

ISI House of Delegates Meeting  
November 2, 2008  
Mercer Aquatic Center, Proctor & Gamble Room, Iowa City

**Clubs Present:** Ames Cyclone Aquatics Club, Bettendorf Swim Club, Black Hawk Area Swim Team, Central Iowa Aquatics, Cedar Rapids Aquatics, Cedar Valley Barracudas, Davenport Metro Swim Team, Des Moines Swimming Federation, Iowa City Eels, Pleasant Valley Stingrays Swim Team, River Cities Aquatics, Vinton Aquatic Club

**ISI Board Members:** Dave Joensen, Judy Hackney, Jamie Langner, Don Spellman, Kelly Hackett, Phil Barnes, Tony Hunter, Al Panec, Aron Nakama, Athlete Rep-Ashlee Graham

**General Chair Dave Joensen called the HOD meeting to order**

**Announcements:**

Change on agenda – Proposal C & E will be flipped – E then C

**Minutes:** Minutes from the previous HOD dated April 20, 2008 were approved as written, Motion to accept minutes. Motion carried

**Treasurer's Report:** Dave Joensen presented report for 2008 Year End for Treasurer, Doug Kolsrud.

**Old Business** – None

**New Business**

**All Star & Zones** – Left over ribbons from zones were made available from Eric and handed out.

All Stars date should be January 17 & 18, 2009 with Friday evening, January 16 the team meeting.

**Proposal A – Event order at ISI Regional Meets** (concerning the 11 & Over 500 Freestyles, the relay event order, and mandatory breaks following the relays).

Proposed by Donald P Spellman, ISI Technical Planning

**Proposal:** Move the Med. Relay and Free Relay events closer to the conclusion of the meet and move the 11-12,, 13-14, and 15 Over 500 Free to the end of the PM session on day 1.  
\*The 10 & Under and 8 & Under Med. Relays would now be events #27, 28, 29, and 30 in the AM session of first day.  
\*The 11-12, 13-14, and 15 & Over Med. Relays would now be events #65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70 with the 500 Freestyles events following (events #71 to 76). There would be a mandatory break of at least 10min. following event #70 with the pool open for cool down / warm-up for at least 5 min. *These times can be extended if deemed necessary by the meet referee dependent on the size of the meet, the venue and access to adequate cool down area(s), and the length / duration of the meet session.*  
\* The 10 & Under and 8 & Under 200 Free Relays would now be events #101, 102, 103, and 104. The 10 & Under 500 Freestyle events would follow and there would be a mandatory break of at least 10min. following event #104 with the pool open for cool-down / warm-up for at least 5 min.  
\* The 11-12, 13-14 and 15 & Over Free Relays would be moved to events # 147, 148, 149, 150, 151, 152. There would be a mandatory break of at least 10min. following event #152 with the pool open for cool down / warm-up for at least 5min. The 1000 / 1650 Freestyle events would take place following the relays and end the session / meet.

**Rationale:** This should help improve the participation in the relay events and help the meet host make some more money. Many teams are not fielding relays at this event due to the timing of the relay events and where they take place in the schedule. The majority of swimmers at the Regionals level meets are there trying to gain ISI 'Q' times in order to advance to the ISI Championship meets. Since this meet was set up as a "last chance" meet after ISI abandoned the C-Finals set-up the needs of the athletes should be reflected in the event orders of each session. The mandatory breaks would be added to facilitate the needs of a swimmer doing a distance / middle-distance freestyle event at the end of the sessions. This should allow for the athletes to compete in the individual events and compete in some relays races without it harming the chances of those athletes trying to produce qualifying marks to enter the ISI Championship meets.  
The 500 Free has traditionally started the PM session on Day 1. Many swimmers and coaches feel it would be more appropriate to separate this long axis middle-distance free event (500 Freestyle) from another long-axis middle-distance stroke event (the 200 Backstroke). This move would also improve the cadence and pace of the meet, as most swimmers would be doing an individual event closer to the main warm-up period without having to wait for the conclusion of the 500 Freestyle events. Swimmers would have to provide their own counters but meet management would still be responsible for supplying timers for the 500 Freestyle events.

Hand out showing current event order & proposed event order was distributed.

