



**Gulf Swimming
House of Delegates Meeting
January 21st, 2026**

Via ZOOM Call

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 8:00pm by General Chair Paige Sikkema. Gulf Secretary Jennie Shamburger took the BOD and team roll call. Attending the meeting were:

BOD Members

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|-------------------|------------------|
| Paige Sikkema | Mark Martinez |
| Travis Sandifer | John Burke |
| Jennie Shamburger | Brandon Trittipo |
| Henry Clark | Courtney Scott |
| MaryAnne Svoboda | Ben Pulskamp |
| Jarrold Murphy | Clayton Cagle |
| Tanja Avant | |

Gulf Staff

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| Julie Bachman |
| Tom Hasz |
| Loren Fischbach |
| Natalie Melenric |

Gulf Coordinators

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| Herb Schwab (Governance) |
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Clubs Attending

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|------|------|------|------|------|
| AGS | ESA | MAC | SHRK | TASC |
| AQUA | FCST | MARC | SPA | TWST |
| BTA | MEAN | NOCH | SHAC | |
| CFSC | KATY | PACE | SSAN | |
| DADS | LSST | PEAK | TEST | |

MISSION MOMENT: Paige Sikkema read the LSC 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 HOD meeting minutes from October 22nd 2025. No changes or edits. ***Motion to approve minutes passed.***

Executive Director Julie Bachman spoke about the 2026 Gulf University / Coaches Clinic. It will be March 27-29th 2026. The scheduled coaches meeting will move to Sunday morning after breakfast. Clinic will start at 2:30pm on Friday and end at noon/ 1pm on Sunday. Sunday lunch will be provided. Kevin Ring, the new CEO of USA Swimming will give Keynote on Friday night. Kim Hahn and Joel Schoenfeld from USA Swimming will also be on hand. Lilly King will be one of the speakers.

Julie encouraged teams to register before 20th of February to get a chance for the following prizes: \$500 United travel voucher / Credit for two coaches room bills at San Luis / 2 packages of 2 tickets for the San Luis Rockets suite for April 10th game.

CONSENT AGENDA: Consent agenda on all reports was presented. Reports from the following committees were pulled: Athletes, TPC, Finance. Reports from the Officials and Safe Sport committees were not pulled.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

ATHLETE REPORT: Presented by Brendan Trittipio. February 14th will be targeted for swimmers who aren't on the committee to talk to those who are on the committee. Regarding the new incentive for Champs Meets - the Athlete's committee has recommendations and ideas to help make champs meet atmosphere better.

TPC: Davis Peden presented TPC recommendations for Gulf Summer Champs series. Weekend of July 9th-13th will be AG Champs 1 site for 14 U swimmers and Sr Champs with 1 site for 13 & over. Weekend of 17th - 19th will be Summer Champs. Weekend of July 25-26th will be B & Under / 12 & Under Champs.

There were two bids for Sr Champs. TWST at CISD and KATY/SSAN at U of H. Meet will be extended to 3.5 days. Athletes can only compete in only ONE summer champs meet. Recommendation from TPC is KATY/SSAN.

Two bids for AG Champs. TWST at CISD and CFSC at Fleet. Extended to 3.5 days w distance on Thursday. Adding 50s of stroke for 13-14. Qualifying change to 3 event rule. 1 cut / 1 event. 2 cuts / 2 events. 3 events anything. 3 events per day and 8 event max. Must have hard cut for 800/1500/ 400 IM. Up / down for 800 and 1500. Scratch box procedure will be implemented - athletes assumed to be swimming and will need to scratch to be pulled from event. TPC recommendation is for TWST to get this meet due to indoor facility.

Five bids for LC Summer Champs - CFSC, KATY /PACE, BTA, PEAK, ESCA. Circle in ONLY for distance. Qualifying - 14 & Under cannot have TAGS or Sectionals cuts. 15

& Over cannot have Sectionals cuts. This change will allow more swimmers into this meet with GC cuts. TPC recommendations for this meet are CFSC, KATY /PACE, PEAK.

B & Under 12 Under timed finals - single session Sat/Sun on July 25-26. Bidders SHAC, MARC, TASC, MAC, SHRK, LSST. No major format changes. TPC recommendations : SHAC, MAC, SHRK, LSST.

Next steps - Fall 2026 series meets tentatively open Jan 30 for the bid process. Spring 2027 Champs meet series will tentatively open June 6th for the bid process.

Motion to approve TPC recommendations for 2026 summer champs series.

Motion seconded. Thought process for adding 50s for 13-14 at AG Champs due to those events now being part of national meet slate and more room opening up at the AG Champs Meet to work with.

Jake Camp had suggestion of adding 3 event rule for Sr meet. Davis said there were no issues due to the number of athletes for the Sr Champs meet last summer. This change has been instituted for AG Champs due to historic size of meet. Jake suggested look at the 3 event rule for the SCY Sr Champs Meet.

Scratch box for AG Champs will be due night before for next day events. Scratches will be virtual for the Thurs night distance events. Swimmers may attend AG Champs with 1 or 2 only times but only in those events. Swimmers CANNOT do events at AG Champs and other events at Summer Champs. All swimmers will have to choose one meet.

With Sr Meet moving to 3.5 day format like Southern Sr Meet, it was clarified again that 13-14 athletes be NOT able to swim distance events at Sr meet and then rest of events at AG Champs.

No more discussion on the portion. ***Vote was called for motion to accept TPC Summer Champs 2026 calendar. Motion passed.***

FINANCE: Henry Clark presented. The Gulf LSC beat 2026 budget calculations by \$100,000. P & L net income confirmed that the year finished strong. Balance sheet also was also strong.

Proposed budget for 2026 was presented. Our LSC is very conservative when setting the budget for the year. We finished the 2025 year \$246,000 ahead. Splash fee column was adjusted due to splash fee reductions for Gulf championship meets.

This budget allows LSC to support travel fund, Gulf select teams, Coach Clinic, Open Water Zones, and other programs. Henry is confident we will end the 2026 year

positive. ***Henry made the motion to approve the submitted 2026 operating budget. Motion seconded. Motion passed.***

Henry then presented the athlete / coach / official reimbursement chart with meets currently on the schedule. Futures reimbursements were based on the Austin TX location and car travel. US Open and Winter Jrs locations are still to be announced. Officials reimbursement chart is a bit more expansive due to added meet opportunities for national certifications. Coaches get more room per diem because they get their own room for travel. There will be three OQM opportunities.

Motion to approve the athlete/coach/officials reimbursement schedule and travel fund made and seconded. Motion passed.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

Motion to adjourn meeting made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm. Minutes prepared and posted by Gulf Secretary Jennie Shamburger.