



Illinois Swimming Inc. Board of Directors Meeting August 18, 2021 via Zoom



General Chair Jeff Arce called the meeting to order at 7:02pm.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Jeff Arce, Brian Brown, Jayne Spittler, TJ Moran, Amie Adams, Rob Emary, Pam Lowenthal, Casey Hnatiuk, Jack Yetter, Todd Capen, Amanda Schleede, Aidan Puk, Michael Lawrence (observer), Chris Chiapetta (observer).

ABSENT: Will Barker, Carlos Ceja, Jenna Krull, Savanna Huang, Annabel Oliva

2. Adoption of June 9, 2021 BOD Minutes

a. Motioned – Capen, Second – Tucci.

b. Approved unanimously with no additional discussion.

3. Current Business & Strategic Discussion

None

4. Consent Agenda

PULLED: General Chair, Admin Vice Chair, Membership/Registration

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED: Operational Risk, Program Operations Vice Chair, Age Group Chair

NO REPORT AT THIS TIME: Coach Reps

NO REPORT SUBMITTED: Senior Vice Chair, Athlete Reps, Safe Sport, Officials,

Diversity/Inclusion/Equity, Open Water

Motion to approve reports as presented: Motion – Tucci, Second – Capen. Approved unanimously with no discussion.

5. Items from Consent Agenda Pulled for Discussion and/or Action Required

GENERAL CHAIR

Arce noted that this item also appears later in the agenda but will handle now. Proposing that Tom Rieman from HWSA be appointed as interim Open Water Chair until elections next April.

Motion to approve: Brown, second – Capen. Approved unanimously with no discussion.

Budgeting Process

Arce said that chairs would be receiving budget information from Pam or Mark in the near future in preparation for the next meeting and crafting a budget to submit to the HOD. He stressed that it will be challenging moving forward, but that we should be moving back to athlete-centric activities, rather than the club support that has occupied the last 18 months. Budget items should be prioritized and justified, identifying the imperative and those that are more wish list items. We will look at best- and worst-case scenarios.

Several Board members asked questions about our current financial situation and expressed concern about the uncertainty of knowing revenue from membership and meet fees. Tucci stated that he feels we did the right thing during the past 18 months and that we are in good shape. We need to think about moving forward in total reset mode, making the best range of assumptions possible. We are eager to get numbers from committees so we can see where we are. He noted that this is one of the reasons that the HOD was pushed to October, to allow this process to happen.

Capen asked about the budget as to where we are at today. Tucci said that there was \$400,00 for club support in the budget, but more than that because we went through two fiscal years. Lowenthal said to look at the budget vs. actuals. No money was taken out of the AEF and Money Market. Trials support totaled \$16,409. We will be taking \$40,000 from Money Market to pay stipends to Academy for Championship meets. But we are still within the USA Swimming mandate for money in operational funds.

Capen wanted to know how big a range of budgeting do we need to consider as we reset. Arce said that the question was fair, but we can't come up with a best guess until we look at athlete numbers for this year. Capen asked if there are any fixed items that will be budgeted no matter what, like Duel in the Pool and travel support? Do these need to be budgeted for or are these fixed? Tucci said that he would talk with Pam about Duel in the Pool on Monday. We will move forward with a budget for it and see what happens. Arce said we would budget for travel support for World Championship Trials April 26-30. If we are not comfortable with where we are at, we can ask the House if we can use funds from AEF.

Reminders

Planning to hold an **in-person House of Delegates on Sunday, October 10** at the Burr Ridge Marriott. Hotel has been contacted and has space available. Discussing ways to provide ways to view the meeting virtually, but only one voting method can be used. Yetter feels that in person voting will be a better solution; an all-electronic option would be at the mercy of the Wi-Fi at the hotel, and most likely a problem. Yetter to send out announcement for submission of rules changes shortly.

The USAS Annual Meeting will be held September 23-25, with the House of Delegates on September 25. Arce reminded voting delegates (currently Arce, Yetter, Capen, Krull, Barker, Emary) to review all materials prior to the meeting. He also reported that he is working with Denise Thomas at HQ for additional at-large votes per USA Swimming Corporate By-Laws so we can use as many people from Illinois Swimming as possible. Website to register for the Annual Meeting: <https://fs22.formsite.com/usaswimming/rukb2dxfea/index.html>

Motion to approve General Chair report – Tucci; second - Capen. Approved unanimously.

ADMIN VICE CHAIR REPORT

Yetter noted that his report included an update of the Policy and Procedures document. He apologized for the lateness of the report but was moving two kids to college. The P&P Manual currently does not have a methodology for amendment, which is proposed and included. Topline revisions: Add policy for the ARB consistent with what we have been doing for the past two years; . renumbering, Secretary description added to Board Positions; redefines makeup of Executive Committee, which is not included in current; simplified document retention and destruction; create a meet administration section and move relevant items to it; create a section to put temporary policies.

Lawrence pointed out that the Executive Committee was removed by the HOD when Steve Mitchell was General Chair. He remembered Bill Schalz speaking strongly on the dissolution. *[Secretary's note: proposed legislation in Fall 2017 HOD packet R-15: "To eliminate the Executive Committee because it is no longer needed, given the availability of meeting via electronic means. Rule 605.7" Rule required 90% vote due to submission within 30 days of HOD. Unable to locate record of vote.]*

Yetter said the need for an Executive Committee has been abundantly clear over the past 18 months in order to handle things at speed. Lawrence countered that once the HOD has taken action, especially to improve transparency, the Board cannot undo that action. There are parliamentary ways to handle. Arce said that there was a Spring 2018 reference to USA Swimming BOD; he didn't think that this refers to our LSC governance. *Lawrence was asked to find the reference to the legislation.*

Yetter noted that Policy 3.3, re-establishing the Executive Committee of the Board, needs to go to HOD. He suggested the change be tabled and readdressed next month.

