



**Gulf Swimming House of
Delegates Meeting
October 22nd, 2025**

**Marriott Westchase
2900 Briarpark Dr
Houston TX 77042**

CALL TO ORDER: Meeting called to order at 801pm by Admin Chair Travis Sandifer. Jennie Shamburger took the BOD and team roll call. Attending the meeting were:

BOD Members

Travis Sandifer	John Burke
Jennie Shamburger	Brandon Trittipio
Henry Clark	Courtney Scott
MaryAnne Svoboda	Ben Pulskamp
Tanja Avant	
Mark Martinez	

Gulf Staff

Julie Bachman
Tom Hasz
Loren Fischbach
Natalie Melenric

Gulf Coordinators

Herb Schwab (Governance)

Clubs Attending

AGS	ESA	KATY	PEAK	SSAN
AQUA	FCST	MAC	PACK	TEST
BTA	HCCL	MARC	SHRK	TWST
CFSC	HYDR	NOCH	SPA	
DADS	MEAN	PACE	SWAT	

MISSION MOMENT: *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 April 30th 2025. No changes or edits. ***Motion to approve minutes passed.***

CONSENT AGENDA: Consent agenda on all reports was presented. ***Motion to approve Officials and Athletes (all others pulled) was made and seconded.*** ***Motion to approve these reports passed.*** The Safe Sport, TPC and Finance reports were all pulled.

REPORTS

SAFE SPORT: Tanja Avant presented report. She encouraged any teams with safe sport issues to reach out to her for information or assistance. Gulf Swimming currently ranks 22nd of USA Swimming teams. Both NT and ST are in the top ten. We had growth in March from 23.5 to 24.5% of clubs reaching recognition. Our LSC supports safe environment for athletes, coaches, officials and volunteers and this certification shows the dedication and commitment of our clubs to continue this work.

TPC: Dustin Meyers presented slides from the meet packet and the report given at the coaches meeting earlier today. He made a motion to approve the Spring Champs series in February as presented in the report. Motion was seconded. In discussion, Justin addressed the change in the 12 & Under host recommendations and stated that the 13 & Over host sites remained the same. The current recommendations for both meet series' were approved at the October BOD meeting.

TPC recommending NOCH, DADS, MAC, FCST (2 pools), and KATY (this change from original recommendation has NOCH replacing SHRK) for the 12 & Under Champs Meets.

TPC recommending PEAK, AGS, TEST for the 13 & Over Champs Meets.

Question from PACK about a team being given 2 locations when other clubs bid on same meet. It was stated that the geographical spread would be better if FCST had one pool and other pool (PACK) given opportunity to host. Coach from FCST explained they bid 2 pools to increase competition. Because of size, their team and host team reach the max pool limit for swimmers. The thought was also to increase competition base. If running out of that facility - they require both pools to be used.

Motion to approve TPC report as presented passed.

FINANCE: Henry Clark presented slides from the meet packet. He introduced himself as new to this position and thanked Travis for his work as Finance Chair. Gulf athlete reimbursements for Fall/Winter Jrs and the US Open are now online as are the coach reimbursements. Officials have option of attending another meet site, and both amounts are posted online as well.

He presented the 3rd Quarter Budget Performance report, breaking down budget (predicted expenses) and income. Additional income is predicted from registrations and fall meet schedule. We are only \$110,000 from meeting end of year budget. Henry also discussed the P&L report as well as presenting a three year P&L comparison. His next steps are to work on and present new budget for January.

