

NE Swimming Board of Directors Meeting: January 9th
Harvard Pilgrim Center Wellesley, Massachusetts
Minutes approved February 6, 2017

Board Members:

Present: Jordan Arnold (SAC), Elise Atkinson (CS), Mary Buckley (KING), Matt Craven (SAC), Brian Crawford (ESC), Priscilla Davis (UN), Joe Frazier (UN), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Anne Kaufman (UN), Paul Memont (UN), Kayla Metivier (PHX), Rick Osterberg (UN), Betsy Russell (CS)

Absent: Arthur Athanas (YNS), Chuck Batchelor (ABF), Sean Geary (CRIM), Ray Grant (SSA), Harrison Homans (ABF), Laura Matuszak (GMA), Michelle Mitchell (CRIM), Marshall Muir (ENVY), Nick Rice (ABF), Chris Sheppard (CS), Beth Weigel (BGNE)

Guests: Lisa Black Sholudko (KING), Ken Galica (UN), Carol Healey (UN), Alan Sanders (CCSC), Mary Ellen Tynan (UN), Dan Warner (NSSC)

7:07 pm – Quorum NOT reached (meeting will be conducted without voting)– BOD Meeting opened by General Chair, Matt Craven:

- 1. Welcome remarks:** Matt Craven opened with general welcome.
- 2. Secretary's Report, Carol Healey:** Corrections/edits to minutes from November 1, 2016 meeting have been submitted to the Secretary. Will be amended and presented at the next meeting.
- 3. Treasurer's Report, Carol Healey:** Unable to get balance from First Western today. Since no quorum, will be approved at next meeting.
- 4. Short Course Calendar:**
 - a. *2016 Senior Meet* – Mary Ellen gave a report on potential event order changes for next year and other changes to improve the meet. Matt Craven noted he received mixed feedback about the meet and relay placement. Air Quality was the primary issue. Alan read the email received from USA Swimming (see attached). Paul Memont reiterated this sentiment. Most feel the issue was how it was handled at the meet. There was reportedly a Coaches' meeting Sunday morning but it was poorly attended and the decision was made to swim on. Matt Craven reported that we need to use common sense. Discussion on air flow and pool chlorine and ph levels. Dan discussed the chemical balance and what happens if not stabilized before kids enter the pool. Rick noted that we need to empower the facility person. He suggested that this topic get sent to Technical and Sanction to establish some guidelines. Dan also said that we need to educate Meet Directors.
 - b. *Quad Plan* – it is posted. For Qualifiers, since MIT always as the most requests, seems only fair to rotate teams through that pool every four years. Will send a survey to clubs as to their order of preference for their choice of facilities. Some teams may rather just be closer to home. Then rotation can be established.
- 5. Long Course Calendar:**

Bids are due February 1st. We will try to bring back the 15-18 meet again. Bids are needed.
- 6. Budget Review** – committees should submit budgets by January 22nd and meetings will be set up to discuss the details.
- 7. Committee Reports**

Age Group Committee: No report

Senior Committee: Mary Ellen reported that the LCM Senior cuts are almost done as is the order of events with some slight changes to last year to improve attendance and the timeline.

Officials Committee: Paul Memont's report is attached. See the part about drones that must be in the meet

information. Even though Deck Pass is accepted as proof of registration, officials must still show their white card with their officials' certifications. He has been told this will be on Deck Pass in the future. There was an incident at the ABF BU Meet this weekend involving a coach from CT. He was using foul language towards officials. Paul feels the respect level towards officials is going downhill. Need to uphold a code of conduct. Rick pointed out that they need to be removed from the deck and sent to the Admin Board of Review. Without punishment the behavior won't change.

Coaches Committee: No update at this time as Marshall Muir and Nick Rice were not present.

Athletes: Mary reported they are proposing a junior athlete committee to get younger swimmers involved. Kayla said they are working on a February newsletter and will reach out for guest authors and topics. Matt suggested that they try to get it out before Regionals.

Inclusion: Committee met December 5th. The report is attached. Chelsea Zhang (SAC) is their new athlete reps. Nadine wants to partner with the Athlete Reps for an equipment drive. Their next meeting will be January 23rd and hopefully the athlete reps can call in.

Safety: Priscilla spoke directly to the Athlete Reps and charged them with helping to keep the pools clean. Encourage their fellow swimmers to: (1) take a shower before swimming – it is state law (2) Don't pee in the pool. She also spoke to them about Social Media and being very careful about what they post.

Safe Sport: Anne reported that we should be very proud because for the second year an NE swimmers has been chosen as a Safe Sport Fellow – Connor Miller (KING). Anne reported that smaller teams are reaching out to her but that larger teams are not. There are also tools online coaches can use to evaluate the effectiveness of their own Safe Sport status. Anne wants to get all team Safe Sport Coordinators trained. They should be registered members of USA Swimming. She asks that Regional host teams put Safe Sport information on their handouts and meet packets and she would also like to have a Safe Sport table at all of the Regional sites.

