence and growth.

***OKS Board of Directors  
Meeting Minutes***

***Monday, August 21st, 2023, 6:00 PM***

**Location: Jenks Aquatic Center – Jenks, Oklahoma**

**Google Meet joining info**

**Video call link: <https://meet.google.com/cwt-xwjv-nxn>**

**Or dial: (US) +1 208-696-2718 PIN: 269 965 864#**

**More phone numbers: <https://tel.meet/cwt-xwjv-nxn?pin=5455696358727>**

Called to order at 6:02 PM

no conflicts

attendance:

Present: Dennis; Scott; Jennifer; Chad; Beth; Carole; Tyler; Griffin; Marissa; Alexis;  
Terrie; Josie; Bob; Craig

Guest: None

**Additional Agenda Items**

- B. General Chair – Update on appointment for Age Group Vice Chair replacement
- G. Admin Vice Chair - Governance Committee Update

**Motion to approve agenda as amended:**

- Passed by unanimous approval.

**Minutes from June meeting:**

- TG -Motion to approve of Minutes as amended.
- CE – Seconded
  - Passed by unanimous approval.

**B. General Chair – DM**

- Age Group Chair replacement update
  - 5 interested parties.
  - 4 from West
  - 1 from East
  - 5 different clubs
  - All coaches



DRAFT

- Lot of different qualifications and talents.
- All good candidates.
- Conducted interview during the Age Group meet.
- Believes that Pam Bradley with Sooner Swim Club is a good fit.
  - Energetic
  - Passionate about coaching
  - Good Strong Ideas of things we can be doing as an LSC.
  - West side of the state
- Are there any objections to the General Chair making the appointment?
  - No objections.
  - Will make contact with Pam and confirm that she is still interested in serving.

### **C. Financials – JS - Submitted**

- June & July Financial – published.
  - July Financials do not reflect the deposit from Long Course State.
- We are over budget on Zones this year.
  - Because we did not budget for sending a coach to open water.
  - Still pretty close to budget.
- Will be Drafting Budget for 2024
- 2023 Long Course Financials
  - As of Now – Distributing \$26,859 to Clubs
  - \$72.59 per share
  - 8 clubs
    - Jenks 65%
    - Bartlesville 9%
    - KMS 8%
  - Officials
    - Jenks 30%
    - KMS 25%
    - Bartlesville 21%
  - Volunteers
    - Jenk 76%
    - Bixby 8%
    - Bartlesville 5%
  - \$60.50 OME online payment fees and \$300.00 in late fees
  - \$5,452.00 in Splash fees
  - CE – That was probably the best faculty to run a meet that I have seen in a while. They had HVAC people in the stand during the entire meet. They bent over backward to ensure that was a successful meet.
- BS- We will need a proposed budget to send out for the HOD meeting.



DRAFT

#### **D. Safe Sport Chair - CL**

- Fees on memberships this year for the LSC.
  - Are will still staying with the LSC's charge of \$15.00?
    - CE – I don't see any reason to change it.
  - We have a new category this year that is provisional coach.
    - Basically, the same credentials as a coach, just that they're in the Direct Line of supervision of a certified coach.
    - They still need all the credentials to be on deck.
    - They have 2 years to decide whether to be full fledge coach or not.
    - Are we going to offer it?
    - CE – as a coach, it would be good to have every opportunity to get people involved.
    - DM- Is there anyone that objects to what CE is saying?
      - No objections.
  - The base fee is \$70.00, so \$85.00 with the LSC fee. This includes coaches, athletes, provisional, juniors, officials and others.
  - The Administrator is \$30.00 flat-fee.
  - Outreach is still \$5.00.
  - Flex went up to \$30.00, we can add \$10.00. So, it comes to \$40.00.
  - Seasonal is \$40.00, so it will be \$55.00.
  - The year-round club is \$70.00 flat-fee.
    - CL Motions to offer Provisional Coach and be charged \$85.00, same as all other coaches.
    - SE- Seconds Motion
      - Passed by unanimous approval.
- BH – Have you had any update on weather swims is going to be updated as far as allowing swimmers with disabilities to register as such?
  - CL – It should already be in there.
  - BH – last I heard, it wasn't going to be ready until September 1<sup>st</sup> and I want to be able to do a training with our parents. Since last year was such a fiasco with getting everyone register and I have got about 15 or 20 families that qualify as a disabled swimmer.
  - CL – September 1<sup>st</sup> they will flip the switch and then you can do you training after at, because they will have until December 31<sup>st</sup> to get registered.