Henry made a motion that Gulf Swimming teams no longer pay splash fees for non-Gulf Swimming USA Championship Meets (TAGS, Sectionals, Zones and any meet awarded by USA S. Motion seconded. Discussion regarded teams that take on big meets for Gulf - the money from these type meets isn't considered as part of income, but host teams are paying splash fees. Keeping these splash fee amounts will allow LSC teams to continue to host high caliber meets. Herb said in the past, this has been weighed on a case by case basis so there is precedent for this decision. Travel expenses will be saved if hosted "at home". ***Motion as presented passed.***

Henry motioned that we reduce the splash fee charge for all Gulf Swimming Championship meet hosts for the 2025-26 meet season as according to schedule reflected in his report. Motion seconded. This is specific to this season to see results before codifying for the future. Club hosted and Gulf Championship hosted meets all pay splash fees. The difference is that club hosted meets are in control of financials of meet. Gulf Championship meets are regulated and entry fees and surcharges are set by the Gulf. Henry found that Gulf Championship meet hosts need 7% more revenue before expenses. This can be done by raising entry fees OR reducing splash fee amounts paid to the Gulf. Proposed new fee reductions broken down into Prelims/finals and timed finals meets. Reduction in splash fees would cost the LSC \$66,000. Henry believes this is affordable for the LSC. New splash fee for Gulf Championship Prelims/Finals meet would be \$1.25 and \$1.50 per splash for a Timed Finals meet. Gulf funds reserve would be used to benefit swimmers attending and help meet hosts.

Motion as presented passes.

Henry also moved that we establish incentive funding support for Gulf Swimming Championship meets according to the schedule above with the goal of enhancing the overall quality and experience of these meets with specifics in his report. Motion seconded. This idea came out of the Strategic Planning meeting. Teams will be encouraged to use this funding to enhance the meet so swimmers have a better experience at meet. Money will only be awarded for pre-approved items that contribute to the quality and professionalism of the meet. Amounts figured by 2.5% of total revenues before expenses that a team would collect. This would cost Gulf \$24000 max if each host team spends entire amount. Items that require depreciation (touch pads, speaker system, laptop, equipment etc) will not be considered for funding support. An amendment to motion to have incentive funding for 2025-26 season and then evaluate and review was made. Amendment to motion seconded. It was discussed that a single year might not be enough time to have true evaluation. This will be a new direction and may take time to see benefit. Question was asked that if all teams hosting championship meets will use these incentives so each meet has quality experiences. Goal in future is that bids may require specific incentive information.

Question was called on this amendment. ***Amendment failed.*** Back to discussion on original motion - should emphasis/money be better distributed to the younger level championship meets and amounts should be higher. An amendment to motion to switch funding to better facilitate younger meets by moving \$500 from Sr level meets to 12 Under level meets. Amendment seconded. ***This amendment failed.*** A NEW amendment to add \$500 to the proposed 12 & Under meet amounts bringing amounts to \$1000 per meet for SC Fall Champs, SC 12 & Under Champs and SC B& Under Champs was made and seconded. There was discussion that while the cost of big championship meets is much higher, it is important to keep fun in the 12 & Under meets. ***The amendment passed.*** An additional amendment to make original proposal into a three year trial period 2025-2028 was made and seconded. This will allow more data before new decisions are made. Encouraged to keep fees same for all three years and give this idea a chance to workout bugs and have deeper info pool for decisions. ***Amendment passed.***

Original motion with both passed amendments was voted on and motion with amendments passed.

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: Charlie Fry discussed Gulf Swimming hosting OW April 24-26th at Lake Longhorn. There have been changes to the format - no more pursuit relays. Meet is going to Sprint relays on Sunday, regular events on Saturday and introducing knockout racing on Friday.

Henry Clark brought up W Va having issues to host Sr Zones meet. Most LSCs are voting no to moving meet up a week which would put it on top of TAGS and LC Champs meets. Another change they have asked for is to wave time standards. Henry reminded the room that Gulf Swimming will only reimburse those with AA time standard even if no time standard required for the meet.

Brandon Trittipio stated that there is now an expanded 5 swimmer limit per team for the Athlete Committee representation. Please contact athletes@gulfswimming.org for more information if interested.

Motion to adjourn meeting made and seconded. Meeting adjourned at 9:14pm