South Carolina Swimming
Board of Directors (BOD)
Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2005

The BOD Meeting of SC Swimming was attended by the following:

V. Montgomery	T. Bunch
P. Lister	S. Bonine
L. Woods	A. Carter
T.J. Liston	D. Horton
C. Rupp	Ja. Chatlosh
O. West	K. Easty
P. Wright	H. Edwards
D. Goeckner	L. Liston
J. Grossman	J. Smith
T. Conley	K. Broussard

The meeting was called to order by General Chair, Vicky Montgomery, at 7:33 a.m. The Minutes of the 02/04 BOD meeting were approved without exception.

The General Chair discussed the Smith scholarship for 05. There were several mishaps that prevented the Smiths from announcing the scholarship winner at the All State Banquet. The General Chair indicated the Smiths would be announcing the Smith Scholarship winner sometime in the upcoming week. The Smiths will notify the winner. Once the winner is announced it will be posted on the SC Swimming website.

The General Chair reported that for 06 a new scholarship chairman is needed. Roy Dessloch has been asked by the General Chair to do this for 06. The General Chair requested other nominations from those present in case Roy is unavailable to accept. They must be neutral and able to perform the administrative tasks that go along with the position.

The General Chair congratulated and thanked Pam Lister and Gwen Clark for all their efforts and for a great job putting together the All State Banquet. The General Chair also congratulated the Age Group Coach of the Year Tim Conley.

The General Chair announced and welcomed new appointments – Charlotte Rupp as Secretary & Lee Woods as Financial Vice-Chair.

The General Chair reported that she has been in contact with Roger Hazel and will be meeting with him again in May to address the High School times approval. The General Chair is in the process of contacting Roger Hazel at the HS League to determine if they will be allowing the High School meet to take place at USC.

The General Chair reported Billy Culbertson, owner of Sportstiming, Inc. has paid the contribution for sponsoring the I.M. Tough Award. The $1,000 was received by the LSC.

The General Chair reported that Bill Sprague the Age Group Vice-Chair has requested that all legislation be evolved through the committees first. The Age Group Vice-Chair had a problem with seeing new legislation being submitted that had not been presented to his committee first.

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported that the Published Exception Report for Short Course 2005 is incomplete. There are 9 swim clubs that are complete and had unproven times. There are still a couple of teams who have not provided their exception reports to allow completion. The biggest problems are finding hard copies, receiving electronic copies, and following the policies and procedures that are in place. P&P – proving the swimmers' time met or exceeded qualifying time – don't have to prove the swimmers' time entered. Coaches are waiting to postmark on the deadline. The information is not completed by the 45 day deadline rule. There were some high school times that were submitted and unable to be accepted as they were not observed times.

The Senior Vice-Chair reported that a National Board of Review had taken place and upheld that in the rule book that an "Official time is an official time". The entered times have to be an exact match.

The Administrative Vice-Chair indicated the rules are not explicit and wishes to follow the intent of USAS swimming rules.

The Coaches Representative interjected and questioned whether the falsification of entered times issue be a burden of the State. Will SC fine against the cut-off time or the entered time? Even if a swimmer swims the qualifying time in a meet during an event, the swimmer could have falsified the entry time. The important issue is whether the swimmer has a qualifying time to be entered in a State Meet. Requested review of the legislation and what meets SC LSC would be responsible for.

The General Chair interjected that the intent of the Published Exception Report is to eliminate people who do not belong in the State Meet. The SC LSC is one of the last to adopt an official LSC database where meet entry times can be proven before the start of the meet.

The Administrative Vice-Chair skipped the Office Committee Report and reported that the newsletter was not complete and that Lisa Liston had agreed to assist with the upcoming newsletter. The newsletter will contain input from athletes.