#### **E. DEI Chair – BH**

- Storage Locker for DEI
  - Need to ask the Board to budget for a storage facility in North OKC or South Edmond for all the DEI stuff.
  - Swimsuits, Kick board and swag.
    - CL – Do you have any quotes as to what one will cost?
    - BH – I have not got quotes yet, because I wasn't sure I could.



DRAFT

- DM – Maybe check with clubs that may be able to help provide storage.
- BH – I can share with King Marlin; we have 3 storage facilities. The problem is, I know what they look like before and after a swim meet. I'm not willing to risk losing my stuff. I have a hesitant to share with a team because I don't want things disappearing.
- BS – Get quotes and bring them back to the next meeting.
- 2024 Multicultural Meet
  - Preliminary Budget
    - Big ask, we need to do this as a bus trip.
      - Have gotten letters and emails from different families, who have either chaperone, been an athlete, or coached on a bus trip.
      - Reason for bus trip
        - 1 – Demographic we are internally trying to serve.
        - 2 – 14-hour Drive
        - 3 - Expensive trip
        - 4 – Team building
    - DM – I think we need to socialize the budget and debate at the next board meeting.
    - SE – Bus trips have an added level of responsibility, which means an added level of Insurance Coverage.
    - BH – I have done a lot of research and I can provide everything at the next board meeting, but between the insurance that USA Swimming has. It is not going to be as big of insurance hike as we think it is going to be. I spoke with my husband who has been in insurance for 20 years.
    - DM – I am going to encourage the Board not to debate this now and wait until the next meeting. So, socialize the budget and put it in all the board members' hands before the next meeting and properly debate it at the next meeting. One of the things that needs to be brought up is not just the budget but what is the objective.
    - CE – How many kids are you hoping to take?
    - BH – I have budgeting for a team of 25 kids. We would love to get swimmers from every club. We are not only catering to the diverse population but also to the demographic of kids that might never be able to make these types of trips. It is the point of the meet; they don't want swimmers that are faster. Last I heard, it would be all BB times or below. This is an outreach. It is not about scores or making money. It is an outreach trip for these kids. We are giving back. These are kids that are swimming on our teams.
    - AS – What exactly is the Multicultural Meet?
      - BS – intended to target multicultural individuals. Basically, non-white. That is about 500 of our athletes in Oklahoma Swimming. We agree to disagree, but this is not just for our lower income athlete families.
      - BH – no it isn't, but is an outreach meet.



DRAFT

- DM- This there really 25 going?
- BS – She will be asking for Scholarships to be included on the budget as well.
- CE – How did you come up with 25?
- BH – I came up with 25 because I was trying to keep the cost down.
- CE – The carter bus is going to be by far your largest expense.
- BH – It holds 40 people and is \$14,000 + and they will handle all the transportation.
- CE – I was just wondering why we thought 25 would be a good number.
- BH – I just pulled a number out of the air. But the bus holds 40 and I have to go on this trip because I want it to run right.
- DM – Let’s socialize a budget and get something wrote up and the board can debate it at the next meeting.

