



Minutes

June 10th Board Meeting

 Wed June 10th, 2020

 7:30pm - 8:30pm CDT

 Remote

 **In Attendance**

I. **Roll Call**

Meeting called to order at 7:30pm. Attending: Charlie Fry, Paige Sikkema, Jennie Shamburger, Dr Henry Clark, Dusti See, Erik Cozzad, Jamie Morgan, Katie Shelburne, Noelle Marsh, Jimmy Gavin, Eddie Adams, Kate Zabler, John Burke, Tom Hasz, Julie Bachman, Donna Dormiani, Natalie Melenric, Herb Schwab, Mark Martinez

II. **Mission Moment**

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

III. **Approval of Minutes**

Decision: Motion to approve minutes from 5.20.20 made and seconded. Minutes approved.

IV. **Old Business**

No old business.

V. **Officer/Chairperson Reports**

Task: Southern Zone Meeting attended via call by Herb Schwab and Julie Bachman. Herb posted report. Still waiting on information about virtual Convention and Southern Zone meeting during Convention. Gulf LSC will have 5 votes. Gulf needs to name the 5 voting delegates between now and early part of August/Sept. They will be identified by an email address so votes can be verified. Gulf always had 5 votes, but entire delegation would sit together. Charlie asked Herb who were voting positions: Gen Chair, Admin Vice Chair, Sr Rep, AG Rep, Coach's Rep and Athlete votes. From these, need to name the 5 votes at the Zone meetings. Herb said no 5 individuals were ever identified - just used 5 votes to vote as a block. Could even split and give 2 votes and 3 votes. Charlie will need to name the 5 individuals with input from the BOD. Zone meeting may be week prior to Convention. Herb suggested Charlie take a poll of who is available. Herb asked if athletes had email from Annie Norris or Ryan Gibbons for information about virtual athlete's workshop on Saturday July 11th in afternoon. Zone athletes should be contacted LSC athlete reps so they can join call/meeting. First Zone athlete workshop to be held. Hope is to motivate and have leadership development opportunities within National/Zone/LSC level. May invite non-athletes as well. Henry asked if Southern Zone meeting would be open to everyone even if not voting delegate. Herb doesn't know at this time, but is assuming should be able to attend.

a. **General Chair**

Task: Tom talked to LSC attorney about Swimmingly platform and associated fees. Must use resources for exempt entities. For profit teams will need to be treated differently with regard to Swimmingly kits. Gulf Swimming may provide kits to all members with certain provisions - for profit teams can only use kits solely for use with other USA Swimming clubs. Another phone call will be needed for clarification. The monthly fee for kits may pay fees for tax exempt club members but not for profit clubs. Tom got this clarification proactively based on topic being brought up at HOD meeting.

Herb asked for clarification that no issue with kit itself purchased for all clubs, but specification regarding for profit clubs. If LSC owned everything and allowed clubs to use it - would that be a benefit? Paige asked if it could be treated like the timing equipment rental. If noted that monthly fees were for athletes instead of clubs - would this matter? This clarification is needed. Issue around comments from previous meeting about using this platform with regard to summer league and HS meets. Each individual team will have to pay for registration and Loren Fischbach to enter all names to control registration. Will only get kits for clubs that want them. Charlie asked how many clubs have said yes to Swimmingly platform - Julie said 24 have said yes so far. May have as many as 6 more clubs wanting to use it. Eddie said he talked to a club that misunderstood the entire process and thought that the club was responsible for the kit cost. He said the procedure may be unclear to some clubs even now. Even with two coaches meetings and discussion at HOD meeting, some clubs have not attended. Julie to talk to this particular club again.

Charlie asked that Tom and Julie send out information from Friday's discussion with lawyer to the BOD prior to the next meeting.

USAS Convention planning process has been paused due to the untimely death of Gina Mensay. Committee programming normally presented at Convention may be spread out over the course of the year depending on the committee and track. There will be specific meetings with regard to Convention and more info will come out as it's planned.

b. **Athletes**

Athlete committee to send 5 athletes to Workshop. New elections next Wednesday.

c. **Task Force**

Julie to report task force progress. She and Clay and Mark met to work on dates and events to schedule virtual events. Good start but nothing to present at time. Mark said looking at best weekends for meets and working to get info out to teams as to how they will happen. Still deciding formatting but will be a bracket based on teams participating leading to a championship meet.

TPC and Swimmingly personnel will host training call and do mock meet event so everyone can try it before going live. Look for communication from Clay, Mark and Julie.

d. **Governance**

Herb discussed Southern Zone information earlier in meeting.

