

Proposed Evolution of the Age Group/ Senior / Tech Planning Committee

Current

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE

- The Technical Planning Committee shall be responsible for long-range planning for the swimming programs conducted by WSI and for advice regarding the technical aspects of those programs and of the sport of swimming generally.

Technical Planning Chair

- The Technical Planning Chair shall chair, and have general charge of the business, affairs and property of the Technical Planning Committee, which is responsible for long-range planning regarding the swimming programs conducted by WSI, the continuing review and development of the WSI philosophy and for advising other committees and divisions regarding the implementation of that philosophy in the context of WSI's swimming programs.

607.3.9

- TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE - The members of the Technical Planning Committee shall be the Technical Planning Committee Chair, who shall serve as chair , member a sufficient number of athletes so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee and at least six (6) additional members of whom at least fifty percent (50%) shall be Coach Members. The Athlete Member and the additional members shall be appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

Proposed Bylaws Amendment to 607.3.9

TECHNICAL PLANNING COMMITTEE - The members of the Technical Planning Committee shall be the Technical Planning Committee Chair, who shall serve as chair, the Senior Chair, Age Group Chair, Sr Coach Chair and sufficient number of athletes so as to constitute at least twenty percent (20%) of the voting membership of the Committee and at least nine (9) additional members of whom at least fifty percent (50%) shall be Coach Members. The Athlete Members and the additional members shall be agreed upon nominated by the General, Senior, Age Group, Coach and the Technical Planning Chairs, appointed by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors. The term of an at large committee member shall be one year and begin after the spring HoD. The Technical Planning Committee shall meet at least twice annually -

Comment [RP1]: The term "agreed upon" is not consistent with governance requirements. The process for reaching agreement is also not defined. Instead, "shall be nominated" would be an appropriate replacement.

That nomination process, if left undefined, would permit nominations from any of the four Chairs listed, whether "agreed upon" or not, preserving the governance structure of appointment by the General Chair with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

in the fall (between Convention and the fall HoD) and in the spring (between the LSC championships and the annual meeting / HoD) but may meet more frequently as needed.

Suggested 1/9/18

~~Anyone can attend and have voice but no vote, Athlete Committee would select athlete members~~

Comment [RP2]: This is already covered under current Bylaws 607.9.3

Corrected 1/9/18

4 + 9 + 4 athletes = 17 which would require 4 athletes for a min committee size of 17

Of the 9, at least 5 would be coaches

History

Wisconsin Swimming, Inc has relied on the Age Group-Senior-Technical Planning Committee for decades to guide and inform a large part of its operations including: the LSC Championships - establishing time standards, formats, dates, team assignments and procedures related to each meets' conduct. Camps and clinics, Travel Fund - how collected funds are to be divided and distributed. Additionally, the committee has influenced the formats of Sanctioned or Approved meets, helped with observing non-sanctioned competitions, guided LSC records policies and interfaced with the LSC's other standing committees.

The committee has historically met during the day at Brookfield City Hall and other sites, and has been comprised largely of coaches, club representatives and related LSC officers like Administrative Division and Secretary. In general, the committee has done its work in a collegial atmosphere without many formal rules about who gets a vote and without membership guidelines. Anyone has been welcome and lots of good work has been completed.

Athlete Representation

Over time and again recently, the representation of athletes and their proportional voice and vote on all of the committees within USA Swimming and Wisconsin Swimming has gained standing however, the Age Group-Senior-Tech Planning Committee has not had much representation mostly because of its daytime meeting time.

Based on WI Swimming's Bylaws and the standard that 20% of a committee's voting composition shall be athletes, the following Bylaws Amendment is being proposed.

The bylaws do not comment on the composition of the Age Group or Senior Committee. Historically, combining the groups / committees into one meeting has served the LSC well.

Given the minimum numbers currently stipulated in the Bylaws for the composition Tech Planning Committee, 2 athletes would support a committee of up to 10 members of which at least 4 would have to be coach members and 2 athletes. To preserve the historical success of the committee, a larger committee is recommended. 15 as a minimum and up to 20 which would necessitate four or five athletes and 6 or 8 coaches minimum. Also recommended is the inclusion of relevant LSC positions like Admin Chair and Secretary but if needed, these positions could have voice but no vote.

The Technical Planning Committee must interface with both the Age Group and Senior Division as spelled out in our Bylaws. The Tech Planning Committee should meet twice a year; in the early fall after Convention before the LSC HoD and in the spring after championships and before Annual Meeting HoD. Two meetings per year would make it easier for a large group of committee members, athletes and others to meet. The Committee should meet at a time and place where appointed athletes could make the meeting.

Further, WI Swimming should consider emulating MN's long standing tradition to gather coaches up to five times per year and encourage a significant portion of the Tech Planning Committee Coach members, the Age Group Chair and Senior Chair to a lunch or similar gathering to meet and share topics that can be worked on, off the deck and away from HoD meetings. The magic of the historically successful Age Group-Senior-Tech Planning meeting has been that it is a forum that allows for expression, thoughtful discussion and sharing and these are things that we should work to maintain.

Comment [3]: I've found out that according to RickP, these are not to be standing committees and are purely "ad hoc." Just for what it's worth.

Comment [4]: David Anderson: in conversation with Dave W techplanning could meet twice a year in the fall and spring and then group could be bigger IE 3 athletes and 15 members and it wouldn't be as hard to get athletes there

Comment [5]: after speaking with Brent earlier today, increasing the size of the tech planning committee to 15 or 20 would preserve the breadth of the historic committee. Meeting 2 x per year would make it easier to find athletes and a time of day some most could participate

Comment [6]: I'm not sure how much opinion/discussion you want on the concept versus the document, so hush me if need be. Seeing how slowly things have moved through those meetings in the past, I think very little would be accomplished if 20 members met 2x annually. It'd be reactive to major problems versus being proactive and looking forward.

Comment [7]: agree - the overall idea is to still shape the ideas and work in informal meetings that would occur five times or so per year but then to make these ideas in policy tv ...

Comment [8]: _Marked as resolved_

Comment [9]: _Re-opened_

Comment [10]: how many positions are appointments vs elected positions? positions have framework (# from large teams vs small ...

Comment [11]: 1 the way i have it written but I'll work it here a little

Comment [12]: I'm only suggesting a "loose" framework with a ton of flexibility depending on who is active... at least one official, one from ...

Comment [13]: ok I think i have it so dispersed now that it really maintains the historical feel of the group.

Comment [14]: without spelling out what is large and small club bc that should be taken care of by the diversity of the positions ...

Comment [15]: so moving forward, this would be "new business" tonight, and get voted on in january? didn't think we could propose new ...

Comment [16]: think it can be done tonight but ...

Comment [17]: Dave A - Can you send this proposal to Rick so that we have a working document for viewing and amendments (as ...

Comment [18]: ...and be forewarned that this topic and ensuing arguments has put a match under George's push for a Governance ...

Comment [19]: I'm responding to Rick Potter's email thank you for the note. I've amended the math as you pointed out. I'd lik ...