

House of Delegates/Board of Directors
West Virginia LSC
9/29/2024

Call Meeting to Order: @ 1:00 pm

Role Call: CM, GVAC, MSS, PKB, RAYS, WILD, WVU, YKVK

Approval of Minutes: Rob made a motion to approve the minutes; Jonathan seconded; motion carried.

Reports of Officers:

- **General Chair (Eric Anger):** '26 Southern Zone Senior Meet; Athlete Summit will continue to happen every 4 years (WV LSC didn't send anyone this year, but plan to in the future).

- **Senior Chair - Open as Vic has resigned**

***Would like to thank Vic Riggs for his dedication and expertise in guiding WV LSC in this position.**

- **Age Group Chair (Tara Kurilchick-Green)**

***2025 Southern Senior Zones –** Tupelo, MS July 30 – August 2nd

***2025 Southern Age Group Zones –** Rosen Aquatic Center in Orlando, FL July 30 – August 2nd (400 IM / 400 FR will be timed finals)

***If coaches are interested in being a part of the staff for this summer's meet, please email Tara to express your interest. Will begin looking at options of getting there flying vs busing to compare.**

***2026 Southern Senior Zones will be in Morgantown, WV**

***Tara suggested we look at what we collect from families to put toward the cost of the Age Group Southern Zone meet. Scott said the policy has been the same for the last several year (\$550 / \$650) and it may be a good idea to adjust due to inflation. Eric suggested we move to form a committee to discuss (Eric, Tara, and Scott) and then readdress at the January BOD meeting. Would be a good time to update all policies related to that meet.**

- **Finance Chair (Rob St. Jean) –** not in attendance

- **Treasurer (Scott Wilson) –** Scott went through all financial reports in detail which showed Expenses / Income for 2023 and 2024. Will be posted to the website as well.

- **Secretary (Melissa McGlothen) –** minutes will still be available to review.

Reports of Committees:

- **Athlete Representative: (Madeline Schaefer) –**

***Jacob Keener reporting; themes for SC state meet were tossed around and will get more input from the athletes before deciding.**

***During the athlete meeting, they discussed looking into the cost of awards for the 13-over age group; maybe only doing medals/ribbons for 12-unders to pass out, still holding medal ceremony for all age groups. Will gather information from the 13-over swimmers from around the LSC before making the final decision.**

- Coach Representative (Renee Riggs) –

*Renee discussed Open Water and interest in our swimmers competing. The Kentucky LSC representative has been in contact and invited us to participate in theirs and could use it as our LSC Champ. Will send meet packet to coaches for us to consider and generate interest among our LSC swimmers.

- Club Development (Tom Phillips) - nothing new

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (Katie Paulson) – nothing to report

- Disability (Heather Priddy) - nothing to report

- Marketing (Eric Householder) - nothing to report

- Meet Sanctions (Ali Walker)

*waiting on a few corrections to update all sanctions currently submitted.

*SUWC – sanctioning Block Party through USA Swimming

*GVAC – participating in a Block Party in a way for their swimmers to participate in meets. All you need is a meet ref. Trying it out this year to help their swimmers get some experience and times.

- Officials (Rob Clevenger)

*standardized training across the LSCs. Rolling out the training videos on the USA Swimming hub

*stroke and turn were rolled out this summer; In October will roll out Starter and AO training: April is planned for Meet Ref / Chief Judge

*Once completed it shows on the dashboard withing Swims; Rob will send a from for completion.

*In order to move from one certification to another, will need a certain # of sessions in a certain # of meets. Contact Rob for clarification and certifications.

*Rob proposed we change the language in our polivies (102.10) to follow USA Swimming policies

*Coming in the Summer – ability to offer Junior officials (ages 16-17) as certification if we choose to offer – this might be difficult for the following 2 reasons:

- restrictions on sessions – not allowed to officiate sessions with 13-under swimmers; many of our sessions are combined with all agess

- YMCA doesn't recognize Junor officials

*National meet had updates to rules on using tape while racing in meets – able to tape injured toes and fingers

- Records (Sarah Nisewarner)

*everything should be updated on the website. Please let her know if there are any errors or mistakes to look into.

