

**KYLSC Board of Directors Meeting
November 1, 2023
Conference Call**

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.

Attending: Joseph Phillips, JJ Rodgers, Terri Tonges, David Barnes, Kevin Ryan, Nick Graves, Kris Humphries, Brent Runkle, Marcelo Acosta, Colin Faris, Amy Albiero, and Megan Zerhusen

Joseph Phillips, General Chair, called the meeting to order at 7:31PM EST.

David Barnes motioned/Kris Humphries seconded/approved the agenda as presented.

Terri Tonges motioned/Kris Humphries seconded/approved the September 13, 2023, meeting minutes as read.

Financial Reports: JJ Rodgers reported that with only one month into the fiscal year, there has been little activity. \$20,000 was moved from the operating account to the money market account.

Long Course Meet Schedule: Three clubs (Lakeside Swim Team, Cardinal Aquatics and E'town Dolphins) submitted bids for five meets for the 2024 long course meet schedule.

Kris Humphries motioned/Brent Runkle seconded/approved/For the 2024 long course schedule, the board will approve late meet bids not conflicting with already scheduled swim meets.

Championship Meet Rules: Terri Tonges reported that the subcommittee has meet and will have the KYLSC Championship Rules ready for board review at the next BOD meeting.

2024 S Zone Open Water Championship: At the S Zone annual meeting, Swimchester was approved to host the 2024 OW SZ Championship. The meet will be held at Barren River Lake.

S Zone Olympic Trials Watch Party: The S Zone has approved a watch party at UofL. Each LSC will select athlete representatives. There will be in-pool and classroom sessions with a finale of watching the Olympic Trials.

Officials Chair Report

Appendix D – Officials Requirements: Tabled until next board meeting.

Club Athlete Representatives: Three clubs responded to the request for athlete reps. Kevin Ryan will reach out again.

LSC Affiliation Agreement: Joseph received the USAS – LSC Affiliation Agreement. David Barnes will review; Joseph will sign and submit.

Age Group Chair Report: Nick Graves will be attending a S Zone Age Group Chair Zoom and will report at the next meeting.

Officials: Ruth Ann Bode was selected as an official for the Olympic Trials.

Diversity Equity & Inclusion Report

Technical Planning: Terri Tonges reported that a Technical Planning Committee meeting is scheduled for November 12th, noon at Blairwood. Agenda items: short course championship meet formatting, time standards, and long course championship meet formatting.

Records Chair Report: Kris Humphries reported that USA Swimming has requested that LSCs reconcile discrepancies between LSC records and USAS SWIMS record reports. The deadline for submission is the end of November.

S Zone requested that KY Swimming share the KYLSC BOD email and phone numbers with them. USAS has requested KYLSC information in regard to elections and meet fees.

Next meeting: December 13, 2023, at 7:30PM (ET)

Meeting Adjourned: **Terri Tonges motioned/David Barnes seconded/meeting adjourned 8:13PM.**

Officials Chair Report – Kentucky Swimming Board Meeting – 11/1/2023

R-9 Legislation – Officials Certification Requirement Changes

First, please note that a lot of information is NOT available currently, but here is what I do know. At the Annual USA Swimming HOD meeting in September, **R9** was passed and adopted by the USA Swimming Board of Directors to create uniformed certification requirements for all 59 LSC's. The goal of the R9 legislation is to encourage more officials to complete their initial training and therefore increase official participation at developmental LSC's. Currently the National Officials Committee has formed several working groups/POD's to define and outline the certification standards for the following LSC positions: Stroke & Turn, Chief Judge, Starter, Referee, Administrative Official, Administrative Referee, and Timing Judge. Each of these working groups/POD's has an National Officiating Committee member, a CAC member, an athlete, and an LCS OC. PLEASE NOTE: At this time OPEN WATER positions are NOT a part of this process.

These POD's are working to develop acceptable standards while allowing for the autonomy of each LSC to remain. These POD's aim to develop what components of the certification process will be required to certify an entry-level LSC official: a class, test, sessions, shadowing, etc. Pods will use all the tools available to develop the final R9 product. They use the rule book, the currently published Minimum Standard Guidelines, our Professional Documents and Evaluation Templates, Reciprocity guidelines, current LSC certification standards, training videos, and online testing. The current goal of the working POD's is to have their work completed by the end of October, then submitted to the National Board for them to review through out the month of November, with communication to the National Officials Committee and LSC Officials Chairs in the month of December.

Once we have the recommendations, I am committed to establishing an LSC Officials Certification committee and working with that team to evaluate the new recommendations and how they compare to our current LSC certification requirements and bringing any recommended changes to the KY Board for ratification of our processes. We will evaluate all certified official positions including Meet Referee positions as part of this review and changes to certification requirements and again bring our recommendations to the full board for approval. Please note that currently our local LSC certification standards are inline with the current National certification minimum standards/requirements.

