

NE Swimming Board of Directors
Meeting Harvard Pilgrim Center
Wellesley, Massachusetts
November 1, 2016
Approved minutes, February 6, 2017

Board Members:

Present: Jordan Arnold (SAC), Arthur Athanas (YNS), Elise Atkinson (CS), Chuck Batchelor (ABF), Matt Craven (SAC), Brian Crawford (ESC), Michelle Mitchell (CRIM), Priscilla Davis (UN), Joe Frazier (UN), Sean Geary (CRIM), Harrison Homans (ABF), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Betsy Russell (CS), Chris Sheppard (CS)

Absent: Mary Buckley (KING), Ray Grant (SSA), Anne Kaufman (UN), Laura Matuszak (GMA), Paul Memont (UN), Kayla Metivier (PHX), Marshall Muir (ENVY), Rick Osterberg (UN), Nick Rice (ABF)

Guests: Lisa Black Sholudko (KING), Consi Faling (CS) Ken Galica (UN), Carol Healey (UN), Mary Ellen Tynan (UN), Alan Sanders (CCSC),

7:00 pm – Quorum reached – BOD Meeting called to order by General Chair, Matt Craven:

- 1. Welcome remarks:** Matt Craven opened with general welcome.
- 2. Secretary's Report, Michelle Mitchell:** Minutes from June 7, 2016 meeting reviewed. Motion to pass with small typo corrections by Matt Craven, seconded by Chuck Batchelor. Motion passes. Minutes from September 12, 2016 meeting reviewed. Motion to pass with small typo corrections by Arthur Athanas, seconded by Chris Sheppard. Motion passes.
- 3. Treasurer's Report/Budgeting Recommendations for the 2016-2017 fiscal year:** Joe Frazier reported the financial balances which are available on request from the NES Office. Carol Healey added that she filed the Massachusetts Annual Report for NE Swim that was due November 1, 2016. She reminded everyone that the fiscal year ends August 31st.

The Finance Committee is working on a policy regarding committee spending.

- 4. Calendar:** The Calendar Committee is working on the details of the 2017 Long Course Calendar. The schedule for 2016-2017 Short Course is complete. Swimmers who turn 15 after the 15-18 meet, but prior to the 11-14 will be eligible to compete in the 15-18 meet provided that have meet the qualifying times for the 15-18 meet. These swimmers will not be eligible to compete in relays as they are age-specific.
- 5. Convention Reports:**

Priscilla Davis convention report – see attached Priscilla also addressed the subject of photography being taken from behind the blocks. She recently questioned USA Swimming about some of their photos being taken from behind the blocks. She shared an email she received from Dan McAllen about it not being a USA Policy, but an LSC policy. The NE Swimming Board of Directors voted on its photography policy in 2014.

Suggestions have been made to amend it for certain pools in the stands. The Technical Committee will address this.

Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck was elected Eastern Zone Diversity Chair. Congratulations Nadine! Nadine shared that she attended a workshop designed for Diversity chairpersons and that US Swim expectations were shared. US Swim is also focusing on developing a new quad plan. Nadine met members of the National Committee including Cathy Mendez. Scholarships and other financial resources were shared. LGBTQ issues were discussed. Skylar Bailor of Harvard spoke on his trans-gender experience. Participants did case studies on diversity and inclusion issues.

Betsy Russell shared that maintaining a safe environment was a focus of the sessions that she attended. Hosts should be provided with Safe Sport materials to be disseminated at meets. A 'Safe Club' seal is coming soon – clubs will be able to attain this for adopting policies, etc.

Mary Ellen Tynan attended the Convention representing ½ Maine and ½ New England. Mary Ellen shared that as of January 1, 2017, Deck Pass must be accepted as proof of registration for deck access. The Eastern Zone schedule is available on the web. The March Short Course Zone Meet will move to qualifying times in 2018. Kyle Schack has been looking at whether or not New England wants to consider going back to this meet. Would qualifying times make a difference?

Consi Faling shared that there are fellowship opportunities available. There is also a movement to help athletes transition into becoming coaches. Athletes are also encouraged to attend governance meetings.

Elise Atkinson – Elise attended sessions on Safe Sport, Rules & Regulations and Communications. She was told that the Eastern Zone is very organized by athletes of other LSCs.

