



Illinois Swimming Inc. Board of Directors Meeting March 30, 2022 via Zoom



General Chair Jeff Arce called the meeting to order at 7:30pm CT.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Jeff Arce, Brian Brown, Mark Tucci, Jack Yetter, Todd Capen, Pam Lowenthal, Rob Emary, Amanda Schleede, Tom Rieman, Ben Pearthree, TJ Moran, Casey Hnatiuk, Amie Adams, Aidan Puk, Savanna Huang, Michael Lawrence (observer)

ABSENT: Jayne Spittler, Will Barker, Alex Cramer, Annabel Oliva, Jenna Krull

2. Approval of February 16, 2022 BOD Minutes

Emary moved to accept; Yetter seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

3. Current Business & Strategic Discussion

None

4. Reports and Action Items

REPORTS SUBMITTED: General Chair, Senior Vice Chair, Admin Vice Chair, Treasurer, DEI Chair, Officials Chair, Registration/Membership Coordinator, Open Water Chair

NO REPORT SUBMITTED: Age Group Vice Chair, Program Ops Vice Chair, Coaches Rep, Athlete Reps, Safe Sport Chair, Operational Risk Chair

Yetter moved that reports be approved; Tucci seconded. **Approved unanimously**

5. Items Pulled for Discussion and/or Action Required

SENIOR VICE CHAIR

Capen noted an action item to approve a host bid for the 2023 Winter Senior Championships from the Academy Bullets at FMC Natatorium on March 2-5, 2023. Arce moved acceptance, Emary seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

Arce asked if Capen wanted to share anything about the Summer 2022 meet. There is currently no bid. There are dates posted and at least one venue with the ability to host the event. We just need a club host.

Lawrence noted that the Senior report said that we would be going back to three full heats at finals and wondered if we had changed rules that reflected the Super Final. Capen said that the rules had not been changed. Yetter confirmed that the rules only reference a C, B and A final. Capen noted that both the winter and summer meet will now have the same format. There were complaints about the Super Final keeping people from swimming, and originally why the D final was created. Yet it always seemed difficult and a burden on the admin staff to attempt to keep the D final filled.

Brown moved to accept the Senior Report as submitted; Tucci seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

OFFICIALS CHAIR

Schleede noted a scholarship request from Jack Yetter for his upcoming participation as an official at the International Team Trials on April 26-30, 2022. She said that he more than qualifies for the scholarship in the amount of \$500, per our policies and procedures. Brown moved; it was seconded. Yetter abstained. **Approved with one abstention.**

Arce thanked Amanda, the Officials Committee and officials at Champ Meets for the high caliber of work at our Championship meets. He commended the leadership teams for rising to the occasions and dealing with everything that was thrown at them.

Capen moved to accept the Officials Committee report as submitted; Tucci seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

OPEN WATER

Arce asked for clarification on a couple of things in the report regarding the Open Water State Meet, specifically if it had been put out for bid and whether Rieman was aware that USA Swimming, not Illinois Swimming, approves the sanction. Rieman said that he sees the growth of OW Champs as a two year process of learning and growing, where the LSC hosts the event. He then hopes to pass off the learning of what is entailed to host to any clubs who want to bid to host, and to subsequent OW Chairs. He is not certain yet how many volunteers it will take to run such a meet yet, and wonders whether clubs will take on the liability involved.

Yetter noted that there is nothing in our rules for bidding Championships Meets that mentions OW. Only age groups and seniors are referenced specifically. Arce noted that this would be a different conversation down the road. He just wanted to be sure we are doing everything above board, and that we will be able to put on an event that we don't have to cancel.

Rieman noted that he learned a lot at the Las Vegas Open about hosting a meet. Also, that he has spoken with Amanda and started a conversation about officials. Staffing also needs to be a process, and he asked specifically who a head referee at an Open Water can be meet. He has reached out to people outside of Illinois, such as Tom Lombardo from Ozark and referenced a Michael from Ft. Myers. Schleede said she has been working on a list of qualified OW meet referees and checking their availability. She also is looking at Safety Chairs and Admin Refs.

Lawrence responded to Yetter's comment about the rules not mentioning a bid for OW meets. In 202 his club put in a bid to conduct a virtual OW Championship but was told in writing that they had to go through the bid process. He commented that the rules seem murky, and that going through the bid process would be a good thing. Yetter suggested that Rule 205.4 needs to be looked at in the next legislative cycle for the Fall HOD.

Emary moved, Pearthree seconded acceptance of the report. **Approved unanimously.**

6. Old Business

None

7. New Business

Arce reminded board members that HOD reports are due this Friday, April 1 to Pam before 5pm CT. Please ask Arce or Lowenthal if you have any questions about reports you will be presenting.

Yetter reminded the Board, on behalf of the governance task force, we still are looking for nominations for athletes for the governance committee and administrative review board. Arce said he has been communicating with athlete reps. Yetter emphasized that these are important positions and will need nominations from the floor at HOD. He also asked that any Board members seeking reelection remember to submit the requested bios.

Arce asked athlete reps Puk and Huang to follow-up with anyone who had reached out to them about getting involved in governance to tell them about this opportunity and encourage them to attend the

athlete meeting in advance of HOD on Sunday morning. Arce, Lowenthal and Yetter will be around early to answer any questions they might have.

Pearthree noted that Puk and Huang had agreed to stay on the call to answer questions he had about the Sunday morning session with the athletes. Arce asked Emary and Adams if an early coaches' meeting was planned. They replied no.

Arce noted that the Performance Committee had started talking about Hall of Fame and asked Capen or Brown to provide an update. Brown said the in-person Hall of Fame dinner. For the inaugural class of the Hall (already suggested) would be September 30, 2023. Possibly it would tie into the House of Delegates meeting. An event planner has begun working again, awards and other parts of the program are being worked on. Arce noted that this will be a lot of work, but that it's nice to have a date on the calendar.

Arce noted that two Board Members are finishing their terms in office and thanked Senior Vice Chair Todd Capen and Coaches' Rep (Large Clubs) Rob Emary for the time, energy and effort they have put into their positions. He personally was grateful for their help in navigating a messed-up couple of years and for direction in getting things back on track. Their Board participation has been awesome.

Arce said that the next scheduled Board Meeting is April 13, just a few days about HOD. He suggested moving the meeting to the following Wednesday, April 20. Yetter commented that this was the day before the meetings in Denver and perhaps we should move it after. Arce agreed and suggested **Wednesday, April 27** for the next meeting. He very much would like to be back on schedule for the second Wednesday of the month in May (the 11th).

8. **Next Meeting:** *House of Delegates* – Sunday, April 10, 2022 at 1pm. *BOD:* Wednesday, April 27 at 7:30pm via Zoom. Committee reports in .PDF format to Pam by Friday, April 22 by 5pm CT. Please note “No Report” if none is available.
9. **Adjournment:** Yetter moved; Capen seconded. ***Unanimous approval*** at 7:55pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Spittler
ISI Secretary