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**To:** All Hawaiian Swimming LSC Members

**Subject:** January 21, 2001 Minutes of the House of Delegates Meeting

1. The Hawaiian Swimming House of Delegates met on Sunday, January 21, 2001 at Chaminade University. Those present were Robin Flanagan, Ken Suenaga, Kathy Fay, Gale Wilson, Ellen Wrynn, Lynette Chew, Dave Coleman, Fred Tester, Rick Polston, Ron Tsuchiya, Dexter Lee, Barbara Kopra, Adele Wada, Char Tester, Jon Hayashida, and Bert Toba
2. The meeting was called to order at 1pm
3. The minutes of November 19, 2001 Board of Directors Meeting were read and approved.

4. **Committee Reports**

a. **Registration** — Lynette Chew. Lynette asked the board for approval on the anticipated application from Le Jardin Academy. The board approved the new club.

Lynette explained that if she tries to register a coach and the response is that the education requirement must be satisfied, she needs proof that the coach passed the test in order to certify the coach. Second year coaches need to present evidence that they passed. If she is not provided with the proof, she sends a non-athlete card. It was noted that the coach must present a current coach's card in order to pick up checkin sheets at meets starting March 1. This statement will be included in meet notices for meets being held after March 1. Since the notice for the Sakamoto Invitational has already been distributed already, Spencer will be notified. Also, Lynette noted that CPR certification is only accepted if awarded by an organization that is on the approved list for certification. Organization must apply to USA Swimming if they want to be on the list. The approved list is in the club packet issued each year.

b. **Treasurer** — Gale Wilson. Gale gave a detailed report on Short Course Champs. The LSC made \$5762. Gale noted that the LSC has not yet received money from senior swimming. Kenny Chew will attempt to contact Nick Keller to get the funds. Gale noted that the LSC tax return for 1999 was obtained. She also explained that anytime we give more than \$600 in subsidies, we must issue a 1099 to the swimmer who is obligated to report the amount to IRS. Gayle will contact the swimmers who are affected.

Gale said that the LSC does not have articles of incorporation. USA swimming has no record of us incorporating. They don't know why they added the "Incorporated" to our name in the bylaws. For the board's protection, we should be incorporated. Dave will arrange with Wayne Tanna, an attorney. to meet with Gale and Dave to walk them through the process of incorporating. We will have to state where the LSC funds will go if the organization ceases to exist. The cost to incorporate is \$5 per year, paid to the state. Also, the LSC is not exempt from excise tax. Gale and Dave will discuss this with Mr. Tanna.

5. **Senior Swimming** - Kenny Chew. Kenny provided the attached analysis. He explained the need for the LSC to define the goals of senior swimming. He noted that nothing was documented in the past. Comments at the meeting were that senior swimming should compliment age group

swimming and serve as an answer to problems with current age group schedule. The senior program should help swimmers qualify for sectionals (the cutoff is March 7) or nationals. It was suggested that senior swimming be for people aiming for nationals and age group be developmental. Also that coaches of elite swimmers in Hawaii be contacted and asked how the senior program can best serve them. Short term, we must establish the dates for senior champs so swimmers can train. We may consider having two-day time trials instead of a senior champs meet. A motion was made and seconded to refer this matter to committee and report to the board with a plan at the March board meeting. There were 11 for; 4 opposed. A motion was made and seconded to remove senior champs and hold time trials, tentatively the first weekend in March. The vote was 11 for; 4 opposed. Robin noted that the board has done a disservice to the Hawaii senior swimmers this season. The board is obligated to find a better solution for next season.

**d. Age Group** — Fred Tester. Fred announced that the pool in Hilo should be completed by end of April and available for Long Course Champs. The pool at Pahoa is also available if Hilo is not completed. The Kawamoto meet will be held at Hilo High School on March 3 and 4. Fred asked that teams intending to host invitationals during the 2001- 2002 season send him a letter by the end of February stating the requested dates. Barbers Point has asked to be excused from their meets in Long Course season. Aloha Aquatics and HSC are interested in taking one of these meets. The March 10 distance meet and the April 7 distance meet are open. Teams interested in these meets should contact Fred. He is looking at alternatives for age group meets for January and February for next year. We may want to have meets for 12 and under swimmers during these months or have meets on Sunday. Sanctions for dual meets will be considered on a case by case basis. It was suggested that options be discussed at a stated meeting so people can come to the meeting to discuss. Information will be passed out before the meeting. At the February meeting there will be a discussion of the schedule. Anyone interested in participating in the discussion is welcome. It was suggested that the web site have a special section for schedule changes. There was a discussion of the definition of a non-classified meet. We will continue to do awards by age group classification this season. A goal for 2001 is to compile a list of things we changed in the rules and regulations.

