

**VIRGINIA SWIMMING, INC.**  
**MINUTES FROM HOUSE OF DELEGATES MEETING**

Sunday, September 20, 2015 at 2:00 pm  
Doubletree by Hilton, Midlothian, Virginia

1. Call to Order – 2:07pm

- Steve reviewed mission statement for group.

2. Recognition of Exceptional Volunteers:

- Leanne for her role as Secretary.
- Jerry Hayes – Safe Sport Chair.
- Steve Woolfolk - Safety Chair

Movement within HOD:

- TJ Liston has moved to Nashville. Kevin McHaney – Senior Coach rep and Drew Hirth recently elected to fill role of Junior Rep.
- Lisa Liston has stepped down for Tech Planning Chair due to relocation. Special election for this position will be held during meeting today.
- Steve recognized Dave Henderson with lifetime membership to USA swimming.

3. Minutes from April, 2014, House of Delegates meeting

- Ashby presented minutes by email. A motion was made to accept the minutes, and the minutes from the meeting were passed as submitted.

4. Treasurer's Report

- Bob has copies of treasurer's report and will give out to anyone who would like to review the information. Bob reviewed the report and pointed out the following:
  1. The awards banquet in spring brought in additional funds .
  2. Diversity is over budget- VA Swimming funded diversity camp.
  3. Athlete reimbursements
  4. We are now in a new fiscal year.
- Art made motion to accept the report, Terry seconded the motion, and the report was accepted.

5. Proposed Policy, By-law, and Procedure Changes

- Kevin reviewed a Policy change. The new payment policy is on the website. Teams "not in good standing" is defined in same place. Added service fee being charged to teams for late payments.
- Mary explained what has happened in the past and the need for this change.
- Host teams for meets are adversely affected if swimmers are unattached on a Friday (if date falls on 15<sup>th</sup> of month). The new plan means these affected swimmers would not be unattached until Monday after the meet.
- Violations will go to review board and VSI will file a legal judgement.
- Kevin offered the new policy as a motion. Jessica seconded and the motion was passed.

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6. Special Election for Vacant Board Position (Tech Planning Chair)
  - Kim Downs ran the special election. All HOD members had to sign in before the meeting to determine number of votes needed to win the election.
  - There are four candidates to be considered for this position. Jessica Simmons, Sonny Grissom, Amy Brehl, and Michael Sizemore have all been nominated.
  - Each candidate gave a brief background. Michael was not present at the meeting. There were no nominations from the floor; the election was conducted.

The meeting continued while votes were being tabulated. Steve and Mary stepped out to assist with voting process. Jim Frye stepped in to continue the meeting.

7. Age Group Season Highlights & Committee Report
  - Scott discussed LC champs meet. Many records were broken including meet records, and state records. Shows depth and quality of coaching. Remarked that this was a great meet for all teams. The venue and staff created a level playing field for all athletes and everyone worked together to accomplish this.
  - There was a light agenda in committee. Awards banquet will be moved to spring – and we will recognize two swim seasons. Thinking about going to a single age scoring system.
  - Zone team and selection. Committee is looking into an automatic bid process. Should have more information in spring meeting for zones qualification. Current application process for Zones is working well.
  - Steve reiterated that the atmosphere was great at state champs. Scott did a great job hosting this meet.
8. Senior Season Highlights & Committee Report
  - Ted reviewed season highlights - NOVA, Posiedon and Quest had top 3 seats. Candidates who made national teams this year: Townley Haas, Wade O'Brien, and Charlie Swanson.
  - Geoff Brown selected to serve as assistant coach for FINA Youth Junior Championship. Charlie Swanson competed in this meet.
  - Swimmer of the year award will now have 2 award categories based on age. One award for 15-16 year olds, and another for 17-18 age group.
  - Discussion about Virginia Swimming records- resident and open records. The Senior committee feels that both groups should be recognized, and they are trying to figure out how to define these two groups to recognize both groups.
  - *Ted discussed that we need to develop a written guideline for coaches on how to select athletes for zones.*
  - The committee also discussed the Coach Travel Reimbursement proposal. *The Senior committee to put together language for this proposal.*

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- VSI Athlete travel reimbursement policy has been well used. Each year the policy is reevaluated. A request was made to accept lower level competitions not currently covered. This request was voted on and denied.
- Add language to state that VSI Sanctioned competitions are not eligible for reimbursement.