Lawrence questioned the presence of warm-up procedures in the document. Yetter said they always have been in P&P, changed at HOD. The effect is simply a renumbering. The HOD passed that the Meet Director and Meet Referee can establish warm-up procedures to serve the meet.

Lawrence also asked about the section on acceptance of meet entries, commenting that there are a lot of should vs. shall and must, and noting that the verbiage would negate other references. Refer to 5.0 and 5.1. Yetter answered that the only change is restructuring to include other items, just a renumberative review.

Motion to approve all P&P changes except section 3.3 – Yetter, second – Capen. Approved unanimously.

Motion to approve Admin Vice Chair report – Hnatiuk; Capen - second. Approved unanimously.

TREASURER

There were no further questions after the discussion during the General Chair's Report.

Motion to approve Treasurer's Report as presented – Yetter; second - Capen. Approved unanimously.

MEMBERSHIP AND REGISTRATION

Lowenthal noted that she had omitted announcing applications for two new clubs: the Rockford YMCA and the Decatur Turbo Turtles. There is an additional club application in the works, but it is not complete.

Motion to approve report. Yetter; second - Tucci. Approved unanimously.

6. Old Business

Budget Process

Capen confirmed that budget-wise, chairs would be receiving individual emails. He expressed concern that this will be a quick turnaround for a Sept. 8 Board Meeting. Arce said that he was going to propose that the meeting be pushed back a week to the week of Sept. 15. (Ultimately decided that **Tuesday, Sept. 14 at 7 pm** would be best for everyone.)

Club Support

Brown asked about the status of clubs meeting requirements for the third round of club support money. Do we have a tracking mechanism? Have clubs gotten into compliance? According to Lowenthal, the Club listings are up to date on Safe Sport Recognition. A report tracking Safe Sport Recognition vs. clubs that received money will be prepared for the next meeting.

Individual COVID Waivers

Brown asked if we still need individual COVID waivers from our membership. This has been done under the USA Swimming sanctioning guidelines, but individual waivers have been removed from latest version. A waiver notice should be included in meet packets. Yetter reported that he had discussion with USAS General Counsel, without good direction. He noted that waivers are not effective per the Illinois Supreme Court, which has said that parents may not waive negligence on behalf of their children.

Motion to stop requiring individual waivers – Yetter, second – Capen. Brown asked if we needed to get advice on this from USA Swimming or other sources. Lowenthal said that many LSCs

are not doing waivers anymore. Arce said he is fine with moving forward without consulting. He said that waivers have been a giant waste of resources in the office and for coaches.

Motion passed unanimously.

Open Water State Meet

Lawrence said he was surprised that Lake Villa was selected as site for Open Water State meet and wondered if anyone had done a site visit. Arce said that Tom Rieman had done so and met with someone from the village who was proposed as the independent safety officer. A task force was working on a safety plan and sanctioning. Arce asked Lawrence about his concerns. He replied: depth of the lake, only one access road in and out, limited parking, lakes in Lake County susceptible to swimmers' itch, only boats with 10hp trolling motor allowed. Arce said the group would continue to work, and that he would listen to feedback from Mike Cunningham and Tom Rieman

7. New Business

FY 21-22 Budget

Previously discussed.

USAS Annual Meeting Update

Arce asked if everyone had a chance to see the proposal from Age Group Development on Development Competition and/or follow the discussion on social media. He welcomed comments and feelings heading into the September HOD.

The proposal calls for creating a whole new class of meets, which is why it is legislation, according to Lowenthal. Several Board members noted that meets can already be structured this way and asked if clubs in Illinois would be running meets as proposed with mostly 50s. Arce said it might behoove us to run shorter meets, but not certain what the specified legislation accomplishes. This may apply to other parts of the country more than us; we have already run two-hour meets because we had to. Capen thought officials staffing was different, but Lowenthal noted that other legislation would add the development meets to requirements for dual and intra-squad meets requiring three officials (referee, starter and administrative official).

Lawrence commented that the proposal does not harm and might be a reset for the Age Group Committee to create a forward-looking avenue for young people to come into the sport differently. We obviously can create our own ecosystem for swim meets, and he hoped that Illinois Swimming would support the legislation on behalf of other clubs.

Arce asked if there was anything else in the proposed legislation that was concerning. Capen asked about what was happening with the national HOD legislation, noting that a new working committee was created. He thought that any new proposals from the group would require sharing with the membership 45 days prior to the HOD. Lawrence confirmed this. He also said that when you read the USOPC bylaws, the decertification process is not as straightforward as it seems. It takes at least six months to decertify an NGB. Yetter also said the process was not easy, and that the deadline for new HOD structure is actually Dec. 31. Speakers were confident that eventually something will be in place that is palatable for everyone.

Capen asked how many days' notice the Working Group needs to give to the General Membership. Yetter noted that potential amendments to noted discussion are different from original proposals. Lawrence was trying to get confirmation from the group during discussion. Arce asked that he follow up with any information to the Board.

ILSI Rules and Regs Input

Yetter will be seeking input for changes to Illinois Swimming Rules and Regs prior to the October HOD. The deadline will probably be September 10.

8. **Next Meeting:** TUESDAY, September 14 at 7pm with focus on budget. Committee reports in .PDF format to Pam by Thursday, September 9. Please note “No Report” if none is available.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion–Yetter, second–Tucci. Unanimous approval at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Spittler
ISI Secretary

APPROVED