If you are interested in working with me on the new committee, please reach out to me directly and I will include you in our ongoing conversations. Please note, that in the meantime we will continue to train and certify our officials under our current certification processes and procedures. *I do not anticipate ANY changes in our current process until at least the start of the Long Course Season.* **If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to me directly.**

General Officials Chair Updates

- Becky and I have officially completed the hand off the Officials Chair position and I am fully aware of any outstanding items that were or are currently in process from Becky's tenure. I will continue to work towards the continuation and/completion of those processes moving forward. I want to formally thank Becky for all her help and guidance during this process. I am fully aware of the huge shoes to fill in this role.
- Becky is not gone from the scene though! She has agreed to stay on and be our New Officials Coordinator. In that role, Becky will oversee the initial certification process for all our new Stroke and Turn officials across all LSC clubs. I am sure all your new officials are actively working with and hearing from Becky during their Apprenticeship for the role.
- Currently we are tracking 32 new officials entering the certification process since the start of the Short Course Season. This is less than roughly half the number we started out tracking last year (72). So please help us actively recruit the next group of replacement officials.
- This is also a Clinic year for recertification for all current officials, currently we have completed 4 recertification clinics at different meets throughout the state and have several more planned for the next 6 weeks or so. We will conduct a final virtual recertification clinic in early December to catch anyone who may not have been able to attend a recertification clinic in person.
- We are currently tracking a total of 209 certified officials through the recertification process.
- Currently 102 officials have completed a recertification clinic. Last year 41 officials did not renew their certification, I would anticipate roughly the same or slightly smaller number heading into 2024.
- Please continue to encourage any currently certified officials to continue their progression through the ranks and move up from their current position. As people retire from their current roles, we will need people to continue to replace them. Just for reference, 23% of our certified officials are currently certified as a Referee and half of those folks no longer have age group swimmers. So, we need to refill our pipeline!! Just a reminder you do have to have served in your current position for at least one calendar year.

- Finally, I would like to congratulate Ruth-Ann Bode for being selected to work on deck for next year's Olympic Trials. This is a huge accomplishment for Ruth-Ann and our LSC in general. I know I speak for all officials about how proud we are of her and her getting this opportunity to be a part of the selection of our next Olympic Team. Congratulations Ruth-Ann!!!
- Again, looking forward to working with each and everyone on the board, if I can be of help at any time, please do not hesitate to reach out!

DEI REPORT: Helen Glish; November 2023

Introduction & Orientation to Para Swimming (Virtual Session)

This workshop presentation is designed to provide an introduction and orientation to the paraswimming arena in the USA. It's designed for swimmers with a disability, coaches, parents and anyone interested in the para-swimming community and how to support swimmers with a disability.

This workshop presentation will be presented via a Zoom presentation. You must register via the Signup Genius registration. A link to the zoom presentation will be emailed to all registrants the day of the presentation approximately 1-2 hours in advance of the start of the session. Please enter a valid email address in the registration to ensure you receive the zoom presentation link and be sure to check your spam folder if you haven't received the link.

Kentucky Swimming has updated the form for swimmers with a disability. Maureen sent this out last week.

<https://www.gomotionapp.com/team/szkyslsc/page/diversity/disability-entry-form>

Rules in the rulebook regarding **Section 105** are in the process of being updated. They have not yet posted any changes on the USA web page.

Please remember parallel time standards exist for our LSC, Zones, and sectionals. All can be found on our KY swimming web page <https://www.gomotionapp.com/team/szkyslsc/page/diversity/para-swimming>

In our Southern Zone DEI meeting we discussed the potential need for necessary accommodation for a non-athlete (parent, grand parent, coach...) Ky swimming has not adopted this as yet, but it is worth considering.

https://www.gomotionapp.com/szlsc/UserFiles/Image/QuickUpload/non-athleteaccommodation-form_032269.pdf

US Paralympic Nationals

Rosen Aquatic Center, Orlando, FL December 15-17, 2023

Both Ruth Ann and I will be headed there to officiate

2023 Scholastic All-American Recognition for Swimmers with a Disability

With the new Swims 3.0 use of the athlete's account for applying for the Scholastic All-America

(SAA) recognition the system would only allow one time standard for selection. The SAA

Parallel Time Standards could not be loaded therefore ***a different system is in place for Swimmers with a Disability to apply.***

*** This has already passed for 2023. Plan ahead for next season ***

The **2024 USA Swimming Foundation Learn-to-Swim Grant** applications for lesson providers are now open through December 15, 2023. <https://www.usaswimming.org/news/2023/10/19/usa-swimming-foundation-opens-2024learn-to-swim-grant-applications>

Please - Share this information with the pool your swimmers train at.