**Discussion:** To encourage more relays. Last chance meet for state in having relays at beginning made hard for individual events. Encourage teams to do relays & not in way of kids getting good individual event times. New format to keep 500 Free away from 200 back so distance events not back to back. 500 Free after relays on Saturday, similar to 100/1650 on Sunday. Relays at end shouldn't impact time line.

Proposal A – Change of event order – PASSED

### **Proposal B – Change to Q Times for the 13-14 Boys Division**

Proposed by Tony Hunter, RCA Coach

**Proposal:** Change current formula for state qualifying times (Q Times) for the 13-14 boys division to be half way between BB and A national time standards for all events.

**Rationale:** For the past eight years we have had a significant lack of qualified swimmers at the State Championship meet in the boys 13-14 age division. Quite frequently we have not filled two heats in many prelim races, and even have failed to fill one heat in some final races.

This is a most critical time for boys of this age, and we lose many boys to other sports. If we make slight changes to the qualifying times, I feel we will be able to retain more swimmers. This will have a positive effect in two ways:

- (1) We will be able to fill all finals heats at the Championship meet, growing competition, and making for a better meet.
- (2) Retaining these swimmers through their high school years will help both the membership of ISI and USA Swimming, while enabling the swimmers to achieve goals that are now being discarded.

We don't have this problem currently with other age divisions in either the boys or girls. If we did, I would entertain changes to their time standards also.

**Discussion:** There has been a lot of discussion – will table until spring 2009 for more information

Proposal B – Table until spring HOD – Passed

### **Proposal C – Change to Meet Sanctions**

Proposed by Tony Hunter, RCA Coach

**Proposal:** Refuse sanction for host of ISI meet to club that will host the meet in a facility that does not meet state and federal standards for safety. Proof of substandard conditions would have to be presented to the ISI board for an official ruling, and the affected host club would be able to present documentation showing that their facility is up to acceptable standards.

**Rationale:** We, as ISI board members and coaches have a responsibility to ensure that the swim facilities that our swimmers train and compete in are safe for all swimmers and coach staff members. This includes, but not limited to:

- (1) Water Quality
- (2) Air Quality
- (3) Physical Hazards

It is irresponsible and negligent to sanction a swim meet to a host club who will hold that meet in a facility that is not safe. The board of directors of ISI could be found negligent for sanctioning meets in facilities that do not meet quality standards. This includes pools with high chloramines levels and facilities with pool ventilation and mold problems.

Proposal C – WITHDRAWN by Tony Hunter

### **Proposal E - Iowa Swimming Zone Bus Travel**

Proposed by Eric Follmuth, Age Group Vice Chair

**Proposal:** Iowa Swimming halt the bus travel option for the Zones Meets starting the summer of 2009. The budget amount used for the hotel, chaperones, and bus costs should be transferred to a new "Swimmer Camp Fund".

**Rationale:** The bus participation in the past three years has been down. This summer with the Mega Zones meet, our bus participant numbers were better than 2007, but still short of a full bus (by half). The costs for renting a bus generally runs around \$5,000, in addition the hotel rooms for those riders generally cost about \$100 per night (if not more). Without considerably raising the cost of the bus transportation per swimmer, we would not come close to covering these fees. The raising of the bus fee may also deter swimmers to travel on the bus which may also lower our numbers.

It is my feeling that with the Zones meet being in Grand Forks, ND, this next summer our participation will be down further. The Topeka trip in 2007 was a poor showing of bus participants, and I expect Grand Forks to be the same.

Starting the summer of 2010, our Zones meet as we know it, will change due to 15 and older swimmers being moved to a Zones meet of their own (Sr. Zones). The 15 to 18 age group was our biggest group on the bus this past summer and they will not be traveling to Zones as Team Iowa in 2010.

**Discussion:** Eric wasn't present, but passed on that second sentence in proposal should be deleted. (The budget amount used for the hotel, chaperones, and bus costs should be transferred to a new 'Swimmer Camp Fund'). Proposal E – Iowa Swimming Zone Bus Travel should now read – Iowa Swimming halt the bus travel option for the Zones Meets starting the summer of 2009.

Iowa Coaches Association and ISI BOD supports this proposal. Money for bus would be available to use for other options – swim camps, gold medal camps, ACSA coach development, other options. With reconstruction of zones changing in 2010 into two zones – 14 & Under and Senior. Bus wouldn't be applicable for future meets after 2009.

