



Illinois Swimming Inc. Board of Directors Meeting November 10, 2021 via Zoom



General Chair Jeff Arce called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Jeff Arce, Brian Brown, Jayne Spittler, Mark Tucci, Amie Adams, Pam Lowenthal, Jack Yetter, Todd Capen, Will Barker, Tom Rieman, TJ Moran, Amanda Schleede, Alex Cramer, Ben Pearthree, Savanna Huang, Annabel Oliva, Aidan Puk, Michael Lawrence (observer).

ABSENT: Rob Emary, Casey Hnatiuk

2. Approval of October 2021 BOD Minutes

No formal minutes taken; the October Board Meeting reviewed HOD presentations and budget.

3. Current Business & Strategic Discussion

None

4. Reports and Action Items

REPORTS SUBMITTED: General Chair, Admin Vice Chair, Treasurer, Age Group Vice Chair, Operation Risk Chair, Registration/Membership Coordinator, Diversity/inclusion/Equity, Open Water, Safe Sport

NO REPORT AT THIS TIME: Senior Vice Chair

NO REPORT SUBMITTED: Coaches Rep, Athlete Reps, Officials, Program Ops

Arce moved that reports not pulled (all except Open Water) be approved. Second -- Barker
Approved unanimously

5. Items Pulled for Discussion and/or Action Required

COACHES

While there was no formal Coaches report, Adams brought to the Board's attention that coaches were looking for an unofficial planning calendar for meets happening in January and February. The Coaches Committee was planning to send out a Google form to be filled out by Dec. 1 that would collect meets being planned. Arce suggested that rather than using a Google doc, the Committee establish a Google Sheet (Excel format) that coaches could access directly and add information to. This would be easier than a filling out a form. The link could be publicized on the ILS Coach FB Group and clearly marked as an unofficial compilation, pending the completion of sanctioning requirements. Brown said this was a great idea, as long as the Coaches Committee spearheaded, not the office.

OPEN WATER

Capen noted that several potential venues for OW competitions were listed in the report, but no dates. He asked that dates or timelines be provided so that clubs can plan for the future. Rieman said that he was thinking of a couple of preliminary meets leading up to an LSC Championship in August after pool Zone meets. Several Board members worried about participation that late in the season. Rieman said with the addition of several lead-up meets, it would be hard to fit it in sooner. Arce asked that the Open Water Committee prepare a planning calendar of proposed competition dates for the next Board meeting, or January at the latest. This will allow communication with the LSC, and the allocation of resources, especially across multiple events. Capen liked that we are trying to create an Open Water track.

Capen asked if we needed to identify any additional travel support for Open Water for this fiscal year. Rieman said we might need to add the Las Vegas Open in October, as that meet grows. But for

now, just Nationals and Junior Nationals in Ft. Myers in early April. Lawrence noted that nationally, Open Water competition is being bookended by Ft. Myers and Las Vegas. He suggested the committee might look for other opportunities for funding as prep meets for these competitions.

Capen moved to accept the report, Yetter seconded. **Approved unanimously.**

6. Old Business

Arce welcomed Ben Pearthree as a co-chair of DEI with Alex Cramer. He noted that the committee is going to attack a lot of things regarding DEI that have not been addressed for quite some time. He suggested that Board members read the DEI report, and that we look forward to working with both Alex and Ben.

7. New Business

APRIL ZONE MEETINGS - DENVER

Arce reported that the replacement for Convention/Zone Workshops is an in-person meeting in Denver April 21-24. LSC General Chairs have been told to invite those who would have gone to Convention. While Arce thought it would be an unbudgeted expense to send people, Yetter pointed out that we included this under Convention travel, because we didn't know what else to call it. Lowenthal said the focus on the meetings would be DEI and Safe Sport, with all Zones meeting together and then splitting out. Not all committees will be meeting or providing content, but groups like Officials should be represented in the Zone meetings. Central Zone LSC General Chairs have been contacted to identify before December 1 three non-athlete members to be considered as CZ voting delegates to the next Annual Business Meeting. Arce asked Board Members to let him know if they would be unable to attend.