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported that All State Banquet for 05 was under budget. There were approximately 480 in attendance and 191 All State Swimmers. There was an issue with the Mount Pleasant Recreation Department supplying the table and chairs for the banquet. They did not allow use of these at the last minute. A rental company had to be contacted to rent table and chairs for $2,250. Gwen Clark and the Administrative Vice-Chair are going to request the Mount Pleasant Recreation Department to assist in some of the costs due to last minute cancellation. They are also seeking a reduced cost from the rental company who did not meet all of their promised obligations. The Administrative Vice-Chair thanked Gwen Clark for all her help and efforts in setting up the All-State Banquet.

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported that the All State Banquet for 06 may be moved in doors. It is important that the All State Banquet recognize the swimmers, coaches, and volunteers who go above and beyond in our state and LSC. The All State Banquet for 06 will be more of an awards event. Discussion centered on an expansion of the awards and rewarding more of the athletes and moving away from the dance which only benefits those swimmers 13 and over. The Coaches Committee was asked to assist in the development of new awards for the 06 Banquet. The All State Banquet needs to move to more of a family function to include everyone. Myrtle Beach is being considered for The All State Banquet for 06 as location tends to affect the numbers attending the banquet.

The Administrative Vice-Chair deferred the All State grant discussion to Gwen Clark. The reported Grant requested for the All State Banquet for 05 was $7,000 and $5,000 was more likely to be received (it hasn't been granted yet).

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported the next SC LSC BOD meeting will be June 5th and location is yet to be determined. The start time will be 8am and the House of Delegates meeting will start at 1pm. The bids for the open swim meets will be awarded then. The September meeting for the SC LSC BOD meeting is to be determined.

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported the findings of the Office Committee. It was reported there was a definite need to keep the office open and in place. The old job description was reviewed and is in the process of being revised. The Office Committee reviewed the time the office was utilized, feasibility of keeping it in place, and the needs of an LSC office. The SCLSC Office Job Description was passed out and discussed.

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported there were changes to the SCLSC Office Job Description. Those changes were as follows:

(8) Keep, process, and file Reports of Occurrence for our records – deleted process.

(11) Attend the semi-annual meetings and verify all voting members at SCLSC HOD meetings and eligibility – This is the job duty of the SC LSC Secretary – it was decided to adding the word – "Assist" in verifying.

The General Chair allowed a motion to move quickly to an Executive Session to discuss an employee issue as requested by the Administrative Vice-Chair. Motion was seconded and accepted. Those present at the meeting who were not on the Executive Board left the meeting room to allow a closed door Executive session.

Executive Session: We cannot openly publish the minutes of the Executive Session to the full membership.

The Finance Vice-Chair Lee Woods deferred to Treasurer Owen West to report on the Budget 2005 to date, Budget 06.

The Treasurer submitted 3 reports to the Board – 1) Balance Sheet for 03/31/2005; 2) Profit & Loss Budget vs. Actual Statement 09/01/04 through 3/31/04; and 3) Profit and Loss Budget Overview September 05 thru August 06. Copies of those reports are attached hereto.

The Treasurer reported on a few items regarding the Balance Sheet. The Money Market account is earning 1.25%. The Finance Vice-Chair and Treasurer will be determining a minimum balance to be maintained and work to invest the rest to get a higher rate of return on LSC money. The Wachovia checking includes the Coaches Association funds of $10,835 & the old CCST money of $8,551. The Medals reported at $13,117.50 are prepaid and will be expensed over a couple of years.

The Treasurer reported that the SC LSC is ahead of budget for 05 by approximately $10,000. Meet profits and fine income have contributed to some of the extra income. Promotions need to be a priority and addressed. Nothing has been done to date. The Zone expenses/income will begin to show up in summer months.

The Treasurer reported on the 06 Budget and how the numbers were established and that it is still a work in process.

The Treasurer also reported that the Membership/Registration Coordinator had done some research regarding an Outreach Program. USA Swimming offers a discount in dues. This program would assist in providing further financial support. Further investigation is to be done and hope to have a recommendation at the June 05 BOD meeting.

The Senior Vice-Chair reported that he has contacted Jerry Brewer at USC regarding the future availability and use of the USC facility for swim meets. There is no intent at this time to allow the use of the USC facility for youth swimming. However, they are willing to work with SC LSC in the future. USC is in the process of establishing policies and procedures that would be applicable to all host teams and at this time there is no estimated completion date.

