



Gulf Swimming Board Meeting April 16th, 2025

Marriott Westchase, Houston TX

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 7:30pm by General Chair Charlie Fry. Jennie Shamburger took the roll call. Attending the meeting were BOD members and LSC office staff and Coordinators:

Charlie Fry	John Burke	Mark Martinez
Paige Sikkema	Lauren Fuller	Julie Bachman (LSC)
Jennie Shamburger	Brandon Trittipio	Tom Hasz (LSC)
Travis Sandifer	Courtney Scott	Herb Schwab (Governance)
Tom Hasz	Tanja Avant	Davis Peden (TPC)
Henry Clark	Jake Camp	
MaryAnne Svoboda	Lisa Blok	

MISSION MOMENT: Charlie read the Gulf Mission Statement: *Gulf Swimming provides opportunities to learn, grow, and strive for excellence, developing leaders through competitive swimming.*

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES: Motion was made and seconded to approve the BOD minutes from January 8th 2025. Only edit was to confirm Lauren Fuller and Brandon Trittipio reflected in members attending. No other changes or edits. ***Motion to approve minutes with this edit passed.***

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

GENERAL CHAIR: Charlie Fry highlighted the tremendous interest in both the Gulf Open Water and Duel in the Pool LSC teams.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Julie Bachman confirmed that only one OW qualifier and three Duel in Pool athletes durned down their team spot. Over 220 swimmers applied for Duel in the Pool.

A report was added to the BOD packet summarizing select camp Allison Beebe hosted with Gregg Troy for coaches and swimmers.

Coaches Clinic Review: 155 coaches attended. 17 meet refs. Productive meetings were held with meet refs. Coaches social included meet referees and the exchanges were good for the LSC culture. More room will be available for next year's clinic in the Grand Ballroom at San Luis next spring. Julie will send out a survey to all attendees and appreciates the feedback.

Parent meeting via Zoom for Duel and OW will be held tomorrow 4/17/25.

The Officials committee all resigned on same day. Herb Schwab stepped up to be interim Officials Chair. Talks are ongoing and moving forward in a positive way to support our volunteers. Natalie Melenric will step in and be Officials Coordinator and be the dedicated LSC staff member for Officials and Officials Chair. Election for Official's Chair and committee will be on May 7th. Herb agreed that Natalie and her new focus will be step in right direction.

Equipment Rental Update: Teams that are renting trailers aren't taking care of equipment. This is becoming a burden for the volunteers in charge of the equipment trailers to keep everything in working order as well as checking in and checking out. Charlie Fry and Ross Davis have done all they can as volunteers, but this issue around equipment rental and equipment care needs to be discussed. Charlie and Tom stated that we are spending \$800 a month to store equipment. Some months we do get heavy rental activity, but the burden is on the over three hours ensuring all the equipment was in working order. Clay Pruitt got 4th trailer from Lufkin and now Gulf has four trailers in storage. If teams purchase these trailers, they can then rent out to other teams. Currently, this includes four full trailers and additional cables and pads. He believes this may be best solution. Before trailers could be sold, all equipment would be made functional. Maryanne Svoboda expressed interest in FLEET purchasing the trailer(s). Charlie and Julie asked all to think about options. Stipulation on sale would be to make rental available to all teams similar to current rental rates.

ATHLETES: Gulf Athlete Committee won Trailblazer award recognized for work with junior officials. Dates set for Mental Health project/presentations. Will be both Zoom and in person in May.

Jr officials will be working at Dev meets in May. 40% of athletes committee filled out surveys about Champs meets and sent all data to Davis.

SAFE SPORT REPORT: Tanja Avant presented her report. 23% of clubs in the Gulf have achieved SSRP certification. Eight teams are currently in process of achieving this certification.

Updates to training courses were made in March. Major changes - updates reflect 2024 safe sport code and 2025 MAAP. Parent courses will be updated. Athlete courses are now offered now in English/Spanish/French. Courses should be more user friendly and slightly shorter.