UPDATED COMMITTEE STRUCTURE/COMPOSITION

Capen provided an update on committee structure and appointments to bring us into compliance with new athlete representation legislation (33%) and our recently updated and approved By-Laws and Policies and Procedures.

The goal of committee appointments was to get more people involved in governance and try to not double up on committee membership. Discussed later is the need to elect two additional athlete representatives to the Board of Directors. Capen shared a chart of committee structure to date, with some groups non-compliant while waiting for responses on invitations (DEI, Coaches, Safe Sport). Others (Senior Committee) await results of athlete election on Dec 5. The Open Water and Age Group Committees were compliant. Arce pointed out that since the deadline to have Committee assignments in place was 30 days after HOD, a non-compliant committee could not meet until its membership was complete.

Capen noted that the Performance Committee might be compliant, but it is defined with a certain number of coach members, and that the coaches chair and Performance Director are on it per by-laws. It has had three athlete members, but now needs four. Lawrence suggested the committee composition be made compliant; anyone can attend meetings and serve on task forces and subcommittees.

He also noted that Aidan Puk has two roles, on Governance and on Open Water as the Junior Athlete Rep. This was intentional.

Capen wondered if Alexis Keto would remain on the Governance Committee. No one was able to answer the question. He also noted that Rules & Regulations was not discussed at the HOD, nor is it in by-laws or P&P. Some thought that the Governance Committee replaced R&R, but this is not true. It replaced a stand-alone Nominating Committee.

Discussion about the composition of Rules&Regs ensued. Results eventually will be added to Policy and Procedures. Since the next meeting of Rules&Regs is in August, this is not particularly urgent. Capen recommended that the Administrative Vice Chair be on the committee as its chair, and that Program Operations Chair also should be assigned. Yetter suggested the Officials Chair, but Capen countered that officials would be represented by Program Ops. All agreed that the committee should be six members total – two athletes and four non-athlete members. Its main function is to be certain that ILSI rules agree with USA Swimming rules that are established and serve as proofreaders for proposed legislation.

The goal is to have all committees compliant by Monday, November 15 when Capen will update the website with names.

Arce thanked Capen for chasing people to get committees structured. Capen apologized to all if he seemed annoying.

ATHLETE REP ELECTIONS

To make the Board in compliance with the 33% athlete rule, a special election needs to be held for two additional athlete reps. Capen thanked the athlete reps for their work on the election and asked what the next steps were. Huang noted that it was difficult to find a good date for elections, with the holidays and meets for HS Championships filling the calendar. They decided on Sunday, December 5. Capen asked them to edit the Google Doc they had shared with Arce and Lowenthal so it could be formatted and blasted out to all athletes.

The elections will be for two different terms – one two-year (actually one year, four months since elections would be Spring 2023) and one one-year (actually four months with a Spring 2022 election). In addition, Arce will appoint one athlete rep with a term to expire April 2022 to fill an existing opening.

Discussion ensued on how the elections would be structured: one election, with person with most votes serving the longer term? Or two elections, one for each position. The terms “junior” and “senior” athlete reps also were clarified, referring to rank rather than year in school. Several (Puk, Lawrence) were concerned that if a college-bound senior were elected to the two-year position, they would not be active members once they went off to school. Most were in agreement to hold one election, with the person receiving the most votes to assume the longer term. An alternate suggestion was that the oldest person would get the shortest term. Capen expressed support for the former option, saying that the athletes should understand what they are running for and what the responsibilities are. Puk agreed, saying that the athletes are capable of nominating people who will be involved. Several reinforced that the athletes need to lay out the responsibilities, so we have active members on the board. It was agreed that there should be one election for two positions – the highest vote getter to assume the longer term.

8. **Next Meeting:** Tuesday, December 14 at 7:30pm via Zoom (to avoid Junior Nationals and ILSI Champ Meet Host Meeting. Committee reports in .PDF format to Pam by Thursday, December 9. Please note “No Report” if none is available.
9. **Adjournment:** Motion – Yetter, second – Barker. Unanimous approval at 8:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Spittler
ISI Secretary