The Senior Vice-Chair presented time standards for LC, SC meters for state meets. The review consisted of looking at converted times to last year actual times and focusing on large discrepancies and determining the number of swimmers that would be picked up or lost based on the time standards recommended. The goal was to get approximately 30 swims per event. The introduced time standards for LC, SC meters for state meets included 31 time standards that were slower and 4 time standards slightly faster.

The Senior Vice-Chair reported on the reimbursement policy that is in place. The current P & P requires a swimmer to have the current Jr. Nat'l time standards in order to be reimbursed. However, the policy in 2002 was to require the swimmer to have U.S. Open Cuts in order to be reimbursed. The prior BOD minutes are being reviewed and the Board is reaffirming the 2002 Policy to only reimburse USAS sponsored meets and that swimmers should have U.S. Open cuts to be reimbursed. The Senior Vice-chair felt the P & P athlete reimbursement policy had been streamlined from 1999 and he could not find minutes approving or supporting those changes that are reflected in the current 2003 P & P. He promised reintroducing legislation forthcoming later in the day in order to restore the P & P to the 1999 & 2002 intent for reimbursing swimmers.

The Senior Vice-Chair was asked by the General Chair to write a letter to all 12 families who are being affected by the reimbursement policy and explaining the BOD's position. It was decided that future request for athlete reimbursement go to the LSC office first and then the Senior Vice-Chair to review and approve the reimbursements to be made to swimmers. The General Chair is to review the tapes of the prior minutes to determine the true intent of the SC LSC's BOD reimbursement policy. The Senior Vice-Chair stated that the NCSA meet is not recognized as a USAS sponsored meet and therefore would not be a reimbursable meet. The date of transfer into the SC LSC starts the 12 month period for athlete reimbursement.

The Senior Vice-Chair reported that due to issues taking place in this LSC in the past couple of years and with facilities issues that he is recommending that a committee appointed by the BOD be formed to investigate the ramifications of possibly dissolving the SC LSC and merging with another LSC such as Georgia or North Carolina. He would like the committee to investigate the Pro's/Con's of merging the SC LSC into another LSC. It was recommended by the BOD that this new committee be endorsed. It would enable the SC LSC to be proactive addressing issues in order to protect this LSC and prevent losing SC LSC teams to other LSC's. The committee will be selected by the General Chair and consist of 10 – 12 people ranging from coaches, athletes, officials, parents, etc. The committee will report its findings at the September meeting.

The Senior Vice-Chair discussed promoting a "Coaches Challenge Page" on the web designed to generate publicity and offer training excitement between swimmers on different clubs.

The Senior Vice-Chair reported that Junior National time standards for summer of 2005 have changed and are a little slower to allow more swimmers to attend the meet.

Dave Thomas is to email the information regarding the changes to coaches. They are also posted on the USA swimming website. The Senior Sectionals for the summer of 2005 will be held in Auburn. The sectional meets proof of times are due May 1, 2005. The sectional is due June 1, 2005. The USA Swimming regional camp still has openings.

The Senior Vice-Chair addressed the Wheeler precedent and why no award was given to a male athlete at the All State Banquet for 05. The Senior Vice-Chair feels the P & P was streamlined incorrectly and is introducing legislation later in order to clarify the SC LSC policy. The award is to be presented to the top female and male highest finishers in a national competition. The national competitions have to be USAS sponsored meets and is introducing legislation to define what meets qualify and take priority.

The Athlete Chair deferred discussion regarding the Jennifer Smith 2005 award to Jason Chatlosh who reported there were 7 nominees and 20 votes received. The General Chair and BOD congratulated Austen Carter the current Athlete Chair for winning the Jennifer Smith award.

J. Chatlosh requested a Saturday night lock-in at the 06 All State Banquet in order to encourage more athletes to attend the Sunday meeting. Many of the BOD's felt there may be liability issues that need to be addressed and is it fair to exclude younger swimmers. General Chair expressed that the Athlete Chair should investigate the lock-in idea and present their ideas at a later BOD and HOD meetings.