*Cross checking records using Swim Cloud as well

*Working to update the State Meets (Long Course / Short Course)

- Registration/Registrar (Lora Snodgrass) - nothing new to report

*Remember: if you choose BULK renewal the club is responsible for submitting; If you chose for parents to register/renew, must be done as soon as a new member joins and renewals before 12/31

*more under New Business

- Safe Sport (Erin Ballard) –

*Updates are coming but nothing major

*Adult athletes cannot be one-on-one in lockerrooms

- Southern Zones (Tara Kurilchick-Green)

*See above in Age Group Chair information

- SWIMS (Melissa McGlothen) - nothing new; make sure IDs and DOBs are accurate on meet files as this helps with the verifying of times

- Operational Risk Committee/Safety Chair (Pinar Nalcakan) Nothing to report

- Governance Chair (Sarah Nisewarner) – Nothing new to report; waiting on things to filter down from the National Convention

Old Business:

– West Virginia Long Course 2024 Meet Review

*There were 620 swimmers total – 138 from WV LSC (most in awhile); There was only one “complaint” that was heard at the meet in regards to awards / scoring for 8-under swimmers vs 10-under. All information was listed correctly in the meet packet (ribbons and scoring done for 10-under – encourage coaches to have parents read correctly or be sure to let them know.

--Southern Zones Age Group Review – meet went very well; kids were really well behaved (only a few illnesses to take care of) and swam well too.

NEXT YEAR (2025)

- In Orlando, Rosen Aquatic & Fitness Center, July 30-August 2nd, 2025
- coaches interested let Tara know
- will review whether driving or flying (possibly out of Clarksburg?) would be more cost effective
- Will be booking hotel block soon

--Southern Zones Senior Review – Renee reports that the meet went very well and smooth; lots of compliments; They did a survey after the meet was completed and got some great feedback for things to include next time (swimmer recognition, etc).

– Sea Snakes swim team Proposed Move 604.2 (the wording of the specific policies are below).

*No representative from the team was on the call for discussion (They are insistent they want to do the 604.2 as they want all 3 counties in the Eastern Panhandle to move).

*Ali Walker motioned to table the discussion / Tom Plemons seconded

– New Policies Crisis Management Plan, Conduct, Coaching un-attached, etc (Nisewarner)

----Conduct (revisit from Spring Meeting) – Sara proposed new policies to address athlete conduct / infractions while at a meet and how that may impact their ability to participate in a LSC event (Southern Zones, etc). If an athlete was removed from a meet due to an infraction could have a 6 month ban on participating or refer to a committee to review.

*Melissa made a motion that we refer to committee for further review and consequences / Renee seconded.

*Discussion – Do we need to adjust language to include more items? Consensus was not – committee can handle each specific infraction as needed.

*Motion carried. Policy will be included on website and meet packets as warranted.

---**Crisis Management** – review of policy was sent via email; modeled after what another LSC has done

Tom Plemons made a motion to approve as written; Sara seconded. Motion carried.

New Business:

–**West Virginia LSC Short Course State Meet 2025** (2024 meet had 448 swimmers and bill was \$19,000 for 2 pools)

- dates and location – March 13 – 16th @ Mylan Park (Ali made a motion, Melissa seconded; motion carried)
- open to outside LSCs or just WV – Ali Made a motion to allow outside LSCs to attend / Tom seconded; motion carried)
- time standards or no with exception of some distance – same time standards as last year
- option for 2 pools again if at Mylan – Eric will get a bid for 1 pool and 2 pools
- awards--propose medals/awards for 12 and under only--still do high point for all age groups 1st-3rd? or maybe just 1st-2nd? - this was addressed during the athlete meeting (see above); will get information from 13-over athletes from around the LSC and report back
- athlete committee will present theme ideas again for the meet

--**Club Fees for LSC.** National Fees going to \$225 per year and \$750 for a new club one year was approved at National Meeting. Our fee for clubs is currently \$30 and has not been raised in years. –

*Do we have any interest in raising the club fee? It has not been raised in year. Scott Wilson reports from a management standpoint as an LSC we are in great shape so raising it or not isn't going to make or break us. Voted no change at this point, can reassess in the future.

--**Athlete options for registration.** Currently year round and flex. Do we want to change?

Discussion was had about the other categories that are available – outreach and seasonal. Outreach are for folks who may need the financial assistance as it is a lesser charge. Discussion was had that teams could offer this and think they could get some more families to join as it will help with the cost. Seasonal allows for 150 days of membership. (Will take this back up in the Spring for those specific dates).

Renee motions to offer all 4 membership types / Tara seconded; motion carried.