Gayle asked that checks be sent with entries for championship meets. If no check is received, no entries will be entered. The Long Course meet notice will be changed to reflect this change.

It was noted that the Barbers Point pool is available for meets. Non-military clubs must have sponsorship. If teams are interested they should contact Kim Krough

6. **Coaches rep.** At the Short Course state champs, the coaches met to discuss the schedule for 2001-2002. They recommended keeping Short Course in December and Long Course in June. Also that entries for champs be automatically converted.
7. **Officials** — Dave Coleman. Nothing to report. A question was asked regarding a swimmer who was late and missed her heat. The coach asked to put her in the boys event. Dave replied that this is the referee's decision.
8. **Safety** — Dexter Lee. Fees for CPR, First Aid, and Coaches certification classes are \$15 non-refundable. A class needs a minimum of 6 people. This fee does not include books. Books are about \$20 additional.
9. **Big Island Swimming.** The first non-classified meet will be February 17.
10. **Records** — Adele Wada. The report is attached to these minutes.

11. **Maui** — Bert Toba. Bert is moving to Oahu effective Feb 1. MAGSDA would like to recommend a replacement for Bert for LSC board approval. Also, Bert will step down as co-meet director for Western 2001 zones. A new co-meet director from Maui will be appointed. The name of the replacement will be presented at the next board meeting.
12. **Adaptive Swimming** — Char Tester. There will be an Adaptive Swimming meeting in Chicago this summer.
13. **Old Business**
14. There was a question on the proposal to have small and large team awards at championships, using an 80 entry cutoff, between small and large. There will be first through fourth place for small teams and first through fourth for large teams. This was passed at the July minutes and no board action is needed.
15. **New Business**
16. A letter of protest about a decision at Short Course Championship was discussed. Dave Coleman explained that a procedural error was made and once it was discovered a change was made to include the swimmer who had qualified for finals. There is no rule in USA Swimming supporting the exclusion of a swimmer who has made a time due to a procedural mistake. The swimmer who was displaced once the error was discovered was allowed to swim but his time did not count. The coach is protesting the decision. The Official Chair stated that there is no basis to overrule decision. A motion was made and seconded to support the decision. It passed with no opposition. A written reply will be provided to the coach documenting the board's decision.
17. Gale was asked to write a letter to the past Senior Swimming Chair that the board will take appropriate action if the financial records of Senior Swimming are not turned over to treasurer. The letter will be certified.
18. The next meeting will be Sunday, February 18 at 1pm at Chaminade
19. The meeting was adjourned at 3:50pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Fay

### **Senior Swimming Attachment**

First of all, please understand that I accepted this position based on the fact that I want to see Hawaiian Swimming become stronger. With my current situation (an age group coach and high school coach) I feel that I may not be in touch with what the Senior Program needs to focus on, but will try my best to get some important things done. Thinking about USA Swimming's 3 core objectives, I am trying to "build a base" to strengthen the Senior program. Though this base must be written out and will take some time. A guidebook or something needs to be established before we can come close to attempting

the next 2 objectives. Senior swimming has no real objectives other than to provide a meet for Hawaii's faster swimmers to swim at, hopefully.

I must admit that the senior meet dates were set late and that the notification of the meets weren't as timely as everyone expects. Working backwards with the focus of a Senior Championship meet, it is difficult to time a senior championship meet around the High School championship meet, Sectionals, Nationals, and even our own Age group championships. I brought up the fact of these problems at the last Board meeting, with no real answer from the Board on which direction we should go. It was my opinion that we should have had at least 3 senior meets in the course of the season and I believed that I could get it done. I will have had 3 meets this season, but I also know that it is not a standard that I must live up to. Based on reactions from past Senior swimming seasons, I did not want to have any 2 day meets (Invitational format of sorts) or weekday meets in hopes of disregarding the needs of swimmers from across the state.

The meets that Senior swimming holds are important. I believe that the times made at these meets are very important. An automatic timing system is the first step in getting times to count toward any major meet. As we have seen in the past, failure to provide adequate timing systems diminishes credibility. It is unfortunate that the LSC doesn't have a pool of its own to store and host meets at. It makes it difficult for teams to transport proper timing equipment to various pools, which is also one of my problems. I believe there are only 4 pools on Oahu with the capability of having a proper meet without having to transport equipment (Punahou, Kamehameha, UH, and Kalani). When USA Swimming requires all major meet entry times be achieved with an automatic timing system in place, Hawaiian Swimming will be forced into a hard situation.