J. Chatlosh requested to send 2 athletes (1 extra person in addition to what is approved in the By-Laws) to the upcoming convention in Greensboro, NC. The BOD discussed with the Athlete Chair and unanimously voted to send 2 athletes this year as a trial run. A Jr. and a Sr. athlete will travel to the meeting. The Administrative Chair will oversee how the 2 athletes travel to the meeting.

J. Chatlosh requested an awards session at the State Meet. The top 3 athletes of each event would be recognized through announcement and each top 3 receive a medal. This was agreed by the athlete committee that this be a recommendation and not legislation. It was agreed to be recommended to the host team but not required. The Athlete Chair agreed to pull and further research.

Age Group Vice-Chair was not present. Acting Chair Dave Horton reported to the BOD the developmental meets seemed to be doing well. There were only 2 out of 3 meets held. There are 9-10 teams participating in the developmental series. The Age Group Committee recommended running smaller meets and finding creative ways to make it fun for younger swimmers.

The Acting Chair reported that the Age Group Committee voted to send athletes to the Zone Meet pursuant to the current P & P. (6 athletes per P & P rather than the 7 in the Zone Handbook that traveled in previous years) This change in the number of the team was due to the travel distance of the meet (Houston, TX) and attempting to reduce the cost to the athlete. The Coaches Committee recommended sending the full 7 athletes and not reduce the number of athletes and follow the Zones handbook.

The Acting Chair reported that there were 25 athletes that received the IM Tough Award this year at All State.

The Acting Chair reported that they still have issues regarding the state meet and pool availability.

The Safety Chair was not present.

The Secretary was present and did not have anything to report for the meeting.

The Technical Planning Chair presented the meet schedule for 05-06. The Technical Planning Chair reported that YSSC has been awarded the LC State Championship Meet in addition to the Finale Meet which both will take place the same weekend in July on the original approved scheduled dates. The planning of the LC Schedule for 06 has been postponed until June 5th due to the uncertainty of facility use. The SC 05 – 06 meet schedule bids are due to technical planning by May 21st at 7pm. Technical Planning will award bids at the June 5th meeting. The following meets will take priority when awarding bids: December "A" Meet, February State Meet, Qualifying Meet, and the March Spring Championship Meet. Technical Planning endorsed the forming of the committee to realign the LSC in some form.

The Membership/Registration Coordinator reported that the LSC has 1,976 total athletes. This total consists of 1,165 females & 811 males. Seasonal applications are available for athletes and the application fee is $28.50 for the period May 1st through July 31.

The Membership/Registration Coordinator reported that meets are closed out through the CAT meet in December and the rest of the meets are pending. There has been $1,400 collected in fines for meets not being closed out timely. The other issue is there has been 13 swimmers who have swam in meets that were not registered with USAS swimming. The Pre Meet Recons that are due 3 days prior to the start of the meet are not preventing this issue from happening because of deck registration the day of the meet.

The Membership/Registration Coordinator indicated that deck registration is not allowed. Deck registration may take place ahead of time if cleared ahead of time by the Membership/Registration Coordinator.

The Membership/Registration Coordinator reported that an email had gone out requesting teams to forward their registration files in order to verify information in the swims database and only one team had responded. There are approximately 3-4 pages of errors/corrections that need to done. The process is getting better but still has room for improvement if teams would send in their registration files.

The Membership/Registration Coordinator discussed the Gulf swimming outreach program. The swimmers they fund currently qualify for USAS swimming outreach program. The Gulf outreach program goes a step further and offers to pay meet fees and provides free equipment and free suits. A blind account is established in the LSC to sponsor these swimmers and one person is privy to that information. The program promotes swimming and makes swimming affordable for those athletes who otherwise would not be able to afford it. The Membership/Registration Coordinator recommended pursuing an outreach program in the SC LSC to begin either in June or September timeframe. Currently, the SC LSC only has 2-3 outreach athletes. The Senior Vice-Chair recommended that the outreach funding be reviewed on an annual basis.