Proposal E – PASSED as amended

### **Proposal D – Bus Requirements for Zone Meets**

Proposed by Phil Barnes, CRAA

**Proposal:** Eliminate the requirement that mandates swimmers must participate with team travel (i.e. – ride the bus) for Zone meets.

**Rationale:** This motion reverses the motion passed at the ISI 2008 Spring HOD that mandated swimmers travel with Team Iowa and pay for the bus during Zone competitions. The proposal as passed last spring should be reconsidered for the following reasons:

- The motion as passed increases the travel cost to families who are attending the meet by forcing these families to pay for a bus-ride for their swimmers - when they could ride with the family to and from the meet. Even if these swimmers travel with their families to the Zone meet location, these families have to pay for a portion of the bus travel expense for Team Iowa to travel to the meet location.
- The motion requires Team Iowa swimmers to be at the team hotel to ride the bus to and from the pool. For swimmers staying with their families at locations other than the Team Iowa hotel, the motion will require these swimmers to have additional travel which reduces their recovery time between sessions especially if the family is staying at a hotel close to the meet venue and Team Iowa is staying at a location far from the venue (e.g. Indianapolis).
- The motion greatly increases the cost and time away from home for families who have swimmers that are only competing for one or two days of the meet. The motion requires these swimmers to ride the bus during the entire meet, even when the swimmer is not competing.
- The motion passed does not address what happens if swimmers or families elect not to follow this ruling. There is not a defined penalty for choosing not to ride the bus. This places the Zone coaching staff in an awkward position. If swimmers do not ride the bus, should this be excused, or should the coach remove the swimmer from relays, or should the coach scratch the swimmer from the meet all together? The motion fails to detail how this should be addressed. Does ISI want the coaches selected to coach Team Iowa to make this decision knowing that any given year, the coaching staffs can change making the enforcement of this ruling every year?
- This motion was presented at the HOD meeting last spring as a *solution* to the LSC expense of a bus for Zone Team travel since there was very limited interest during previous Zones meets. If there is not sufficient interest from Iowa families in funding a bus, then the bus should be cancelled. This *solution* of enforcing a bus fee as well as the requirement to be bused from the team hotel to and from the meet will result in the loss of swimmers as many families will choose not to send their swimmers rather than be forced to pay and ride the bus.
- The motion was also presented as a way to create more Team Iowa spirit at the Zone meets. There are many other ways to do this. Some of those are:
  - Zones swimmers can be required to purchase a minimum set of team clothing (i.e. swim suit, t-shirt, swim cap) and be required to wear the team clothing at the Zone meet.
  - Swimmers can be required to arrive at the pool ready at a certain time or prior to the start of the session before the arrival of the bus when they are participating, and the swimmers shall be required to be in attendance for the whole session in which they are participating unless excused by the head Team Iowa coach.

The LSC should explore these and many other ideas that would have a much smaller economic impact to Iowa families than the Required Bus Team Travel motion that was passed last spring.

I suggest we make the change now, and set aside that budget amount for camps. These funds should be used for swim camps that the ISCA board can discuss and design a camp program to help progress the level of swimming in Iowa.

Proposal E – WITHDRAWN by Phil Barnes

### **Proposal F – Zone Deadline**

Proposed by Eric Follmuth, Age Group Vice Chair

**Proposal:** Require a pre-state deadline for swimmers who plan to participate in the Zones meet, and who already have achieved their AAA qualifying times. Swimmers meeting this criteria, will be required to send in their entry forms before Noon, on the Monday before the ISI Long Course State Championships (ISI LCSC).

- Swimmers who have not qualified previous to the State Meet will be allowed to enter the Zones meet for times achieved during the ISI LCSC.
- Swimmers achieving AAA times at the ISI LCSC may sign up for ONE bonus event they already have achieved the AAA time in.
- The current ISI rules pertaining to filling events where no qualifying swimmer wishes to attend will still hold true, and may be filled at the ISI LCSC.

**Rationale:** This proposal is based in part on information gained from the Illinois Swimming Zones Entry Chair. In Illinois, only newly qualifying times achieved at the State Meet may be entered at their state meet – all other entries are due on the Monday before their State Champs. It's basis it to assist the Age Group Chair in completing the entries correctly and on time of the Zones entry deadline. The ISI LCSC weekend becomes a hectic time to get entries done and sent in before Monday at 6:00pm (the

day after the ISI LCSC meet). The number of items to be completed during the weekend, and double checked for correctness before the different deadlines for the meet are daunting.

