

Here are the notes/highlights from the Open Water Development meeting at convention.

* Open Water Nationals will take place April 3-5 2020. The location will be announced soon. 10K National Friday, 5K Jr National Saturday 5K National Sunday

* It was discussed that all the zones swim the same race schedule for their Zone OW Championships. Central Zones already swims what is recommended. (Open 5K, 13-14 3K, 11-12 2K, 10 & Under 1K) National and Jr National qualifiers need to come out of the 5K race.

* There was also discussion around going to age on the race date instead of the "Fina" age as of 12/31.

* zone select camps were discussed and all agreed that the athletes would benefit however it comes down to money being available.

* There was a very good discussion on the sanction process. Many thought USA Swimming issues sanctions however each LSC approves and issues sanctions. Currently in Ozark Rick Walker and Bob sign off on our OW sanctions.

* Fina is reviewing a new rule proposal with regards to wetsuit use in competition. Sid Cassidy said there would be no "optional" temperature. The new proposed rule would be for water temps above 20 C no wetsuits would be allowed, water temps below 20 C wetsuits would be mandatory. Sid believed this new rule would be approved by Fina and accepted by USA.

* The National Select camp was discussed. All felt it was very beneficial to our upcoming athletes. All liked that the camp was also linked to a competition and felt it should be going forward. There was a discussion on how the athletes were selected and USA SWIMMING agreed going forward to communicate this earlier and more clear. Many coaches in attendance felt there were athletes that didn't even know they had that opportunity.

Thank you,

Tom Lombardo