VI. **Executive Director Report**

Task: Julie has been working with and discussing different opportunities for coaches, swimmers and teams with Jolyn, Finis and Swim Outlet management. They would like to cover first three or four months of Swimmingly for our clubs as a sponsorship/partnership. Also open to this donation covering something else for the LSC. These three companies want to support our virtual meets. This decision shouldn't be made in a vacuum. Charlie asked if anyone had questions for Julie on this topic. Tom didn't know about any expenses needed at this time. Sponsors want money used in summer and early fall. Kate asked if this would be only for premium members or would flex members also be included. This may mean swimmers may benefit who aren't normally factored into LSC numbers. Using Swimmingly meets with flex members doesn't affect their number of sanctioned USA Swimming meets. All are USA Swimming members so flex to premium definition should be a factor.

Julie also having active discussion with WHALE summer league president and vp. They have over 5000 swimmers. When Julie realized there are at least 20,000 swimmers in our LSC not in year round swimming. This year, they are interested in talking to us because insurance costs are rising for them and they have no clear, concise Safe Sport structure. This may be an opportunity for USA Swimming and our LSC by having WHALE league become a team with a 2.5 month membership for these swimmers. This idea needs to continue to be vetted. This could be huge for our LSC moving forward and potentially strengthen clubs. In talks with Joel Shinofield, this WHALE team would be a seasonal club. Herb clarified that all coaches would need to be registered and take all required USA Swimming certifications. The WHALE league already has Swimmingly platform and could possibly be included in non sanctioned virtual meets. Lots of potential and possibility for this time next year. Tom said 90% of KATY Aquatics began from a summer league. Travis has helped facilitate introductions. Eddie asked if a task force should be formed at this time? Charlie said may be a bit early until Julie gets more information.

VII. **New Business**

Decision: Erik / Safe Sport: Sat in on a conference 10 days ago. New curriculum has been generated and posted to replace Safe Sport Mondays. Conversations designed for boys track and girls track. Available to print or purchase. Erik will get links out to teams. There is a trainer curriculum being offered and could be used by Safe Sort committee and offer Zoom webinar or go to teams. Sort of a trainers training. Meet 360 template signage and protocols for meet directors to use at meets. Erik will report on this after more review. information included in Boardable report. Charlie asked if there was a time when Erik could host a Zoom meeting rather than visiting clubs.

Eddie asked about discussion of LSC funding monthly subscription for Swimmingly program. Charlie said that Julie's sponsorship opportunity from Jolyn/Finis/Swim Outlet would cover these costs. Eddie asked if this money doesn't come in a timely manner, could we vote on this issue and fund requests now and then use sponsorship funding to replace these costs. Eddie would like to motion that any Gulf Swimming team who comes to Gulf BOD with request for Swimmingly monthly fees be covered by Gulf to able to get this money to cover monthly cost immediately. No second on this motion. No discussion. Charlie said we will wait for Julie to finalize discussions with sponsors to cover these costs. Julie suggested that sponsorship money pay this cost directly to Swimmingly so no administrative time taken by LSC. If all three companies agree by end of week, money will be divided by teams that already subscribe or should it be divided by 60 or do we say Gulf will cover any additional teams? Herb said there should be one more notice or warning and say that teams have until this day to subscribe and have membership fees covered. Paige suggested that number be divided by 60. It was suggested to give clubs until the 15th of June to commit to program to be able to get portion of fees covered by the sponsorship money. Julie clarified this is a month to month commitment and can be stopped and restarted at any time by club. Paige said you could cover monthly cost by charging swimmers \$5 per meet (cheaper than normal meet fees) and this could cover clubs cost for the monthly fee. Julie said some clubs don't have experience running meets or know how to monetize value of Swimmingly platform. If sponsorship covers several months of this fee, then any money collected for meets could be used by clubs towards their budget line items. Charlie said give clubs until June 20th to confirm participating in Swimmingly platform. That gives them 3 weeks to notify us they will join. Charlie motioned that we give all Gulf teams another reminder to sign up on interest form by June 20th for Swimmingly and at that point, will close registration. She will then work with sponsors for monthly fee cost coverage. Motion seconded. Form previously sent just asked for club involvement. Eddie asked if the delay with sponsorship payment would mean middle of July before virtual meets could be held. Julie said there will also be a 7 day trial to have kits turned on when routers received. Kate asked if there should be rolling start with subscription start up. Motion passes.

Parking Lot

Charlie asked for BOD approval needed to appoint Travis Sandifer as Operational Risk Management (old Safety chair position). Motion seconded and approved.

Charlie asked BOD to authorize Executive Director to be able to sign contracts on behalf of Gulf. Motion seconded and approved.

Next BOD meeting date June 24th at 7:30pm. Motion to adjourn meeting made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:42pm.