TPC: Davis Peden presented the report discussing bids for December Champs Meets. Southern Sr Champs / AG Champs will be the first weekend in Dec. Sr Champs will be Dec. 12-14th at four sites. 12 & U Champs will be the following weekend at six sites.

Recommendation for TWST/Southern Sr. AG Champs / AGS (proposing 3 full day meet). 13 Over Sr Champs meets - TPC recommending TEST/LSST/NOCH/SSAN. SSAN originally bid KOHS, however more WU/WD space at KHS. SSAN can't submit actual facility request for KHS until summer.

12 & Under Meet host recommendations: TASC/MAC/PACK/SHRK/KATY/ESCA and AMBU at FBISD (will use both pools for their bid with a boys pool/girls pool).

Proposed event order changes for AG Champs included moving to 3 day full meet. The actual proposal is in BOD report. Other changes include moving finals up to a 5:30pm start time. Finals will add second heat B final for 10 & U. This will add 15 min to finals sessions. Relays will be added to this meet with the 10 & U 400 FR relay. 12 & Overs will add 200 FR relay. Fastest 8 teams to check in will swim relays at night. All distance events will remain at meet. 13/14 400 IM and 1000FR on Friday. No changes to time standards from 2024. Athletes can now swim max of nine (9) total for all age groups. Prelims for non distance swimmers will end at 12:50pm. Finals should end between 7:30 - 8:05pm each night. Three distance events on Sunday should not affect finals timeline. Question asked about swimmers who may double up distance events. Davis said this only affected very small number of swimmers. New format allows for swimmer rest for these events.

Davis thanked the athletes and the TPC committee for all their work on these recommendations.

FINANCE: Travis Sandifer presented the report attached in BOD packet. We have just started the first quarter of new year. Tom Hasz found issue with budget. Southern Sr Zone meet was not in final calculations. Amount needed was passed but this meet was not in final report/vote. **Motion to amend dollar Budget amount due to error in calculations. Motion seconded and motion passed.**

Within our financial policy guidelines, investments are in the correct place to plan for volatile markets. The P&L comparison from previous year report presented with more up front expenses than last year. (Duel in Pool and OW expenses paid earlier than last year). Close to projected budget for 1st quarter.

When reimbursements were approved earlier this year, NCSAs was originally in Indianapolis. Now meet will be hosted in Huntsville. **Motion to approve the updated amounts for NCSA Summer Jrs now that meet will be in Huntsville made and seconded. Motion approved.**

NOMINATING COMMITTEE REPORT: Report posted on website and Kris Gagne presented for committee and posted on website under HOD/BOD minutes. Committee met several times to recommend slide of candidates.

Nomination Committee Slate of Candidates for HOD elections on 4/30/25:

General Chair: Paige Sikkema
Admin Vice Chair: Travis Sandifer
Finance Chair: Henry Clark
Secretary: Jennie Shamburger
Sr Vice Chair: Jarrod Murphy
Age Group Vice Chair: Kris Gagne
Safe Sport: Tanja Avant
DEI: Adrian Damasco
TPC: Davis Peden
At Large: Clayton Cagle
At Large: Ben Pulskamp

Herb spoke to procedure for elections. It will be held at HOD meeting by secret ballot. Nominations will be accepted from the floor. Run off elections will be held that night. Voting BOD members will take office on Sept 1st. Non voting positions will be effective immediately.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: If your position will end on Sept. 1st, please take the time to work with the new BOD member to help ease transition.

A Zoom meeting will be held week of the HOD meeting for Coaches rep. John Burke interested. Based on submissions there may or may not be an election.

Jennie recognized the Gulf coaches who ran the Age Group Track at the Coaches Clinic. Maryanne Svoboda, Tanja Avant and Dustin Myers. They did a phenomenal job with their presentations.

Motion to adjourn meeting made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:25pm.