

1. Call to Order: Pat Collins (CAT), Kip Hein (PPST), Al Ledgin (MCSC), Will Murphy (OCY), Ken O'Reilly (NJW), Bud Rimbault (RY), Dan Roth (SVY), Tom Speedling (SCAR), Greg Wriede (PAA), Andrea Marumoto (SVY)
 - a. Pat: Open discussion in tech planning meetings is important.
2. Additions to Agenda (New Business):
 - a. Ken requested that committee discuss winter championships format
3. Reading, Correction, and Adoption of Minutes:
 - a. Pat made motion to adopt February minutes; Dan seconds; all in favor.
4. Age Group Chairman's Report:
 - a. Pat asked coaches to look at NJS mission statement so we can focus on promoting unity and togetherness.
 - b. Members of NJS Technical Planning Committee with vote: Pat Collins, Greg Wriede, Dan Roth, Tristan Formon, Al Ledgin, Will Murphy. Currently there is one athlete on committee; Pat would like to find two more athletes to participate as well as female representation.
 - c. Pat hopes coaches and committee can agree on a championship format that everyone is on board with. Pat believes future of NJS is growth, and we need to be creative in light of limited facility availability.
 - d. Pat wants us to write a letter to membership (coaches, parents, athletes) to discuss why 2016 LC Junior Olympic cuts are changing and to reaffirm that we have kids' best interests in mind.
 - e. Discussion on Rutgers athlete limits per meet session:
 - i. Ken—From what I understand, main concern with Rutgers is the number of swimmers allowed in each session.
 - ii. Bud—We need a solid understanding from Rutgers regarding limitations and we should try to release cuts as soon as possible.
 - iii. Tom—NJS originally asked for a number from Rutgers, who seems willing to permit more swimmers depending on number of meets host club holds throughout the year. In 2015, tougher 13-14 cuts made sessions short. This year the Y teams are not going to be their due to Y Nationals, so we shouldn't make cuts faster if session is probably going to be smaller.
 - iv. Bud—Y Nationals started a day after JOs finished last year so there weren't many Y swimmers in 2015 anyway.
 - v. Tom reported on actual session lengths and numbers at 2015 Summer JOs.
 - vi. Pat—Tristan had been discussing specific numbers with Rutgers and they thought the winter numbers were okay. It seems that Rutgers is telling different clubs different athlete limits; why would a club want to host a meet if number is uncertain?
 - vii. Tom suggested we limit spectators; Rutgers said that in the past parents were harassing staff; this triggered discussions regarding limits. They are trying to prepare for larger meets. Rutgers suggested we could limit spectators or have kids in gym so more athletes could be permitted.
 - viii. Tom and Dan discussed last year's JO session lengths and Tom reported that they have Rutgers booked for Thursday-Sunday for this year's JOs.

5. Committee Proposals for Consideration

a. 2016 Summer NJJOs—Gold Qualifying Times

- i. Pat handed out proposed cut changes. In the past, tech planning tried to keep a target of 40 swimmers per event. If an event was oversubscribed, there has been a formula to make that cut faster. We expect growth for 12&Unders, so Pat proposed faster cuts across the board, especially in 2015 oversubscribed events. Pat recommended no change to 13&Over cuts from last year except in certain events that were oversubscribed.
- ii. Dan asked if there is any talk about establishing long course and short course cuts without converted times.
- iii. Ken and Kip—There has been a problem with TM entries and time conversions with entries.
- iv. Dan and Al mentioned they attend meets with multi-course cuts.
- v. Pat agreed that multi-course cuts are a good idea.
- vi. Ken suggested we could make distance cuts faster.
- vii. Pat said we are trying to be fair across events.
- viii. Dan suggested we identify key events to make cuts faster. Should we consider dropping time when we have 60 qualified?
- ix. Pat said there will be more faster cuts for 12&Under sessions because those were longer.
- x. Dan said we could make 12&Under cuts faster across the board to shorten sessions and make certain previously oversubscribed 13&Over event cuts faster. There isn't enough time to create multiple course cuts this year. Can we expect that having three facilities available for Silver/Bronze will alleviate entries?
- xi. Bud—We should be okay with three facilities; we need to watch it carefully so we don't wear out our welcome.
- xii. Pat—No one likes to make cuts faster and exclude swimmers.
- xiii. Tom discussed that we should consider decent times in each event as well as number in kids in the event.
- xiv. Ken—Can we talk to Hy-Tek regarding multi-cuts issue? Have we considered using Online Meet Entry (OME) for LSC Championships?
- xv. Pat said he would reach out to Hy-Tek expert.
- xvi. Will mentioned that Middle Atlantic Swimming has used OME for LSC Championships
- xvii. Pat and Greg—There are issues with TM and Silvers entries. Everyone agreed that multi-course cuts are the future but are not for this year.
- xviii. Pat mentioned he would like to include short reasoning regarding change in summer JO format and facility when new cuts are emailed out to membership.
- xix. Bud reminded committee to consider how many people will be affected by cut changes and how many added to silvers.
- xx. Dan said the 12&Under cuts all need to be faster than those previously released, but suggested we don't make time drops too significant.
- xxi. The group agreed we shouldn't be making cuts slower.
- xxii. Pat made a motion to keep 2015 13&Over Summer NJJO cuts except for certain events that were oversubscribed. Any events that had 75 swimmers or more pre-scratch will be affected. Committee will also accept proposed changes for 12&Under cuts except for returning to 2015 cuts in 400 Free and 400 IM; Will seconds; committee passes motion.

