

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, April 19, 2020
2:00 pm
Zoom Video Conference Meeting

MINUTES

Call to Order

Bryan Wallin

Meeting called to order at 2:02 pm

LSC Communications with USAS: In a meeting with USAS on Thursday, there was a presentation and discussion about adding mental health information for athletes, providing Zoom for teams for 90 days and providing financial services for teams. Flex membership will be discussed in next week's meeting. Support for teams is in two phases: immediate assistance and future assistance. More to come as there are no parameters set up but a similar mechanism is likely to be used for disaster grants given to LSCs after several natural disasters in recent years. USAS will look at clubs and LSCs with fewer reserves and provide support. An August series of sectional style meets are in the early planning stages. The Eastern Zone has cancelled all summer 2020 competitions including the LC Age Group Zone Meet to be held in Lynchburg in August. The Eastern Zone decided today that the qualifying period for 2021 meets will begin January 2019 and will use the time standards from 2020. There will be two spring sectional meets and a single long course meet in 2021. Time standards for the 2021 LC Age Group Zone Championship Meet have not been approved at this time and the meet format is forthcoming.

Junior Athlete Election: Ben Eichberg won the athlete election. At large athlete members are to be determined.

Safe Sport Club Status: To date twelve clubs have started the Safe Sport certification process with three of the twelve clubs having achieved recognition status. Each component is a certain amount of points and points are weighted. Some components are required while others are optional. USAS is rolling out a virtual training platform for clubs to use for Safe Sport certification. Maureen is reaching out to clubs about Safe Sport by phone and will follow up with emails. The Eastern Zone is hosting a safe sport coordinator meeting the week of April 20.

Safe Sport Grant Motion: Bill reports that VSI has the finances to support providing a Safe Sport certification incentive grant. The proposal is to give \$500 to each team that achieves Safe Sport certification until USA Swimming makes it a requirement. There is no definitive timeline yet for when Safe Sport will become mandatory. It may become part of Level One Club Recognition per Mary. Teams that have already achieved Safe Sport recognition will receive the grant. The funds would come out of this year's budget. Safe Sport recognition is good for two years. There was discussion about whether to give another incentive after renewal of the certification, but it was decided that the grant is a one-time award. The \$500 award is for achievement of Safe Sport recognition by August 31, 2021. This incentive is separate from the Coronavirus situation.

The board voted to approve the one time grant of \$500 per club who achieves for Safe Sport recognition by August 31, 2021.

Outreach Entry Fee Reimbursements: Bill received two outreach reimbursement requests from one club. One of the reimbursements is 21 days late.

The board voted to approve the outreach reimbursement appeal.

Summer Meets: Bryan attended the Tech Planning meeting this week. Jessica has submitted her report and Mary emailed it to the board for review. Bryan requested that models be developed for different start dates. Mike asked if it is the board's opinion if we should have meet discussions at the Age Group/Senior committee

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level or at the Coach Committee level. There was considerable discussion about where the meet schedule should originate (Coach Committee or Age Group/Senior Committee.) Steve suggested that each committee have discussions and then find the common ground from the discussions. Mike suggested that the Age Group and Senior committee look at the meets based on their levels and come together in the coach committee. Morgan suggested creating a Google Doc that can be shared with everyone. Mary suggested changing the name of Summer Awards so it is not a championship meet and flex athletes can participate.

Drew asked what will happen with the quad time standards with USAS. Bryan learned that time standards will come out at convention. Age Group and Senior Committee plans to adjust time standards for championship meets but is also waiting on USAS before making changes.

Athlete Mental Health Status: Bryan asked if things can be done to help athletes with activities to bring them together. Some activities held to date include:

- NOVA held a car parade with a canned food drive.
- Zoom meetings are a powerful tool.
- A conference call with the athlete reps for athletes.
- A psychologist could be do a zoom call with athletes who wish to participate.
- Chad offered that he has conversed with his senior athletes with the parents on speaker phone with a positive response.
- Bryan asked if a shared document with ideas would be helpful to circulate.
- Mike offered the possibility of a call with an Olympic athlete for VSI athletes.
- TIDE has recorded Zoom meetings with Olympic athletes that can be shared.
- Another fact sheet could be created about how to get more out of athlete zoom calls or other things teams are doing to engage their athletes.
- Chad has used Kahoot for quizzes with their athletes and parents.
- Morgan did a scavenger hunt to start her call.

New Business

USAS Convention: At this time, Convention is still planned as scheduled.

Next meeting: There will be a meeting will be to be determined. Bryan will send out the date later this week.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:32 pm.

Attendees: Drew Hirth, John Stanley, Dave Henderson, Bryan Wallin, Chad Onken, Morgan Cordle, Maureen Tolliver, Emily Fagan, Bill Geiszler, Mike Salpeter, Steve Hennessey, Bob Rustin, Mary Turner, Maddie Wallin, Jenni Ryniewitz, Jack McCann, Logan Euker