Pools and pool time are very scarce as we already know, add into account the timing system situation and it makes for a very compromising situation. The feasibility of having a meet at Kalani is nil, due to the fact that the equipment there is the property of the OIA. Both Punahou, Kamehameha Schools, and UH are kind enough to volunteer the use of their equipment for Hawaiian Swimming meets from time to time, though it is based on their own pool schedules. It was my belief that the meets for the short course season should be run short course. Unfortunately my second developmental meet was at the mercy of Kamehameha's pool not being ready for use due to construction (1<sup>st</sup> choice), Punahou's pool being set up long course (2<sup>nd</sup> choice), and UH's pool being booked solid for visiting teams to train.

Officials make up the icing on the cake. The number of officials that are available for every meet is small. With the age group program, a high school season, and the senior program; it taxes the officiating crews. Without knowing for sure on the number of officials available, but knowing the scarceness of officials in general I have made some assumptions. During the high school season we are at the mercy of the OIA and ILH because all the officials are committed to either given league, with luckily maybe 2 officials free. To find a good date, without interfering with any of the already scheduled meets is difficult and scarce. And when you would like our best officials, they have already committed themselves to other causes. Senior swimming doesn't really fit into the whole conglomerate of things.

In the Long Term of things, is our real goal of Hawaiian Swimming (Senior Swimming) to get kids to compete at a glorified invitational (Sectionals) or to get swimmers to compete at the National level (Nationals). Yes competing on the mainland is a step toward competing at nationals, but it isn't the same thing. Mainland teams do have meets whenever they want and getting the opportunity to make a cut at the right time of the season isn't difficult. We have seen this of sorts in Hawaii already. Recall the plight of trying to get swimmers to make their Olympic Trial cuts. Within a 2 week period, I believe 3 sanctions were granted for 3 different meets. But keep in mind that was during the summer and not in the middle/end of the high school's season. Sectionals does put a hurt on our swimming program in Hawaii, especially during our high school season. Planning the long course season may be easier and seem to work better, but won't solve problems created during the high school season.

Age group swimming is important, though it is not senior swimming. I understand the frustrations of the Age Group Committee with meet sizes and the championships. Age group should always work toward developing senior swimmers, though at the same time how do you keep a true senior program without compromising it in Hawaii. We should lower our standards within Senior Swimming to help ease our large age group program until our senior program becomes strong enough to raise its standards. I believe that is already in place with the Senior Developmental meets. Though many coaches don't use the senior program for only senior swimmers purposes, instead it is to strengthen an age group program. Senior swimming has to mandate what it does and how it conducts itself, but it has never been done with anything concrete and in writing. That is where it has to start.

I believe there are many questions that really need to be answered soon and they shouldn't be made by an individual, nor can or should they be made by a single committee. Hawaii may be bound to follow the mainland rule of things, though I think it will be reversed and end up being very hard on Hawaiian Swimming (as it already is). High school swimming has a strong hold on swimming in Hawaii. That is where our Senior swimmers participate during its season. Hawaii is unique because we schedule around and include high school swimming. Many mainland LSC's could care less about high school swimming and do. There is a strong divide between high school coaches and club coaches over there, plus a divide between year round swimmers and high school swimmers. Some swimmers and coaches are able to work out differences though many don't. That is the reverse here and our Senior program suffers from it. Senior swimming is on a back burner during high school season. If Hawaiian Swimming feels that it is best to disregard the high school season, then we should (though that is where we will lose). Many swimmers will end up having to make the choice of a year round swimming or high school swimming, along with many of the coaches themselves, due to conflicts of interests (club coach/high school coach). Hawaiian Swimming will more than likely lose that battle, due to the fact that there isn't an abundant number of swimmers and an abundant number of coaches.

After convention, I truly understood what the "Senior Committee" was for. Hawaiian Swimming does not have a true Senior Swimming Program. In the state of Hawaii there are maybe a total of 6 swimmers (4 being UH students) that would qualify as true senior swimmers. The Senior Program is supposed to be designed to serve those individuals. The other 2 swimmers are a part of the high school season and probably would not be able to (or want to) participate within the Senior Program during this time. It would be in Hawaiian Swimming's best interest to try and maintain a status quo with its procedures for

Senior Swimming while working to strengthen its base with the hopes of promoting and achieving. I am appreciative of all the help everyone is willing to put forth, though how we fix the problems we have now will affect the short and long futures of swimming in Hawaii. Hawaii Senior Swimming needs answers and solid direction.

There are a few goals that I have in mind for Senior Swimming, plus a direction I would like to see it take. I am planning to present some of this to the board at our next meeting. I am sure we can all talk more about it then.