

## KYLSC Board of Directors October 21, 2026, Meeting Minutes

### PURPOSE – MISSION

*The objectives and primary purpose of Kentucky Swimming shall be the education, instruction, and training of individuals to develop and improve their capabilities in the sport of swimming.*

### VISION

*To provide a safe and healthy environment, encompassing all backgrounds and abilities that create a tradition of excellence in the sport of swimming.*

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mike Essig	General Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Joseph Phillips	Administrative Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Amy Albiero	Program Development	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Colin Faris	Senior Vice-Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Chris Fay	Age Group Vice-Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Nick Graves	Coach Representative
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	JJ Rodgers	Finance Chair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Brent Runkle	Governance Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Terri Tonges	Technical Planning	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kris Humphries	Records Chair
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jason Brown	Officials Chair	<input type="checkbox"/>	Marcelo Acosta	Safe Sport Coordinator
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kevin Ryan	Open Water	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Evan Hawkins	At-Large
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Jim Lewis	At-Large	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Ruth Ann Bode	Athlete Engagement
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mia Clark	DEI / Athlete Rep. - PARA	<input type="checkbox"/>		
<input type="checkbox"/>	Jacob Phillips	Athlete Rep. Senior	<input type="checkbox"/>	Matt Nichols	Athlete Rep. - Junior
<input type="checkbox"/>	Lily Johnston	Athlete Rep. At-Large	<input type="checkbox"/>	Zoe Johnson	Athlete Rep. At-Large

Mike Essig, General Chair, called the meeting to order 7:32pm and welcomed everyone as his first meeting as General Chair. Mike thanked Joseph Phillips for all the work he did during his tenure as General Chair.

**Joseph Phillips motioned/Ruth Ann Boder seconded agenda with the addition of 2026 Senior Zone Championship.**

**Jason Brown motioned/Joseph Phillips seconded to approve August 19, 2025, BOD meeting minutes as presented.**

**Board Orientation and Strategic Planning:** Eric Stimpson, USAS Club Member Services, was on the call to observe. He has agreed to help with the strategic planning portion of the meeting. Meeting will be in April. A survey will be sent out to get member feedback.

#### Suggestions

- financial and strategic planning for LSCs similar in size to Kentucky Swimming - Eric will help with comparison
- strategies for more success in athlete involvement
- job description and position direction for each position
- the vision and mission financial goals

**Indiana Swimming Territory Petition:** Mike Essig reported that at the USAS annual business meeting, Kentucky Swimming won the appeal and will keep the territory. Mike stressed the importance of maintaining a good relationship with River City Aquatic Club and Pacesetter. The LSC needs to research what else is in the area that we can develop.

**Sanctioning IN-Club Meets in KYLSC Territory:** During the appeal, Indiana Swimming noted that Kentucky Swimming was collecting meet fees from IN clubs without providing services. It was proposed that KY waive these fees for 2025–2026 and reconsider the policy the following year. JJ Rodgers pointed out that we are servicing these teams by sanctioning their meets. **Jason Brown motioned/JJ Rodgers seconded/approved that Kentucky Swimming make no meet fee concessions for the host clubs of Clark and Floyd counties of Indiana.**

**River City Splash LSC Affiliation:** RCS submitted an LSC affiliation request to KY Swimming; however, they would reconsider if KY Swimming had regional championship meets.

#### 2026 Short Course Championships:

**13&Over:** Terri Tonges, Technica Planning, presented the Technical Planning Committee's recommendations for the 2026 short course championship meets.

**Terri Tonges motioned/Joseph Phillips seconded/approved with the amendments below/ the 13&Over format does not change from 2025.**

**Kevin Ryan motioned/Jason Brown seconded to amend the motion Mixed Medley Relay in even-numbered years and Mixed Freestyle Relay in odd-numbered years/approved.**

Jason Brown motioned/JJ Rodgers seconded/approved/Joseph motioned/Ruth Ann seconded/ call the question/approved to call the question/approved/the 13-14-year-old distance events being in prelims and having the option to swim in the fastest heat in finals.

Terri Tonges motioned/Kevin Ryan seconded/approved the 13&Over relays will be awarded 1-3 medals and 4-16 ribbons.

Amy Albiero motioned to amend/Ruth Ann Bode seconded/approved/for 13&Over, no 4-16 ribbons for 13&Over relays. Top three will be awarded on the podium.

**12&Under:** Terri Tonges motioned/Joseph Phillips seconded/approved the 12&Under format will stay the same as 2025 except the mixed relay will be freestyle.

**12&Under Championship Meet Survey:** Technical Planning is researching the possibility of changing the 12&under short course championship to a full 3-day event. Nick Graves surveyed the clubs. 25 responded with 66% percent wanted to change the 12&Under to a three-day meet. Pros: Freedom to the format. Can add events and setup better, steppingstone for higher level events.

Popular events to add were the 100 and 400 individual medley events and 11-12 400 free and medley relays.

Cons: Too long of a meet and not appropriate for that age group. The athletes will miss school.

Terri suggested that parents be surveyed.

**Divisional Championship Meets:** There are four last chance meets already on the schedule that could be used as Divisional Championships; Clippers, LEX Dolphins at Centre, Owensboro and RACE. Kevin Ryan has received interest from three of the four. Without adding any more meets, this is a way to include the new club in Indiana, RSC, and the 50% of Kentucky Swimming members that are not eligible for the state meet.

Nick Graves recommends dividing the meets by team size; Large 150+ (LAK, TS, KYA), Medium to Large 100-150 (LEXD, CARD, SWSF, HA), Medium 50-100 (RACE, SKY, ET, OMM) and Small under 50 (AAY, BYB, KAC, KMUD, MYST, NEY, NLY, PAC, PBCY, RCS, SEA, TNT). Because of host clubs and location, the medium and small team assignments may need some rearranging.

A committee will decide eligibility and report back to the board.

Kevin recommended to keep these meet hosts for at least several years because they have historically hosted meets on the weekends appropriate for divisional championships.

A Zoom meeting will be scheduled with the committee and host clubs.

**River City Splash Affiliation Change Request:** Joseph Phillips motioned/Jason Brown seconded/approved to keep RCS in the KYLSC.

**Athlete Representative Committee:** The last athlete meeting was October 12<sup>th</sup> and the next meeting is November 6<sup>th</sup>.

Mia Clark reported that the Junior Rep was appointed. The committee is planning a summit to be held in December. They are also working on a community service project. The committee completed the check-in for the SZone and are in good standing. Senior Athlete rep is Jacob Phillips and Junior Athlete rep is Matt Nichols.

**Athlete Engagement:** Ruth Ann Bode reported that the Group Chat is successful with many athletes and Jacob Phillips attended the USA Swimming Summit in Denver.

**Coach Representative:** Chris Fay reported that the MidStates AllStar coach application was released. Chris asked if he could attend as the age group chair/manager and then fill the other positions with coaches that applied.

**Administrative Chair:** Joseph Phillips reported that he was going to work through and update the policy and procedure handbook. Mike asked Joseph to form a committee.

**Old Business:** Optimum meeting day of the week is Tuesday.

**Next Meeting:** Tuesday, November 18, 2026, at 7:30PM

**Meeting adjourned at 9:21PM**

Respectfully Submitted

Maureen McDonald

Executive Secretary