#### **F. General Manager – BS**

- Approve change in one coach delegate to USA Swimming HOD Meeting
  - Who do we want to replace Sam with?
    - Pam
- Zone Pictures
  - Had a long conversation with the gentleman that took the pictures at zones. He would like the email addresses for all of our parents who had athletes that went on that trip. Told him that we had just discussed that and the board does not provide that information. Wanted to make sure that the board was still in agreement.
- Fine Design
  - Received a email and they would like our business and would like to do our t-shirts for the championship meets. We would get a percentage and part of the contract is that they would get first right or refusal of any other vendors in our facilities. Right now, we use SwimQuick who does everything for us. Does this board want to change anything?
  - CE – This is just for the meets the LSC host?
  - BS – Correct.
  - DM – I think we should ask our new Age Group Chair to look at the proposal and if she feels that the board needs to make a change, she can come to the board with that change.
- HOD Agenda
  - As of today, no one has requested to have an item placed on the agenda that wouldn’t already be on the agenda.
- USA Swimming Proposed Legislation
  - CH – R9 is a rule change that will be voted on at the HOD meeting for USA Swimming coming up in September. So the people that are representative from Oklahoma Swimming will be voting on this. Since there are some concerns



DRAFT

on the officials' side of the house, I felt that I should explain it and then you could make your decisions.

- R9 has been proposed by 3 coaches. The purpose is to ensure that the current standard adopted by USA Swimming in accordance with recommendations set by the national officials committee is the singular standard by which all officials are certified and trained. The rules and Reg committee is not making any recommendation and the verbiage that is actually proposed is actually in the rule change proposal and it is one on 102.10 which is the official section of the rulebook and in it there is a section .2 which is all official capacity of referee, starter, Judge or administrative officials at the swimming shall be certified and trained in such position by their LSC to the uniform and consist standard set by USA Swimming prior to being assigned to officiate the that capacity. LSC and clubs cannot require any additional certification. Uncertified trainees may perform the duties of such positions when they are under the direct supervision of a certified official to article 202 for the bylaws of USA Swimming.

The differences, where we said judge, they have removed "or stroke and turn judge" so that's semantics. No big deal. "Certified and trained" is a new thing that "and trained" is new and it's trained by their LSC. Then the next section that's different "to the uniform and consistent standards set by USA Swimming" that's the difference and then the next difference or we'll have difference is LSC and clubs cannot require any additional certifications. So, the general belief of this from the official side of things. Talked to a few regional officials, some officials chair, and some national official committee members and they are concerned. The biggest concern is the belief that USA Swimming may attempt to take complete control of the officials training process the certification and the training process. There is some belief that this is a step towards eliminating the national officials committee. Right or Wrong, that is the belief that was conveyed to me. There's a very subtle difference there the national officials committee is involved but the rule says to the uniform and consistent standards set by USA Swimming. The purpose talks about the national officials committee the actual rule verbiage does not that is the concern that has been raised that's where they're getting the idea that the national officials committee is being placed out.

- DM - In the spirit of netting this out. Is the Oklahoma swimming officials committee recommending that the delegates from Oklahoma swimming vote no on this?
- CH - Based on the four officials committee delegates – Yes.
- JE – I have been involved. I am on the it's the advisory group that's working on developing a uniform standard for training and certifying officials so this came about because of meats not being able to be run because of shortages of officials conversations about there being a different process in every DLC



DRAFT

so because of this this advisory group that includes four officials, two athletes and two coaches. This advisory group was formed and working with USA Swimming staff to develop a more streamlined process that will ideally help more people who want to be an official get involved in officiating and make the process clear and consistent throughout USA Swimming. This legislation wasn't the advisory group but one of the people on the advisory group is one of the coaches who proposed this so she's been able to give us a little bit more context about why it ended up being three coaches proposing it because I'm also on the rules committee and that was one of our major concerns and just points of confusion why is it the coaches who are proposing this? And so the discussion there she did say that this it has the three names on there but this was a discussion with yes coaches but also officials and then bringing in the athletes. She also did come and speak to the Athletes Executive Committee and explained a little bit more about the background and how this is the product of a conversation between coaches and officials. I see how that is very unclear and I did just want to address the concern about it being set by USA Swimming and I agree that there is a mismatch between the purpose and what it does say in the legislation itself but the intention. It was also something that was brought up and discussed and Joel Sheffield with USA Swimming staff had the opportunity to clarify this for us. I think a lot of confusion there is that it'll be USA Swimming board not the USA Swimming staff setting. The intention is that these the official certification and officials training will go through the same process through the USA Swimming House of delegates like any other legislation would be ideally to reflect how any other training certification would go. For example, at this point with the advisory group it includes the officials, coaches, athletes and the goal is for all this to go through USA Swimming organization and not USA Swimming staff.

