



# USA Swimming Southern Zone Meeting

September 12, 2020  
Virtual Meeting

## Zone Directors:

Dave Smith - Non-Coach

Jim Kelly - Coach

Zone Secretary/Treasurer - Herb Schwab

Zone Age Group Chair - Jonathan Watson

Zone Senior Chair - Matt Webber

Zone Officials Coordinator - Trish Martin/Traci Johnson

Zone Senior Athlete Representative - Annie Norris

Zone Junior Athlete Representative - Ryan Gibbons

Call to order by Dave Smith, Zone Director, on Saturday, September 12, 2020, at 3:00 p.m.

Roll Call - Herb Schwab

15 LSCs in attendance with 147 delegates. All LSCs were present.

LSC	Del	Ath	LSC	Del	Ath
Border	X		North Carolina	X	X
Florida	X	X	North Texas	X	X
Florida Gold Coast	X		South Carolina	X	
Georgia	X	X	South Texas	X	X
Gulf	X	X	Southeastern	X	X
Kentucky	X		West Texas	X	X
Louisiana	X	X	West Virginia	X	
Mississippi	X	X			

## Introduction of Zone Officers

Dave Smith introduced each of the Zone Officers. All of the Zone Officers were present.

## Agenda distributed and approved

This year, in a continuing effort to be eco-friendly, the Agenda, Minutes, and all of the Handouts were posted on the Southern Zone website, and notifications were emailed to all of the LSCs and each Southern Zone Delegate registered for the USAS Convention. Each LSC was also asked to forward the electronic files to their delegates. No paper copies were distributed, since this meeting is being held remotely. The agenda was approved.

## Approval of 2019 Meeting Minutes

Motion was made and seconded to approve the minutes of the 2019 Convention meeting. Motion carried.

## Reports of Officers, Committees and Others:

### Dave Smith, Non-Coach Zone Director

Dave reported that most of the Officers' and Chairs' reports have been posted on the Southern Zone website. A few specific reports will be presented during this meeting.

### Herb Schwab, Secretary/Treasurer

Herb reported that the Southern Zone account balance is \$17,636.90, which includes the earmarked funds for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion of \$5,204.57. The Financial Report is on the Southern Zone website and is attached.

### Trish Martin/Traci Johnson, Officials Chair

Trish's report on the activities of the Zone Officials is on the Southern Zone website and is attached. Trish recognized and thanked the Meet

Referees of the Spring Sectional Meets. There were no Summer Sectionals nor Zone Championship Meets this year.

**Annie Norris, Senior Athlete Representative** Annie's report on the activities of the Athletes Representatives is on the Southern Zone website and is attached.

The Athletes conducted weekly video meetings this year, along with a virtual workshop and other engagement-type events. The Athletes focused on getting the athletes organized and involved, using the video meetings and social media. The virtual workshop videos are available on the Zone website.

**Ryan Gibbons, Junior Athlete Representative** Ryan reported on the upcoming Athlete Representatives elections, which will be held tomorrow. The Athletes spent this past year getting organized as a committee and will focus on goals to serve the athletes, General Chairs, and LSCs for this upcoming year. The Athletes will also focus on DE&I efforts for this coming year. The athletes will work on an Athlete Workshop for 2021, which may be held virtually again.

**USA Swimming Leadership Presentations** Bob Vincent, Mike Unger, and Joel Shinofield addressed the Zone Delegates.

Mike updated the Delegates about the Virtual Convention for this year. At this time, there are over 800 delegates registered. Mike discussed the Convention topics, the Agenda, and the House of Delegates meetings. Everything is posted on the USA Swimming website, along with all of the Committee Meeting Notices.

Mike also updated the Delegates with information about Olympic Trials in Omaha in 2021. There are backup plans, in case of issues with the Omaha venue. The dates are one week earlier than were scheduled for 2020, but the TV coverage should include more hours. Currently, the Trials Cuts are the same, but those cuts will be re-evaluated later this year.

Bob updated the Delegates about meet sanctioning issues. Hopefully, the LSCs will have the full authority to sanction meets in the near future.

Joel updated the Delegates about the weekly, and subsequently monthly, LSC meetings that have been held. The Board will be reviewing the plans for the fall national meets. Winter Juniors will probably be organized in a de-centralized fashion where each LSC can host their own competition to avoid large gatherings and long travel. Each LSC will have the flexibility to host the meet as best fits their needs. The US Open will probably be held at several locations, probably 6-10 locations, to conform to the smaller gathering restrictions.