A deadline before the state meet could also aid in the clothing needs for the meet. A shortage of shirts, for example, might be adjusted before the ISI LCSC meet. I would like to create a new way of completing the clothing requests so we can address the different championship suits available and desired by our athletes via online order taking. A pre-entry will assist in completing this task

This past summer we had 85 participants in the Central Zones meet, with only 15 of those sending in an entry before the ISI LCSC weekend. I would suspect that a very large percentage of those 85 swimming families knew they were planning on attending the Zones meet (a lot more than 15 swimmers). Currently there is no motivation for those swimming families to send their entries in early.

The Age Group Chair will work with the ISI office to generate an eligibility listing, and will use that information in the entry process. Times that are improved at the ISI LCSC meet will automatically be updated.

The rationale for allowing of the one bonus entry is for the swimmer who has the AAA in ONE event, and is undecided as to if they should participate in the Zones Meet. If that swimmer attends the ISI LCSC meet, and achieves any number of new AAA times at the meet – and wants to now enter - ISI should be able to allow them to swim in that one event they already had the cut in. That swimmer sitting on the fence with one AAA time should not be penalized, but all swimmers with two or more should know their intentions, and enter accordingly. A SWIMMER WILL HAVE THE OPTION TO SCRATCH OUT OF THE MEET DURING THE ISI LCSC MEET IF THEY CHOOSE NOT TO ATTEND. It is the responsibility of the Age Group Chair to generate the meet information, and transmit that to the membership, coaches, and the ISI website to inform swimmers of the meet, and deadlines.

The current rules of filling our open slots for events that do not fill will hold true – giving preference to those who sign up within the time frame given by the code book, and their placing at the State Meet in that event.

Discussion: Eric accepted amendments from Coaches Association to: 1. Assign 'A' standard for signing up. 2. strike bonus events. Swimmer can over enter and SCR down, can't add event at state deadline on event already qualified for. Pay at time of entries, pay for just maximum, refund yes after scratch down. Filling events with A times – Amendments passed.

Change entry deadline to read: AG Chair shall receive these entries by noon the Monday before the Summer Championships. Discussion on if swimmer only has one event and doesn't pre sign up, receives 2 more at champs can he sign up for first event.

Proposal F - Require a pre-state deadline for swimmers who plan to participate in the Zones meet, and who already have achieved their AAA qualifying times. ~~Swimmers meeting this criteria, will be required to send in their entry forms before~~ **Age Group Chair shall receive these entries by Noon, on the Monday before the ISI Long Course State Championships (ISI LCSC).**

- Swimmers who have not qualified previous to the State Meet will be allowed to enter the Zones meet for times achieved during the ISI LCSC.
- ~~Swimmers achieving AAA times at the ISI LCSC may sign up for ONE bonus event they already have achieved the AAA time in.~~
- The current ISI rules pertaining to filling events where no qualifying swimmer wishes to attend will still hold true, and may be filled at the ISI LCSC. **Swimmers filling events where no qualifying times have been met shall have a minimum A standard.**

Proposal F – PASSED as amended

### **BOD & Committee Reports**

Convention reports in club packets

Club packets also include legislation results that were voted on at convention. Full legislation report can be found on the USA Swimming web site.

Dave – Zones will be August 7-9, 2009 Grand Forks, ND

Starting summer 2010 will be split into two zones: Age Group 14 & O and Senior 15 & O - Task force has been set up – Iowa representatives are Eric Follmuth –Age Group zones and Bobby Kelley – Senior zones Spring 2010 new pools will be completed Grinnell college and University of Iowa

ISI BOD is working on developing a Hall of Fame and reviewing athlete travel policy.

Legislation at convention passed effective May 15<sup>th</sup> Swimsuits worn for all 12 & under age group defined competition shall not cover the neck, extend past the shoulder, nor past the knee.

Phil Barnes, Officials Committee reported on certification levels totals to date.

Elaine stated that background screening done on the initiate dates in 2007 will be expiring in early 2009, there is new renewal screens & currently is taking a little longer, so give pretty of time. Renew early in the month that you expire. Effective 2009 when using Lifeguarding as Safety Training requirement, the Safety online test will also need to be completed to be valid.

**Motion to adjourn**

**Adjourned**

Respectfully submitted,

Elaine Sortor, Acting Secretary