- xxiii. Pat said he will write simple letter to membership, all agree that letter should be sent ASAP, Pat will send out file with changes soon. Pat also mentioned that Silver times won't change for this year.

6. New Business

a. NJS Winter Championships Format Discussion

- i. Ken said that many coaches complained that events ran too quickly at 2016 winter JOs. Ken suggested slower cuts to allow for more heats; he also suggested a unified senior championships. Some breaks were added, but not all that were requested.
- ii. Pat talked about how format was not as discussed, including no 11-12 finals and different event order; however, C finals for 13-14s helped.
- iii. Greg—If Rutgers is our best facility, we should get as many kids as possible there. Greg said we should have a four-day meet because LSC Champs is a stepping stone to prepare for larger USAS meets. In addition, he suggested putting 10&Unders in their own facility and championship, and that maybe you add a middle session to offset cost.
- iv. Greg mentioned our LSC has some of the fastest cuts, and we're trying to become inclusive, but if there are multiple age groups in one session the cuts will have to be faster.
- v. Al suggested flighted meets in 13&Over with faster heats in the morning and slower in afternoon before finals.
- vi. Greg—We should promote an exciting environment for kids who don't make higher meets. A different format for older kids may excite swimmers.
- vii. Tom said there should be separate 12&Un and 13&Ov weekends and that with slower cuts and flights, teams could make more money. He believes we should score every meet.
- viii. Greg mentioned that we should provide for more 11-12 finals experience to prepare swimmers for Zones. He also suggested we look more at environment we are creating for meets.
- ix. Tom wants to increase competitive/rivalry atmosphere.
- x. Pat asked committee if we could impose certain guidelines on host clubs; it does have LSC name attached.
- xi. Al suggested a financial incentive for host club to follow guidelines.
- xii. Dan mentioned we could make a recommendation for board to set aside money in budget; we would want a consistent number to present.
- xiii. Tom mentioned USAS does that with sectionals.
- xiv. Dan suggested building a template for host clubs with guidelines for 2017, including announcing the meet score before the start of each session.
- xv. Greg suggested the highest level meet should be open to be more team-centered.
- xvi. Pat reminded committee that we should be more welcoming to returning college swimmers.
- xvii. There was discussion regarding a potential 8&Under championship meet; Greg said he had attending Middle Atlantic meet in the past and it was exciting.
- xviii. Group talked about having 10&Under champs and 13-14 Silver/Bronze Same weekend; Will reminded committee to think about smaller clubs who may not be able to staff two locations at once; group agreed it may be best overall to do both meets same weekend due to facility and schedule limitations.

- xix. Bud reminded group that championships have to be sequential by age group according to USA Swimming rules. Dan and Bud also reminded group to consider Y States meet placement as well.
 - xx. Greg suggested we send out a survey to coach members with proposed structure and explanation to see if it's something they would support.
 - xxi. Bud said we could make a concrete proposal at July board meeting and that it would be best to make a decision and reevaluate after season, not during.
 - xxii. There was discussion regarding a multi-year trial period for new format to allow for more consistency and better evaluation.
 - xxiii. Pat said he would write-up a proposal for 10&Under, 11-14, and open LSC championships on successive weekends to send out with minutes.
 - xxiv. Greg suggested we re-open 2017 bids to make new format available to all, and that we need to discuss more in-depth about when other meets can be held during LSC Championships.
 - xxv. Dan suggested a motion to recommend the board provide partial funding for host clubs of LSC Championship meets
 - xxvi. Bud said we should make it specific, either a flat figure or percentage of rental fee. He said we are going to have to expect meet hosts to provide financial statement for rental if they want to take part in financial assistance; this allows it to be fair for everyone.
 - xxvii. Discussion with Kip and Will that we should write-out that we are giving money so that LSC guidelines/expectations are followed.
 - xxviii. Bud agreed that clubs need to follow guidelines to make the meet as positive as possible for athletes.
 - xxix. Greg and Pat suggested championships subcommittee, including members of technical planning committee; committee created.
7. Next Meeting Date & Time
- a. Next Tech Planning committee meeting: Tuesday, June 21st, 7:15-9:30pm; start promptly at 7:30pm. To be held at Bridgewater YMCA, 601 Garretson Road, Bridgewater, NJ 08807
8. Adjournment
- a. Pat motioned to adjourn, Will seconds.