Technical: Carol reported the Club Grant was updated today from feedback. More safe sport awards and using % of swimmers as opposed to the straight number which seemed to benefit the larger teams. Also, starting May 1, USA Swimming will be allowing 6 events per day for timed final meets. Most at the meeting agreed this might not work for long course here as it is already hard enough to get into meet but it is a USA Swimming policy to be adhered to. Dan Reilly (ANA) had emailed Carol requesting that Rachel Moore's records that she achieved at Y Nationals but reconsidered as NES records. This will be put back on the agenda for the next meeting.

Zones: Mary Ellen reported that there is an application online for the Head Coach position. Please apply if you are interested.

Office: Carol reported that she had received some email regard (1) the skimpiness of suits – most members felt that we cannot dictate how much a suit covers that swimmers' body (2) people would like to have the National Anthem played at more meets. This will be addressed and suggested at the Meet Manager Workshops. The Strategic Calendar is in the works and will be sent to everyone. We are pushing the Swimposium to Spring of 2018.

Nominating: Brian was informed that he is Chair of the Nominating Committee and he will begin work on this process.

8. Annual Meeting: This year Annual Meeting will be Saturday April 29th. Location to be determined

9. New Business:

Matt asked if the Coach Grants were still available and he was informed that they are/

Matt also discussed attendance at Board meetings and asked what we should do about those who have

not been attending. Kyle reported that he has spoken with both of the Coach Reps to step up their participation or resign. They have had zero communication with the coaches and nothing is moving forward.

Carol mentioned that she has been approached about a transgender policy.

Rick is managing the New England Swimming LinkedIn page.

Nadine is working for the state and reported that they need lifeguards. Carol told her to send her the details to post.

Kyle requested that maybe we create subcommittees to approach issues such as air quality.

Lisa reported that Special Olympics of Massachusetts will be starting soon and they are always looking for swimmers to work with the athletes. The meets are April 30th and May 6th. They also need volunteer officials. The official games will be June 10th and 11th and they need lots of volunteers.

10. Next Meeting: The next meeting date will be Monday, February 6, 2017. Details to follow by email and to be posted on the NE Swim website.

Matt Craven adjourned the meeting at 8:45pm.

**Respectfully submitted,
Mary Ellen Tynan,
Part-time Office Administrator
NE Swimming**

Letter from Dan McAllen – USA SWIMMING

Paul,

USA Swimming has no policy on the air quality issue. This is a facility problem, and one as officials we should stay out of. As you know, poor air quality affects many facilities. It got so bad at Indianapolis and in Minnesota that we stopped using those venues for our National Championships until the problems were corrected. The air quality at College Station for our recent Juniors was very poor, resulting in many negative reviews. Our only recourse is not to use those facilities where we know there is an air quality problem or not use them in the future if the problem is revealed after we start the competition. No one is required to compete, coach, or officiate in conditions that they regard as unacceptable, and they have every right simply to leave, which is apparently what some did at your meet. Like with USA Swimming not using certain facilities, I believe that New England Swimming must make a decision regarding use of this particular facility in the future until the air quality issue is dealt with satisfactorily. Short answer, is there is no USA Swimming policy. One thing that makes it difficult is that the degree to which various individuals are affected by poor air quality varies greatly. For example, some athletes had severe physical reactions to the air quality at College Station while others were not affected at all. That is why the decision to compete or not is really an individual one. Sorry I could not be more help.

Have a wonderful holiday season and I look forward to our next opportunity to work together.
Dan

OFFICIAL'S REPORT

January 9, 2017
Officials Committee Report

Covered during Official Chair Conference Call Jan 4, 2017:

Drones are not to be allowed over any pool during meets unless the USA Swimming VP of Operations gives a waiver.

National Evaluator Seminar held by USA Swimming: May 4-7
Atlantic City NJ
This seminar is for very experienced National Evaluators.

Officials Chair Meeting June 16-18. Houston TX
I expect I will be attending both.

Competition Suits: No tie backs allowed.

Maxwell Award: If anyone has a recommendation please send to myself
or any Officials Committee Member. This award is for an Official who goes beyond the normal expectations of an Official.

Deck Pass is allowed, but as of now does not show certifications. Plan for this option soon.
The following is a reply to my email I sent Dan McAllen, USA Swimming VP-Operations having to do with air quality at facilities.

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should stay out of. As you know, poor air quality affects many facilities. It got so bad at Indianapolis and in Minnesota that we stopped using those venues for our National Championships until the problems were corrected. The air quality at College Station for our recent Juniors was very poor, resulting in many negative reviews. Our only recourse is not to use those facilities where we know there is an air quality problem or not use them in the future if the problem is revealed after we start the competition. No one is required to compete, coach, or officiate in conditions that they regard as unacceptable, and they have every right simply to leave, which is apparently what some did at your meet. Like with USA Swimming not using certain facilities, I believe that New England Swimming must make a decision regarding use of this particular facility in the future until the air quality issue is dealt with satisfactorily. Short answer, is there is no USA Swimming policy. One thing that makes it difficult is that the degree to which various individuals are affected by poor air quality varies greatly. For example, some athletes had severe physical reactions to the air quality at College Station while others were not affected at all. That is why the decision to compete or not is really an individual one. Sorry I could not be more help.

