



Illinois Swimming Inc. Board of Directors Meeting

March 10, 2021 via Zoom



General Chair Jeff Arce called the meeting to order at 7: 01pm.

1. Roll Call

PRESENT: Jeff Arce, Jack Yetter, Todd Capen, Jon Cabel, Brian Brown, Mark Tucci, Jayne Spittler, Melissa Healy, Casey Hnatiuk, Carlos Ceja, Amanda Schleede, Amie Adams, Rob Emery, Pam Lowenthal, Laurel Whittington, Annabel Oliva, Greta Pelzak, Michael Lawrence (observer), Mike Eschenbach (observer), Barb Cunningham (observer).

ABSENT: Jenna Krull.

2. Adoption of February 2021 BOD Minutes

- Motioner – Yetter, Second – Tucci.
- Approved with no additional discussion.

3. Current Business & Strategic Discussion - none

4. Consent Agenda

PULLED: Officials

APPROVED AS SUBMITTED: Admin Vice Chair, General Chair, Treasurer, Operational Risk, Program Ops, Safe Sport, Registration/Membership

NO REPORT: Age Group Chair, Coaches Reps, Athlete Reps, Senior Vice Chair, Diversity/Inclusion, Open Water

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

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

Officials

Schleede announced that an additional official has been invited to Olympic Trials. As a point of reference, Yetter shared that only one \$1500 scholarship was included in the budget. Schleede asked that an additional scholarship be added, updating her report to reflect that this official will work Wave 1 of Trials, which is a four-day prelims/finals meet, and seeking \$600.

Lowenthal asked if additional officials would be invited, and if there would be a ceiling on scholarships. Schleede, Yetter and Spittler said it was unlikely that more officials would be invited; Illinois has never had more than three officials at Trials. The suggestion was made that if more were invited, it be decided on a case by case basis. Capen suggested that perhaps money for championship meets should be allocated as we do for athletes. Arce said this was a discussion for another time.

Motion: To add \$600 to the Officials' Scholarship budget to cover an additional official invited to Wave 1 of Olympic Trials. Second – Yetter. Unanimously approved.

Motion to approve report as presented: - Yetter moved, Cabel seconded. Approved unanimously.

6. Old Business

- Tucci reported that our PPP resolution approved at last Board meeting was accepted; the process was very smooth. Neither Tucci nor Lowenthal have heard anything since. Lowenthal will email Sarah for update tomorrow. She also will confirm with Paul (auditor) that he applied for forgiveness for the first wave. All paperwork was provided to him.
- IDPH Update – Arce said there is no news. IDPH is purely focused on getting kids back in school and working with Board of Education. They keep encouraging vaccinations to open things up. Will provide a more detailed update at HOD.
- Arce apologized for no governance report. He is still seeking an athlete for the committee. He is hoping to get a list of the committee out by email in the next week or so.
- Arce nudged the Nominating Committee to produce a slate soon, per the by-laws.
- Reminder that HOD is April 11 at 1pm. Virtual. HOD Reports due to Pam by April 4. Jayne to send reminder.
- Lawrence asked where the dip in registration was occurring. Arce said athlete membership decline was mostly due to clubs not being in their own facilities, or not being able to open fully. He gave the example of PAC, which is only allowed 50 athletes at a time in the pool, with limited practice time due to high school. Club has gone from 300 to 200 registrations. PAC allowed 50 athletes at a time in the pool, around hs. Swimmers. Have gone from 300 to 200. Lowenthal added that south suburban clubs have been particularly hard hit, because they have no water. Arce said they are struggling for help and guidance to get up and running. Schleede said officials' registrations are down because there have not been meets to officiate, and some are waiting for meets to open up to re-register.

7. New Business

Capen addressed the Winter Open meet, kicking off in eight days. The Performance Committee did not leave wiggle room in the meet packet to add additional finals heats if mitigation efforts were relaxed. The sanctioned meet has only an A Final. Committee reached out to Brown as Program Ops Vice Chair to see if there were any avenues open to add a B Final. After due diligence, Brown came back to the Committee saying the rules required the meet had to stand as sanctioned.

Capen and the Committee sought avenues to be able to add a B Final, that being that a new sanction be given, even though it is outside the 30 day deadline. This would require the Board to waive the 30-day rule for sanctioning of meets for this particular meet only.

Motion (Yetter): To waive the 30 day rule for the sanctioning of meets for this particular meet only, so that a new sanction with a B Final can be granted. Second – Tucci.

In discussion, Brown noted that he has taken a lot of heat and backlash for his position. He said that as a swim coach, he is all in favor of the additional heat. But as the VP of Program Ops, the rules provided no leeway. He will be a negative vote because he did not have a choice. Yetter, as chair of the Rules & Regulations Committee, said there have been many discussions with Brian about this. Capen, Yetter and Arce said that Brown absorbed a lot of heat unnecessarily from those with other views. Capen noted that Brown followed the process, and that he supported his actions.

Arce, as a member of the Performance Committee, called attention to that body's lack of planning for multiple eventualities (such as the loosening of restrictions) as a failure to create a meet packet with some flexibility. He is hoping that by Board action on a one-time-only basis, without setting a precedent, that we can provide the opportunity for more athletes to race long course at finals.

Motion passed with two negative votes.

Capen will send revised meet packet to Lowenthal for sanctioning. He also will send a notice to all teams in the meet.

8. **Next Meeting:** Arce noted that our regularly scheduled meeting on April 14 would occur after the HOD. He proposed that the next meeting be **Wednesday, April 7, 2021, 7pm** via Zoom to prepare for HOD. BOD Committee reports in pdf format due to Pam by Friday, April 2.
9. **Adjournment:** Motioned – Ceja, second – Yetter Unanimous approval at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jayne Spittler
ISI Secretary

APPROVED