--**Amendment to policy. REIMBURSEMENTS** (Scott Wilson)

*Currently the LSC offers reimbursements for participating in higher level meets. This was discussed during a previous HOD/BOD meeting to include Future's and NSCA meets. He has proposed an amendment to that policy as stated below:

a) Reimbursement for Junior & National or higher USAS Athletes

- i) Reimbursement for competing in individual events at Age Group NSCA Championships \$400, Futures/TYR Pro Series is \$600, Junior is \$800; National or higher is \$1,200 for expenses

ii) Medical exceptions will be reviewed by the Age Group or Senior Vice Chairs (as appropriate), General Chair, & athlete rep

iii) Pro-rating the reimbursement to new and/or transferees will be reviewed by the Treasurer, Age Group or Senior Vice-Chairs (as appropriate) and an athlete rep

iv) Submissions for reimbursement must be made within 30 days of the completion of the event. The WV LSC requires that all athletes submitting a reimbursement must have competed in at least two WV LSC Sanctioned USA Swim meets as a registered WV athlete in good standing in order to be eligible for reimbursement. Athletes may submit up to two requests for reimbursement each year, one during the long course season and one during the short course season.

Premise of the ammendment and adding the language of competing in 2 WV LSC Sanctioned meets would be those swimmers are also contributing to the 'pot' of funds they are getting reimbursed from.

Scott Wilson made a motion / Tara Seconded

Discussion – Thought was this would eliminate college swimmers who have limited opportunity to participate in a WV LSC sanctioned meet due to their schedules (school / competition). Many of the college swimmers were childhood WV LSC swimmers and have contributed to that fund over their years of participation.

Motion did not pass. Policy will stay the same.

–Elections: Senior Chair

*Brent MacDonald was nominated and accepted; Voting confirmed his position.

--Age Group Zones future

- Would like to see if WV Swimming may want to host 2027 Age Group zone meet (too late for 2026 unless USA Swimming extends bids)
- Would bring income to LSC
- We would have enough time to seek sponsors and work with the Morgantown Visitor's Center
- Need buy in from LSC board members to assist

*Bid would need to go in at the National Meeting in the Fall of 2025. Interest from LSC seemed there and discussion will continue and resume during SPRING 2025 HOD/BOD meeting. Tara will contact the Tourism Board to see if they are willing to help offset the cost perhaps.

--National meeting Update- Ali and Sonia

--Hall of Fame (Tom Phillips) -

Committee has been formed to establish the criteria.

Sarah made a motion to move forward with this endeavor / Renee 2nd / motioan carried.

--Boost Attendance @ HOD/BOD

*During coaches meeting, ideas were tossed around as to ways to boost attendance at the in-person meetings; room was reserved and only 4 people showed up (Coaches meeting) in person, although there were several in attendance virtually via Zoom. Do we continue Hybrid format to move to all in person? Do we offer a reward / punishment for folks who do attend / do not attend?

Some options discussed were moving the meeting around to different places to make it more attractive for folks to attend in person. Do we only offer 1 in person meeting a year, other could be Hybrid since the HOD / BOD meeting was pretty well attended on the Zoom side.

This is a topic that will continue to be investigated to maximize attendance and involvement in the LSC.

– **Meeting Dates:**

*BOD. – January 12th @ 6pm / 7 pm via Zoom

*Spring BOD / HOD – April 27th 12pm (coach/athlete) / 1pm (full HOD)

-Meeting Adjourned

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604.1 CHANGE IN LSC AFFILIATION BY A CLUB MEMBER — A change of a Member Club from one LSC to another LSC which is contiguous and where no other Member Club geographically (as determined by the club's primary training facility location) intervenes between the changing club and the new LSC boundary must be approved by a majority vote of the members present of each of the LSCs' House of Delegates. Club approval of change in affiliation shall be in accord with the rules of the Member Club and shall be duly certified by the Member Club's president and secretary. Such transfer shall become effective ninety (90) days after receipt of a written notice of approval from the Chair of the Rules & Regulations Committee who shall notify the USA Swimming National Office.

604.2 CHANGE IN LSC TERRITORY — If two-thirds (2/3) of the number of clubs in a contiguous area within an LSC wish to affiliate with a neighboring and contiguous LSC, and should the House of Delegates of each LSC by a majority vote of the members present approve the change, the change in territorial jurisdiction shall include all Club Members in the contiguous area and shall become effective no sooner than sixty (60) days following the receipt by the Chair of the USA Swimming Rules & Regulations Committee of satisfactory evidence of the various votes required. Club Member approval of change in affiliation shall be in accord with the rules of the Club Member and shall be duly certified by the Club Member's president and secretary.