- CH – I think that is very good input. I agree on face value is different versus the actual rule and never know the intentions and that's really what the concern is. Anytime you make changes to stuff that could be excluding a group that should be involved, there's always concern. I will say based on the workshop in Denver that I attended. The training is being revamped although it's very slow, they started the process at the beginning of the pandemic. They basically have all the information to redo the stroke and turn videos and now it sounds like it's going to be a bunch of little videos that would be accessed via the web, but they do not have one actually produced. They've got all the films they've done all the in the water stuff and done all the recording they just don't have anybody that they would pay to put it together so that's a little bit of a concern. What they're proposing in this legislation is in the works, we're doing it. that's based on what we talked about at our workshop discussion so I'm kind of surprised



DRAFT

that this this came out.

- CE- This is something I came out with in a group with coaches, and we very much wanted this uniformity across all the LSC's. I would value an opportunity maybe you can zoom in with the delegate the voting delegates from OKS and have an open discussion. I don't think e-mail discussions are going to get the nuance that either group wants and make it effective I know you got all three coaches that are voting members this year maybe it's an opportunity to talk at some point before we vote over the next month and let you guys share your concerns with this. I appreciate your recommendation, but I see a lot of value in this, and I don't come at it with the same trepidation that you do. I think that's very similar to last year's coaches all were up their arms thinking they were getting all their votes taken away and there were a lot of officials on that said no you're being paranoid. We would like to have a conversation that looks at the rule itself and the rationale behind it and see if we have some common ground. I do feel that in talking with coaches around the country there is a lot of inconsistency and territorialism going on. I would value maybe sitting down with members of your officials committee that have concerns and maybe having a zoom call so that we can have a positive constructive dialogue about it.
- CH – I would be glad to help with that.
- SE – The challenge is what Josie said is great. If it's the House of Delegate, the problem is the legislation doesn't say that. The legislation says USA Swimming which at any point in time USA Swimming. We need to define what that is and so I understand the official's trepidation. It's the way it's written, and the legislative body knows that we write things like this intentionally to give the level of maneuverability to say well this is. So, I agree with everything you said, it's not written that way.
- BS – I will set up a meeting with voting delegates. Craig, I will ask you to send me a list other that should attend, and Josie I would ask you attend the meeting as well.

## **G. General Chair – SE**

- Governance Committee Update
  - 2 of the 3 positions that are open.
    - Denise has asked to be reconsidered for the position and no other names have come forward.
    - Jennifer has asked to be reconsidered for the position and no other names have come forward.
      - My recommendation to the Governance committee for those positions be Denise and Jennifer.
  - Terrie is not able to serve another term. Does the board have any





DRAFT

recommendations for the position?

- JS – Have some names but have not reached out to any go them.
- DM – Bob has sent out 2 emails to the clubs.
- DM – has several names that he could suggest.
- SE – Would be happy to reach to any one just needs their information.

#### **H. Athletes**

- How much money do they have left to spend?
- Does budget go through the calendar year?
  - JS - \$6,000.00
- Do you have numbers for the clinic?
  - JS – somewhere between \$17.00 to \$20.00 per athlete. You said we are at 52 athletes.
  - BS – you are not going over budget.
  - JS – T-shirts are \$9.00.
  - AS – We were thinking that we would get 4 different color swim caps, so they known what team they are on.
  - BS – Will reach out tomorrow and get 4 different color caps. Latex with the logo.

#### **Adjourn**

- SE - Motion to adjourn until September 15th.
- TG - Seconds Motion to adjourn.
- Passed by unanimous approval.

**By Unanimous consent adjourned board meeting – 7:27 PM**

**Next meeting: Friday, September 15, 2023, at 6PM**

**HOD - Saturday, September 16, 2023, at 2PM**