

Senior Chair HOD / Convention report:

Senior state meets

Short course:

The dates for this year's short course senior chair meet January 31st - February 2nd. The meet will go back to older format of 2 ½ days. Friday night distance session, Saturday and Sunday prelims and finals. Time standards are the same as last year.

Long course:

NJS is accepting host bids for the LCM senior state meet to be held mid July. The purpose of the meet is to fulfill NJS' requirement to host a Senior level meet for our LSC per season as well as to provide additional preliminary finals opportunity for senior level athletes.

SECTIONALS / SENIOR ZONES:

LC Sectionals:

Effective Jan 1, 2015, All summer sectional meets have to be concluded 8-15 days prior to the first National meet. This currently effects Super Sectionals by moving it before JO's beginning summer 2015.

Senior Zone Meet:

The Eastern Zone has recommended introducing and hosting a Senior Zone championships which is to be scheduled the same weekend as AG Zone championships. The meet will likely have slightly faster time standards than Sectionals and will provide those without Junior / US Open cuts the opportunity to extend their season past their local LSC champs.

Shared services with Metropolitan Swimming: (TO BE DISCUSSED AT TECH PLANNING)

NJS is proposing a reciprocal agreement between NJS and Metropolitan Swimming to allow all Junior National & above qualifiers the opportunity to participate in either LSCs Senior championship meet. By doing so, it will elevate the level of competition at the meets and additionally provide double the opportunities for those athletes to compete in a preliminary/final high level event.

Metropolitan swimming will have this item up for vote in December at their next board meeting after it was introduced to their House of Delegates this past weekend.

Senior Chair Convention Report;

Peer to peer abuse:

In appropriate peer to peer interactions;

- Bullying
- Hazing
- Sexual Abuse

Sexual Abuse;

Any unwelcome sexual activity between youth.

Hard facts:

- 40-50% molestations are committed by juveniles
- Adolescent sexual offenders will commit an avg. of 400 sexual crimes
- Majority of female sexual offenders begin as adults
- Females are more likely to be sexually abused than males
- Juveniles are less likely to hurt their victims than adult molesters
- Most molesters have been abused themselves

Ways to prevent and detect:

- Define expectations
- Educate athletes and adults
- Monitor interactions
- Respond quickly

Defining expectations;

Define acceptable and unacceptable behaviors, i.e:

Acceptable behaviors in team environments

- side hugs
- high fives
- pats on the back/shoulders
- hand shakes

Unacceptable behaviors in team environments

- full frontal hugs
- wrestling
- tickling
- kissing
- hitting or spanking
- full frontal hugs
- being under towels
- laying down together

Regardless of these activities being welcome, they should not be tolerated in a team sanctioned activity. Consensual relationships between minors can exist. Minors need to learn to behave appropriately. Not any different than adults in the work place.

Monitoring interactions:

For abuse to occur three essential elements need to exist. To prevent abuse, these 3 elements need to be constantly monitored, disrupted and taken away.

Access, Privacy, and Control.

It's important to monitor interactions between athletes in team sanctioned events. Coaches and chaperones must listen to athletes carefully and must pay attention to identify potential victims.

Access:

Identify the locations in facilities and circumstances which allow abusers access to victims.

-locker rooms, busses, hotel rooms, chemical rooms, closets, etc...

Privacy:

Have a plan for monitoring these locations. If monitoring these locations leave adults liable, than an alternative plan must be put together to disrupt privacy.

-Room checks, Walk through, etc...

Control:

Plan to keep a balance of power amongst athletes. i.e

- Stager locker room use so that older athletes are not changing w/ younger athletes
- Separate male and female during travel & transportations
- Separate older and younger athletes on buses trips
- Always have a monitor to off-set power between minors.

Quickly respond

- Have an action plan for any incidents that occur