



NES BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 12, 2024

via Zoom

approved by the Board on April 2, 2024

MISSION: To provide opportunities for all to achieve their highest potential in competitive swimming.

VISION: Inspired. United. Fast.

Attendance:

Board Members: Betsy Russell (UN), Patrick Hunter (UN), Rhi Jeffrey (ATLA), Jessica Workman (UN), Jonathan Castaldo (CRA), Bill Glass (BGSC), Greg Gowern (PHX), Noa Chambers (ABF), Elizabeth Staats (UVAC), Elizabeth Antenucci (LIFE), Susan Pascale- Fachette (BGSC)

Guests: Jenelle Dolan (UN), Moriah Tyrrell (UN), Tony Padvaiskas (NSSC), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Lisa Black Sholudko (UN), Taylor Rogers (CC), Ken Galica (UN)

1. Welcome:

Betsy Russell welcomed everyone and asked Rhi to run the meeting, as she was losing her voice due to a cold.

2. Consent Agenda:

Approved by unanimous consent.

- Secretary
- Athletes
- Finance Vice Chair
 - Treasurer
- Registration
- Performance & Development Vice Chair
 - Senior Committee
 - Age Group Committee
 - Calendar
- Operations Vice Chair
 - Officials Committee
 - DEI
 - Safe Sport
 - Safety
- Coach Committee
- Governance
- Office

3. Governance Committee: Open positions and timeline for posting & applying:

Six positions will be open to be elected at the HOD meeting in May. These positions include General Chair, Administrative Vice Chair, Performance & Development Vice Chair, Secretary, Junior Coach Representative, and Junior Athlete Representative. The google form for nominations has been posted and the Governance Committee expects to have a slate of nominees for approval prior to the next meeting on April 2.

4. Performance & Development: Championship Season Recap:

Congratulations to the teams who won NES Championship Meets: Arctic Aquatics (10&U), Charles River Aquatics (11-14), and Gator Swim Club (15-19).

There was considerable discussion around the idea that facilities need to be more transparent and concise during the bidding process. Details like whether gym space for overflow is available, if there are usable wedges and backstroke ledges, and plans for parent spectators all should be included in the bid. The Calendar Committee did remind everyone that we don't always have a great deal of choices due to the time of year being



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busy for most pools. Patrick suggested expanding our bid form to get more detailed information.

As for as the competition itself, data indicated that the added Gold meet was likely an underlying factor in the Age Group Meets being undersubscribed. Knowing that and with possible goals being a year over year improvement of 4-5%, adjustments in cuts and to the championship meet schedule are both possible.

5. **Olympic Trials Plan - Rhi Jeffrey**

Planning meetings are underway for an Olympic Trials promotional event involving the entire LSC; teams would be able to be as involved as little or as much as they'd like. Ideas include "good luck" posters, mini camps coinciding with finals on TV, Trials trivia games, and virtual athlete Q&As. The NES website may include a separate "hub" for Trials related content. These Trials focused events will begin as individually run events, not NES run (this will likely make actual implementation easier).

More information will be coming after the next meeting which is planned for 03/13.

6. **Sectionals Update**

The Sectionals meet at Brown has reached capacity and is closed at 650 individual swimmers and 100 relay-only athletes. With the likelihood of very long timelines in prelims, the entire meet will most likely be A/B flighted.

7. **DEI Committee: International Water Safety Day May 14/15**

There are two components: USA Swimming International Water Safety Day and, separately, LSC Team Run water safety activities. NES will offer the same support as in the past, including sample activities, promotion on the website, etc.

8. **HOD Meeting – Saturday April 27**

Needham Public Library

12:00 Lunch

1:00 Meeting

Any committee wishing to host in person meetings are encouraged to reach out to the office, as the library and office are both available on a FCFS basis. Maybe the board, with any newly elected members should take some time to meet and plan for transitions.

9. **Other Business**

Nate Chessey from USA Swimming Team Services reached out to NES to let the LSC know that he will be in Boston for Water Safety Day and has time for club visits on May 15/16. Coaches are encouraged to reach out and take advantage of these services.

Rhi, and others (possibly Jon, Jeff, and Jesse) have been asked to think about how to best maximize Nate's time and report back. They'll also bring this up at the coach's meeting on 03/20.

10. **Next Meeting: April 2, 2024**

Meeting Adjourned 8:02 PM

Submitted by Jessica Workman, Secretary