Carol Healey – Carol attended many sessions. She also discussed that USA Swimming is considering a pre-competition membership that is less expensive than a regular membership.

Matt Craven – Matt attended a session of General Chairs and met Frank Bush. Matt also attended a Diversity & Inclusion session where LBGQT brochures were shared. Matt attended a 'Swim Biz' session that focused on the financial and social media aspects of club/LSC management. A workshop is being offered in April in Colorado Springs. Lastly, Matt attended a session on Rules & Regulations where protocols were reviewed – i.e. Committees report into Boards and Boards report to its membership.

6. Committee Reports

- a. **Senior Committee:** Chuck Batchelor has no update at this time. Long Course Champs will be scheduled about two weeks before Nationals.
- b. **Age Group Committee:** Sean Geary indicated that the SC schedule is finished and that work is being done to finalize the LC calendar. 14 & Under LC Champs are expected to be at Harvard. After that, consideration will be given to developing the next Quad Plan.
- c. **Inclusion Committee:** Nadine Johnson-Jesionek indicated that this committee would be meeting later in November.
- d. **Officials Committee:** Ken Galica spoke for Paul Memont who could not be present. Ken said there are 489 officials as of October 17, 2016. Training – We have been running a number of clinics since the start of the new year, including both stroke and turn clinics and starter clinics, and they have been run all over the LSC. Recruitment – There has been a very good turnout at the clinics and we are optimistic about building the ranks with new officials. We are trying to get word out about the requirements: registration, clinic, testing and apprentice sessions. It does not need to be done in order. Encouraging folks to come on deck and apprentice and see if it is something they are interested in. If not, see if they are instead interested in the dry side and running the computer. Retention – Efforts are being made to retain New England officials. We are trying to get out word at our meets to the officials who have been working for two years at their current position and see if they want to advance to the next level. Senior Meet – If the Board has no objection, we would suggest that Dave Travers be the Meet Referee for the New England Swimming Senior Championship at WPI in December with Bob Menck as the Admin Referee. Plans are underway to have the meet be approved as an OQM.– We were fortunate to send two officials to Arizona recently. In October, Tristin Mannion and Matt Soska attended training hosted by US Swimming. I attended a We ARRE Mentors – I workshop hosted by USA Swimming in October. The focus was on mentoring and recognizing new and existing officials, evaluation and how to raise the exposure of officials in general.
- e. **Coaches Committee:** No update at this time as Marshall Muir and Nick Rice were not present.

- f. Safe Sport Committee:** Consi Faling mentioned that there was a Safe Sport table at the NE Swimming banquet. .
 - g. Athletes' Committee:** Elise Atkinson is working on the athlete newsletter, developing a structure for their budget, planning events such as Water Country Day and developing a structure around supporting athletes' ideas. Jordan Arnold wants to get more reps involved. He said that younger kids are interested in governance yet they need would information.
 - h. Safety Committee:** No update from Priscilla Davis outside of her Convention report.
 - i. Competition Manager:** Alan Sanders discussed a meet where the four-hour rule was willfully disobeyed and the host easily agreed to pay the fine of \$500. It is not good for kids to attend a meet longer than four hours and Alan struggles to find a way to enforce this rule as in some cases it is easy enough for the host to simply pay the fine.
- 7. Appointments:** Beth Wiegel was appointed as an At-Large Member with an interest in Diversity & Inclusion. Chuck Batchelor made a motion and Arthur Athanas seconded. Motion passed.
- 8. Office Report:** Carol Healey shared that registrations are up due to increased interest after the Olympics. Carol also shared a few words about the banquet – Rick Osterberg served as master of ceremonies. The kids played a bingo game which they really enjoyed. It was a successful event after a lot of work. Elizabeth Beisel is expected to offer another clinic soon.
- 9. Other:** Priscilla Davis expressed that she would like to work with a coach and an athlete on safety. Elise Atkinson agreed to resend outreach for this. There was a brief discussion of re-categorizing top swimmers. It was decided to leave the structure as is.
- 10. Next Meeting:** The next meeting date will be January 9, 2017. Details to follow by email and to be posted on the NE Swim website.

Matt Craven motioned to adjourn at 8:35pm. Joe Frazier seconded.

**Respectfully submitted,
Michelle R. Mitchell, Secretary
NE Swimming**