

2017 USAS Convention Report

Submitted by: Gregory Temple, Iowa Swimming SafeSport Chair

I was honored with the opportunity to represent Iowa Swimming at the 2017 USAS Convention in Dallas, TX from September 13 through September 17. This is the second year that I've been able to attend and once again, I was staggered by the amount of information that I was able to collect. They are able to pack so many relevant swimming topics into such a short time span.

As the SafeSport chair, I attended all of the SafeSport relevant chats I could considering my travel schedule. The two presentations I was able to see dealt with male survivors of abuse and mental health. Both talks touched on identifying the signs and overcoming obstacles in getting people/athletes the help that they might need. Considering the heavy subject matter, they were able to convey it in a way that made it approachable.

I was unable to attend the first few meets since I arrived late on Wednesday but I did look through the posted material sent out by SafeSport Director Susan Woessner. The SafeSport mission has not changed. The goal is the protection of all USA Swimming members including athletes, officials, coaches, and volunteers. USA Swimming is encouraging the addition of SafeSport reps from every club which was included on the ISI 2018 club application. They are also in the process of creating a SafeSport club certification.

Other meetings I was able to sit in on included SWIMS/time recognition, facilities development and all the Central Zone general and coaches meetings. I also attended the USA Swimming Board of Directors meeting after the final HOD. A lot of experience in that room and it was interesting to sit in a be a part of that. I am amazed by how well the meetings are run and organized.

It was nice to listen to Tim Hinchey speak during both the town hall meeting and give the state of the sport address during the House of Delegates. I believe he genuinely cares about the sport and will do a great job leading USA Swimming.

I would like to thank ISI for the opportunity to represent the LSC once again. It's truly an honor and I hope to be afforded this opportunity in the future.

Please contact me with any further questions.

Greg Temple
ISI SafeSport Chair