9. 2015 Long Course Zones Report – Removed from Agenda

- a. Zones Team
- b. Meet Hosted by VSI
- c. Open Water Meet Hosted by VSI

10. 2015-2016 Meet Schedule & Technical Planning Report

- No report submitted. Steve presented announcements from Lisa.
- The current schedule has been posted. Meets are being sanctioned at this time. LC AGC will be in Christiansburg the same weekend as Senior Champs.
- Summer Awards will be held at new pool in northern district – Stafford County. Freedom Center will host regional champs, and Warrenton will host district champs.

11. Other Committee and Officer Reports:

Diversity

- Peter Maloney discussed diversity camps. VSI had several athletes attend diversity camps. Diversity camps size have been increased. Clubs and coaches need to look at time standards early in the year. Kids need to make times before championship meets. Push kids to swim earlier so they can qualify for camps. The camps are getting more and more competitive. High School athletes now qualifying for camps. Athletes must achieve time standard before turning 16. Coaches must submit the time. Helps if they are registered as diverse athletes. Application must be submitted by club.

Times

- Terry Randolph let everyone know that the top 10 times have been done and certificates will be coming out soon.

Safe Sport

- Art will be taking over this committee from Jerry. He will put together a new committee to tackle safe sport issues.

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Grants

- Make a splash grant is unique in United States. Grants given based on developing a bridge program from learn to swim to team swimming. Budget increased in this area.
- Awarded grants to swim RVA and CYAC for learn to swim programs. Teach 57,000 kids how to swim.

Safety

Will be working on the following:

- Review warm up procedures
- Review Marshalls
- Come up with a policy on concussions.

Athletes

- Main mission is to increase involvement, and develop solid list of athlete representatives.

Age Group Coaches

- Highlight grants coming in to Finance Committee.

Officials

- Report stands as submitted.

Records

- Keep them coming!

Finance

- Finance committee is working on procedure to award clubs grants for club development to grow their membership. Look for information to come out and they will then be accepting applications.
- Examples of potential funding areas: Bubble for pool or additional lane lines.

Webmaster

- Working to get new website up and running. Board members are reviewing website, hope to have this up by end of year.

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Kim Downs reviewed the results of the election:

Because no candidate received a majority of the votes, members present voted again.

12. Unfinished Business

- Nothing ongoing to consider. Discussed at Board meeting what Meet Manager software will be used by clubs. Language has been developed setting guideline for clubs. As long as software is compatible with Swims, this software can be used.

13. New Business

- Senior Committee will be working on coach travel reimbursement process.
- Gordon Hair was brought on as Safety Chair
- Art Anthony will become the new Safe Sport Coordinator
- Jaqueline Barkland has been appointed as an athlete representative.

14. Announcements

- Terry Randolph informed everyone that VSI will be observing two levels of High School meets for each school – if you have regional meets, will observe at regional and state champs. If there is no regional meet available, they will observe district meets.
- Terry asked everyone to remind swimmers to give their full names for the High School coaches. This will help SWIMS recognize registered athletes.

Kim Downs announced results from second round of election.

Because no candidate received a majority of the votes, members present voted again.

Membership/Registration

- Mary apologized for not having written report. Results from last year - We had 6511 Athletes, 919 Non-Athletes, and 52 clubs.
- If sending registrations, please send a report with registration file. Export registration report as well. Please send excel spreadsheet called - shows payment information.
- We have several new clubs, and a fair number of transfers. Anticipate error reports to be extensive. Please send meet registration files early.
- Background checks are now taking up to 30 days to get back. Please renew your BGC at the beginning of the month when it expires.

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- Remember everyone now does same BGC process.
- Update for APT- there is a new program for renewals. MAKE SURE YOU CHOOSE RENEWAL OPTION on USA Swimming website under Safe Sport.
- Please let your officials know we will not be printing officials card this year. Officials should now use OTS certification cards. Mary will not be mailing these. This can also be seen in deckpass account.

Kim Downs came in to announce results from third round of votes;

Sonny - 21

Jessica - 19

- Sonny is now the new Tech Planning chair. Steve thanked all candidates for running for this position.

Steve asked for any new business - none

Steve asked if there were any more announcements - none.

Asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion made by Bryan, seconded by Jim.

15. Adjournment - 3:20pm