

**KYLSC Board of Directors Meeting
March 23, 2024
University of Louisville – Ralph Wright Natatorium**

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, David Barnes, Sara Smith, Nick Graves, Meghan Zerhusen, Kevin Ryan, Ruth Ann Bode, Hannah Andrews, Mike Essig, Marcelo Acosta

Joseph Phillips, General Chair, called the meeting to order at 11:21PM (EST)

Jason Brown motioned/Mike Essig seconded/Agenda approved as presented.

Jason Brown motioned/David Barnes seconded/February 28, 2024, board meeting minutes approved as presented.

Finance Report: JJ Rodgers reported that the LSC was \$12,000 under what was budgeted for registrations. Splashes and Surcharges are on target. JJ discussed that the LSC needed to look at other types of income if they wanted to continue to fund higher level opportunities for its members.

The discussion included:

- Find a way to expand the base.
- Increase splashes/surcharges.
- Increase participation at state championships.
Lowering time standards was suggested.
Terri Tonges, Technical Planning, informed the board that 50% or less of qualifying athletes actually compete at state.
- Obtain more sponsors.
- Increase social media presence and marketing program.
Maureen will reach out to UofL and UK and ask if they have an internship program.
Hannah will work with the athlete committee to start an Instagram athlete page.
- Look at what other sports do to keep athletes engaged.

Short Course Championship Bids: Short course championship bids are due April 1, 2024. The board will review, vote and send to the clubs for review before the HOD meeting in September.

Technical Planning Committee: Terri Tonges will meet with the Technical Planning Committee will review the short course championship meets and work on the long course championship.

N KY Clippers: The clippers have requested release from Ohio Swimming and would like to attach to KY Swimming. If they are released and while they wait for USAS approval, will Kentucky allow Clipper athletes to transfer to Kentucky and fill any open spots on the SZ OW team? How will this affect the relationships with other LSCs?

Athlete Summit – Olympic Trial Watch Party: Six KYLSC athletes have committed to attend. Ruth Ann reported that attendees will stay in the Belknap Village Dorms, they will eat at the student grill and have two hours of pool training.

2024 SZone Age Group Championship: Mike Essig motioned/Kevin Ryan seconded/approved/This meet will be a parent travel event. Applicants must have achieved six short course state cuts in the age group they will be competing. The deadline for applying is April 30, 2024. 50% of each age group/gender must apply for the LSC to support the meet. The LSC will provide two coaches, apparel, and entry fees if enough athletes apply.

Club Athlete Representatives: 13 clubs have submitted their club representatives' names. Hannah Andrews, Senior Athlete Rep, will reach out to clubs who have not fill the needed positions.

KYLSC Sponsors: The board would like to review the Swimville USA sponsorship contract. Before COVID, Swimville donated \$7,500 to Kentucky Swimming. During COVID to the present, they are contributing \$6,000. There is a concern that Swimville is charging too much for the state championship shirts, and the ratio of what they make and what they contribute is disproportionate. A kickback from sales was discussed. Mike Essig, Kevin Ryan, JJ Rodgers and Jason Brown will form the committee.

Officials Committee: Jason Brown, Officials Chair, reported that there was a great turn out for both championship meets. He is helping clubs acquire more volunteer officials. He reminded the board of the 10% rule (clubs must maintain 10% of membership as officials or will be fined) and that currently it is not being enforced.

Long Course Championship: Terri Tonges will head a committee consisting of Nick Graves, Kevin Ryan, Jason Brown, Hannah Andrews and Meghan Zerhusen.

Next Meeting: Zoom meeting on May 8 at 7:30PM

Ruth Ann Bode motioned/David Barnes seconded/approved meeting adjourned at 12:47PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
Maureen McDonald
Executive Secretary