

Technical Planning Meeting Nov. 21, 2013 Minutes

2014 PNS LCM Champs

Continued the previous discussion of how to re-arrange the LC Champs schedule.

Reviewed an additional option of moving the 50 frees all to Saturday. That makes the timelines for Finals for all days more similar (and reduces the length of the Thursday Finals session which had been an 8 P.M. conclusion). Distance re-arrangement as well as the addition of the 5th day still included. Note: this keeps the “goal” that ten and under swimmers do not swim on Thursday.

This appears to be a viable arrangement. Further refinement for Wednesday: separate 11-12 800 and 1500 freestyle into a separate session to be followed by a 13 & Over 800/1500 session with a 1 hour warm-up break between. Both sessions will offer the 800 first followed by the 1500.

Further discussion on proof of time for relays. Only 10 of 24 15&O girls teams actually swam to the time standards in the 2013 meet. For the 400 FR, 5 of the 24 teams swam to the 4:09 time standard. Time standards for relays are currently established as the 16th place seed time from the previous year’s meet. Hard to determine proof of time approach since swimmers change and clubs need to use the swimmers that will be attending on that day.

Suzanne will include questions in the forthcoming survey on 6 vs. 8 individual events, and the possibility of a bonus event if 6 (3 questions). Will also survey coaches about proof of time or other approaches to the relay concerns. Finally, survey will include question on whether or not the 11-12 distances should be a separate event or consolidate so that all ages swim together.

201x Challenge Meets

There was a question about allowing 5 individual events per day rather than the current 4 (8 total for the meet). The group felt that timelines were very long as is so limits should be left as is. Could consider going to an event structure that is 13&O rather than 13-14 and 15&O to speed the sessions.

Is it time to re-think the Challenge Meet series completely? Clubs want the whole team to attend. Should these meets be October and January only? Clubs are taking senior swimmers elsewhere or planning additional special meets to address training plans.

201x Senior Challenge (October and February)

The goal is an opportunity for seniors to swim seniors. The prior suggestion that to use the Cascade Senior order of events was confirmed:

Saturday

1-2 200 i.m.
3-4 200 free
5-6 100 fly
7-8 50 free
9-10 100 breast
11-12 200 back
13-14 100 free
15-16 200 fly
17-18 200 breast
19-20 100 back

Sunday

21 400 i.m.
22 500 free
23 1000 free
24 1650 free.

For October, both the Challenge and Senior Challenge meets would offer 15&O events; February would be a 15&O only (but see below about entry qualifications). Limits on entries would be 3 events on the first day and 1 on the second. Particularly for October, the 1 event/Sunday would be a consideration considering the travel time (if Snohomish is the site).

February would be one day, Sunday after Boys' State (distance in one pool, sprint and middle distance in the other). Provides one more opportunity to qualify for Sr. Sectionals. Andy will explore the option of BC hosting as an alternative/expansion of the distance meet currently planned for 2014.

Ideal meet size is approximately 300 swimmers. Qualifications: must be in senior group. Time standards for Under 12. Time standards between Gold and PNS standards (perhaps the 13-14 PNS standards?). Open to IE and Oregon swimmers as well (for state swimmers). Preference is one site, will start slow/small and grow (hopefully).

Survey will be extended to include questions on whether or not the club would bring seniors to a Sr. Meet in October and how many swimmers would the club bring?

2013 Q Meet

Technical Planning has not applied parameters to this meet so issues of bonus or exhibition swims, NT, etc. are concerns with the club set-up and entry processing. Consideration should be given to running events as mixed to shrink the timelines.

February Calendar

Proposal to re-align the February calendar. Make the AGI meet an 11-14 meet with 10&U in between, but **no** 15&O. Shift the meet to **the first- second** weekend of February (replacing the current Challenge meet). That would make the last weekend available for additional special meets for last chanced qualifications for the Sectionals and Regional meets (there are currently a number of those special meets already in the schedule).

In addition, after the conclusion of Boys' State, pool time should be more available and allow more flexibility in planning meets.

Add questions to the survey to ask whether they support the move of the AGI to the weekend of the February Challenge (which would then disappear). And ask if they support the concept of a senior meet after Boys' State.

HOD Attendance

Attendance at HOD Meetings is down; approaching 50% of the clubs. Attendance can be added as a secondary criteria for considering bids for meets, but currently there are many fewer multiple bids for meets.

The HOD structure needs improvement – informational not discussion. Athlete requirement has hurt – particularly with the rules regarding athlete protection (means more have to drive separately). Consider if the club attends – not require multiple attendees? Consider giving meet approval responsibility to the Board and then eliminating the Spring HOD. Also look at what other LSC's do – both Oregon and IE apparently hold 2 day meetings with clinics and symposiums on the first day.

Next Meetings

Since it is hard to confirm a meeting room at BC during December, the next meeting will be scheduled for January. The next meeting of the Technical Planning Committee will be on January 9, 2014 and will be followed by a second meeting on January 30, 2014.