The Legislative Chair thanked the Athletes for bringing 3 ideas to the BOD of which 2 directly affect the athletes.

The Legislative Chair reported that there are 2 separate groups of legislation that is being presented. One is prior to the meeting and the other was legislation the coaches & other authors had turned over to the Legislative Chair April 24, 2005.

R-1 proposed the Meet Director may not be a vendor or any associate of a meet vendor. The BOD voted to not endorse this legislation.

R-2 proposed to eliminate the requirement that relay swimmers in state championship meets be eligible to swim an individual event and add time standards for relays. The BOD voted to not endorse this legislation.

The BOD meeting adjourned for a lunch break at 10:30a.m.

The BOD meeting reconvened at 12:33p.m. At this time, the BOD approved that in order to timely get through legislation brought forward, that items be pulled that would be discussed. Items that did not need to be discussed would not be pulled and voted on collectively and would require one vote.

R-3 proposed to preclude swimmers over age 18 from swimming in the LC State Championship. A friendly amendment was made by the authors to read “shall not be eligible to score in any individual meet or relay” instead of the original legislation “shall not be eligible to compete in any individual meet”. The friendly amendments require 90% favorable vote in order to pass. The BOD voted to not endorse this legislation.

R-4 proposed housekeeping to reflect current names & terminology. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-5 proposed to clarify reimbursement policy. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-6 proposed to provide reimbursement only for those swimmers who train and participate in SCLSC meets. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-7 proposed to add an SCLSC office oversight committee. The BOD voted to not endorse this legislation.

R-8 proposed to add a fine for noncompliance with timely publication of meet information. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-9 proposed to consolidate fine information in one location in the P & P. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-10 proposed to update distribution of meet finance information. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-11 proposed to update policies and provide a fine for failure to comply. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-12 proposed to update the meet reporting requirements. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-13 proposed to update the procedure to require electronic registration for teams with greater than 5 athletes. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-14 proposed to update the sanctioning process. Peter Wright was added as a co-author on the proposal. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-15 proposed to limit the athlete cost for participation in Zones. The BOD voted to not endorse this legislation.

R-16 was withdrawn by Jim Smith.

The Legislative Chair reported the following legislation would require a favorable 90% vote in order to be accepted.

R-19 proposed SC officials realign there recertification period to be every 2 years which would be in line with USAS swimming. Requirements for the number of sessions for recertification or original certification remain the same. Cards would be issued every 2 years. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-20 proposed legislation that would update the P & P to be in line with the Zones Handbook regarding the size of the zone team to be selected. The Zones Handbook allows 7 athletes (male and female) and 10 athletes (15 & over, male & female). The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-21 proposed to bring back wording to correct the P & P regarding the Howard Wheeler award. These were items that are not reported in the current P & P and may have been lost throughout the streamlining process. The meet is required to be a USAS sponsored meet and they clarified the meet priorities with this legislation. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-22 proposed to restore the USAS Jr. National meet to the recognized awards as well as to restore the description of the recipient's qualifications for clarification and continuity in bestowing the awards. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-23 proposed that athletes with the top 10 fastest times per event for ages 11 through 18 years of age be posted on the website throughout the season. The legislation further proposed recognizing the top 10 fastest athletes per event after the end of short course season and the end of long course season. A friendly amendment was made to add that the short course cut-off and the long course cut-off would be 2 weeks prior to the All State Banquet. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

R-24 proposed legislation to raise the fine for falsification of qualifying times at the State Championship from $25 to $100. The BOD voted to endorse this legislation.

The Officials Chair reported that he is working to provide more officials training sessions. The officials renewal cards are not complete and have not been mailed out. If the proposed legislation passes then new cards are to be mailed out within the next 2 weeks and would contain the new 2 year certification period. An officials clinic May 28th through May 30th will be attended by Tom Kennedy from Team Greenville. The Officials Chair reported he plans to attend an Officials Chair clinic coming up in October.