#### **2021 Southern Zone Age Group Championships Date and Site**

The dates for 2021 set at last year's Convention:  
July 27-31, 2021                      Tupelo, MS (MS)

#### **2021 Southern Zone Senior Championships Date and Site**

The dates for 2021 set at last year's Convention:  
July 27-31, 2021                      College Station, TX (GU)

#### **2021 Southern Zone Open Water Championships Date and Site**

The dates for 2021 will be:  
May 28-30, 2021                      Chattanooga, TN (SE)

## **Nominations**

Zone Director – Non-Coach: Dave Smith (SE)  
No other candidates were nominated.

Zone Secretary/Treasurer: Herb Schwab (GU)  
No other candidates were nominated.

Zone Age Group Chair: Jonathan Watson (NC)  
No other candidates were nominated.

A Motion was made and seconded to elect all of the three positions by acclamation. Motion carried.

Dave Smith was elected as the Zone Director - Non-Coach.

Herb Schwab was elected as the Zone Secretary/Treasurer.

Jonathan Watson was elected as the Zone Age Group Chair.

## **2022 Southern Zone Age Group Championships Dates and Site Nominations/Presentations**

The proposed dates for 2022 are:

July 26-30, 2022

A motion was made and seconded to approve these dates. Motion carried.

Two bids for the 2022 Southern Zone Age Group Championships were received from:

Shockwave Aquatics Team	Tupelo, MS (MS)
Arlington ISD Aquatic Club	Arlington, TX (NT)

The bidders were allowed to make presentations (attached). The vote on the site for these Championships will be held during the Southern Zone Meeting on September 27.

## **2022 Southern Zone Senior Championships Dates and Site Nominations/Presentations**

The proposed dates for 2022 are:

July 26-30, 2022

A motion was made and seconded to approve these dates. Motion carried.

Three bids for the 2022 Southern Zone Senior Championships were received from:

Shockwave Aquatics Team	Tupelo, MS (MS)
Arlington ISD Aquatic Club	Arlington, TX (NT)
Club Mountaineer Aquatics	Morgantown, WV (WV)

The bidders were allowed to make presentations (attached). The vote on the site for these Championships will be held during the Southern Zone Meeting on September 27.

The Delegates asked the presenters several questions concerning the scoreboard capabilities of each venue, and the air quality of each venue.

## **2022 Southern Zone Open Water Championships Dates and Site Nominations/Presentations**

One bid for the 2022 Southern Zone Open Water Championships was received.

Ft. Myers, FL (FL)	Probably late April 2021
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**Jaime Lewis, USA Swimming Sport Development/Southern Zone Consultant** Jaime Lewis updated the Delegates about her role as the Southern Zone Sport Development Consultant.

**Old Business**

There was no Old Business to consider.

**New Business**

Dave reported on the Zone Officials that have been included on the FINA list. Congratulations to Jason Johnson as a FINA Starter and Trish Martin as a FINA Referee.

Jim discussed some upcoming rules proposals that will modify the Sectional Meet requirements and the sizes of the Sectional Meets. These requirements have been added to the working copy of the Zone Policies and Procedures.

There is a proposed rule that would eliminate the Zone Bylaws and require the Zones to have a Policies and Procedures Manual. Dave and Jim are in the process of merging our current Bylaws and Policies and Procedures into one document. If this rule change passes, Dave and Jim will send out the proposed changes to the Delegates for their input and the Zone will vote on the changes at a later meeting.

Dave proposed changing the Open Water Chair position to an elected, voting position in the Zone. This change will be voted on during the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Announcements**

Dave announced that Rayleen Soderstrom has been re-appointed as the SZ Disability Coordinator.

Don Henshaw continues to do a great job as the SZ Webmaster.

Zone Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Camps will now be conducted by USA Swimming. The information for these camps has been distributed to the LSCs and more information may be obtained from Ruth Ann Bode or MJ Truex.

Annie Norris has been instrumental in conducting weekly ZOOM Meetings with the LSC Athlete Representatives. She and Ryan Gibbons have been instrumental in conducting a very successful SZ Athlete Workshop. She is now working as the AEC Programming and Events Chair, but will still be available as a valuable mentor to our SZ Athletes.

Elections for the SZ Senior and Junior Athlete Representatives will be conducted tomorrow and they will be introduced to the Delegates at our meeting on September 27<sup>th</sup>.

Herb asked all of the Sections to email their dates and locations for the 2021 Sectional Meets to him by the September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Dave reminded the Delegates that the next meeting of the Southern Zone will be held on Sunday, September 27, at 7 pm Eastern Time, when we will vote on the sites of the Zone Championships and the change in the Open Water Chair position. The LSCs have the opportunity to use the next two weeks to discuss their voting preferences. We will not have any ZOOM Breakout Rooms during that meeting.

**Motion to Adjourn was made and seconded at 3:20 p.m. Motion carried.**

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "H. B. Schwab". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial "H".

Herb Schwab  
Secretary/Treasurer  
Southern Zone