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The following has to do with the four-hour rule. It has not changed from this post on the USA Swimming Website since 2013 except it is now dated 2015.

I was on the Official Chair Conference call Jan 4. Jay Thomas reiterated the four-hour rule is solid, not a suggestion.

Interpretation of Article 205.3.1F (Four Hour Rule)

September 14, 2013:

Rule 205.3.1F, commonly referred to as the four hour rule, was adopted by the USA Swimming House of Delegates in 1989 to ensure that swimming would be competitive with other youth sports, namely baseball and soccer, insofar as time commitment for both athletes and parents was concerned. Clearly, it was not in the best interest of our sport for developmental athletes to be at a pool all day or for the entire weekend to the exclusion of other family interests, particularly when other athletic activities could be completed in a far more reasonable time. With that by way of background, the following interpretations are issued: Meets must be planned such that events for 12&Unders can reasonably be concluded within four (4) hours. Sessions that exceed four hours are not in violation of the rule if properly planned. The rule does NOT apply to Open events even if swimmers 12 years of age or younger are entered. Measurement of the time duration applicable to this rule begins with the published meet start time of a session that offers 12U events and ends with the conclusion of the last 12U event of the day for the same gender. Under NO circumstances may a meet or meet session be terminated before all individual events have been concluded as a means of complying with the rule. Relays may be eliminated only if the meet announcement clearly states the conditions under which relays will be eliminated and whether relay entry fees will be refunded. Events that are scored multi-age are impacted by the rule if the multi-age scoring involves 12U designations, such as 11-12, 10U, 12U, etc.

Some suggested planning tools that facilitate compliance include:

- Using meet management software to monitor the timelines as entries are processed.
- Selection of a heat interval appropriate for the session.
- Being aware of the number of swimmers appropriate for the number of lanes available and distances offered.
- Adequate meet staffing such that marshals, timers and other meet personnel are properly trained and in place.
- Keeping equipment (computers, timing systems, printers, etc.) in proper working order.

INCLUSION REPORT



New England Swimming Diversity & Inclusion Committee Board Report Monday, January 09, 2017 - 7:00p.m.

N. E. Swimming's Mission

To promote and support personal excellence through competitive swimming.

Inclusion Committee Purpose: "To Promote, inform and expand competitive swimming to underrepresented groups throughout New England Swimming's territory".

The NES D & I Committee met on Monday, Dec., 5th. eight of the committee members were in attendance. The meeting began with housekeeping items and welcomed our new Student athlete Chelsea Zhang from Shawmut Aquatics, we are excited and pleased to have Chelsea join us. We announced the achievement of the LSC receiving LEAP Level #3 and provided an explanation of what LEAP is.

The meeting moved forward with Committee Planning – Calendar of Events -2017

- Equipment Drive & I.C. – the Committee would like to partner with the board Athlete on this so that we are not having overlap of the same efforts. Wondering if the Athletes could attend our next meeting so that we can plan effectively – Next meeting is set for Jan. 23, 2017,
 - Feedback from previous years more advertising, showcasing pictures, include in meet packets – David W. & Chelsea to Lead
- Grant – (Advertisement retrieve list from last year Student athlete, get out mid Jan. return Feb. 15 & Round two will be April 15 – May 13, 2017 - Kevin K. - Lead)
- Water Safety Festival(s)/Clinics – 2017 –
 - Lawrence - Maritza, David & Mary Erin to Lead
 - Boston – Kyle S., Nicole C. & Nadine to Lead
 - Additional Clinics – Edenia G., Josie Y. & Ashley V.
- Facebook page updates (I.C. Student Athletes) – Chelsea Z. & Josie Y., to Lead
 - Focus on building Name recognition
 - Raise awareness about events being held or supported
 - Athletes chosen to represent LSC at Camps
- International Water Safety Day – May 15, 2017 – Nicole to Lead
- Ideas on better education to our NES Community on participation and what's happening with Inclusion, Web page need update and a separate tab, like Safe Sport or linked page like officials – Josie Y – to Lead
- Eastern Zones D & I Camp & Summit – Hosted by Niagara Swimming – Buffalo NY
 - Dates are June 15 – 18, 2017
 - Applications to be posted in February

The committee had a discussion about beyond Outreach Financial Assistance: Ideas on how we can support our members who may not be considered outreach but might still have some financial challenges as it relates to a

successful athlete and there being able to continue moving forward with regards to team engagement such as participation in travel meets. Kevin K. to Lead beginning with polling data to identify what our LSC needs may be.

- Vendor Discount – Carol Healy & Joe Fraizer
- Other areas the committee would like to support
- Women's Coaches Conference – Sponsor a minimum of two from our LSC to attend
- Diversity In Aquatics Conference – Sponsor a minimum of two from our LSC to attend

Updates:

NBC Universal announce Olympic Channel partnership in the U.S.