The Officials Chair reported that there is a major change forthcoming regarding how officials will be certified and there will probably be a designation in their level of certification distinguishing them from officiating at a local LSC meet vs. a meet at a national or international level.

The Coaches Representative reported the Coaches Handbook is being distributed this weekend. The new Coaches Handbook will be placed on the SC Swimming website. Ed Spencer spoke to Coaches Friday night and did an outstanding job. Ed Spencer was also the key note speaker at the All State Banquet Saturday night. High School times approval is still an issue. The Coaches Representative requested help from the BOD regarding the High School times issue.

The Coaches Representative reported that the "Coaches Award" had 5 candidates and the selection process went well this year with half the clubs voting and the coaches were happy. The winners this year went to Brad Hitchings for the Head Coach of the Year and Tim Conley for the Assistant Age Group Coach of the Year. The Coaches Committee will award both a stipend of up to $300 to attend a coaches clinic.

The Coaches Representative reported that there have been issues regarding coach behavior on deck. The Coaches Committee believes they do not have the authority to address those issues and that these coaches issues should be addressed by the Meet Referee on deck at the meet while the inappropriate behavior is taking place.

Dave Jones for Adaptive Swimming Committee was not present. The Administrative Vice-Chair reported she did receive an email from Dave Jones. He will be sending out information to coaches regarding how other LSC's are handling sending their adaptive swimmers to meets and the possibility of addressing adding time standards for those adaptive swimmers wishing to attend Zones.

The Board of Review Committee spokesperson Dave Horton indicated there was no information to report at this meeting.

The Marketing Committee spokesperson Gwen Clark was not present and nothing was presented.

The Administrative Vice-Chair reported the nominating slate to be voted on as follows:

Treasurer - Owen West
Technical Planning - Peter Wright
Registration - Dena Goeckner
Legislative - Tommy Bunch
Financial Chair - Lee Woods
Age Group Chair - Bill Sprague
Secretary - Charlotte Rupp
Board of Review - Heath Edwards, Elizabeth Savage, & Roger Diggelmann

The BOD motioned to vote and to endorse the slate listed above and present the above slate to the HOD for final approval.

In Old Business, The Administrative Vice-Chair reported that the New Committee selections were complete. The Athlete Initiative to Public Schools was tabled for a later date.

The Coaches Representative requested the minutes from the fall be clarified and or corrected regarding the Athlete Reimbursement Policy. He also requested that the meets that qualify be added to those minutes. The Technical Planning Chair reported that his intent was that an athlete competing at the Jr. National level would be reimbursed if they had a U.S. Open Cut.

The BOD Meeting Minutes dated September 26, 2004 that were disbursed to BOD and approved regarding the athlete reimbursement and now in question are as follows:

“The Technical Planning Chair made a Motion to reimburse Jr. National swimmers at the Senior National level, thereby standardizing levels of athlete reimbursement. The Motion was seconded and approved without exception by the BOD.”

The General Chair requested to table and review the tapes containing the previous minutes from the previous fall 04 meeting and requested to keep in “old business”.

The Senior Vice-Chair requested looking at the previous decision made by the BOD at the February 04 BOD’s meeting to fund $15,000 for the 05 Zones team based on the number of athletes being selected and to review and potentially adjust the amount being funded towards Zones by the LSC. The BOD voted to reserve the right to adjust the amount of money being funded towards the 05 Zones team based on the size of the team traveling.

In New Business, General Chair motioned to endorse the Meet Schedule as brought forward by the Technical Planning Chair. A Motion was made and endorsed by the BOD for the upcoming Meet Schedule and the following meets that would take priority: December "A" Meet, February State Meet, Qualifying Meet, and the March Spring Championship Meet.

The General Chair asked for a motion to endorse the change in venue of the 05 LC State Championship Meet and award to YSSC in Spartanburg, SC. YSSC will host the Finale Meet that same weekend. A Motion was made and endorsed by the BOD for YSSC to host the 05 LC State Championship Meet and the Finale Meet on the same weekend.

The BOD meeting adjourned at 2:20p.m.