



**NEW
ENGLAND
SWIMMING**

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, April 21, 2020, 5:00pm

Remote Meeting via Zoom

MISSION: To provide opportunities for all to achieve their highest potential in competitive swimming.

VISION: Inspired. United. Fast.

ATTENDANCE:

Board Members Present: (19) Matt Soska (UN), Brian Crawford (ESC), Bill Glass (BGSC), Bob Menck (UN), Chris Sheppard (CS), Kelty White (CRIM), Betsy Russell (UN), Anne Kaufman (UN), Ken Galica (UN), Lisa Black Sholudko (UN), Rick Osterberg (UN), Todd Bohannon (ex-officio, PHX), Meghan Feran (SOLO), Janet Harty (YNS), Erik Linseisen (UN), Jake Eastman (SOLO), Isabelle Hiller (UVAC), Ellie Soska (CRIM), Aaron Zhu (SOLO)

Board Members Absent: (2) Caleigh Wukitch (KING), Malicia Policard (CS)

Guests: (12) Carol Healey (UN), Moriah Tyrrell (UN), Gretchen Turner (USC), Nadine Johnson-Jesionek (UN), Patrick Hunter (UN), Jon Castaldo (CRA), Alessandro Eramo (YNS), Matt Craven (CRIM), Grace Dondield (EVO), Eva Frazier (EDGE), Emily Murphy (GS), John Cha (CRA)

MINUTES

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order by General Chair Matt Soska at 5:02pm.

2. State of the LSC

The state of Massachusetts has announced they will be conducting remote learning through the end of the school year. The state of Rhode Island has not yet announced their plans for the rest of the school year.

All Summer 2020 Zones meets have been cancelled across the United States.

USA Swimming has not yet announced their decision for Sectionals and Futures this summer.

Brown University has cancelled all on-campus residential clinics and camps through July. The university will make decisions on all non-residential programming at a later date (will be making their decisions on a week to week basis).

3. Approval of Meeting Minutes

Having been moved and seconded, the minutes from the April 7th and April 14th Board of Directors meeting were approved unanimously.

4. Update from Eastern Zone Meeting

The 2020-2021 Eastern Zone Swimming budget was approved. The qualifying period for all 2021 Zone Championship meets will be as of January 1, 2019 onward.



There is now a sub-committee for Open Water charged with working with Technical Planning on the planning and development of the Open Water Circuit. Committee members include Bob Menck and Ellie Soska from New England Swimming.

There will be an Eastern Zone DEI Camp in 2021. The 2020 Multi-Cultural meet (“Cinco de Mayo”) that had been scheduled for May 2020 was cancelled due to COVID-19 and will be rescheduled for 2022.

Aaron Zhu from New England Swimming was nominated to serve as an Athlete Representative for Eastern Zone Swimming.

To learn more about activities within the Eastern Zone, please visit the Eastern Zone Swimming website (<http://www.easternzoneswimming.org/>).

5. Update from Weekly LSC Leaders Call

USA Swimming Foundation passed a resolution for a \$1,000,000 grant program. The program will be very targeted to those clubs in the greatest need across the country. The support program will be a two-phased approach: the first phase to support those in the greatest need now, and the second phase to support those in the greatest need when back to operations.

The priority for USA Swimming for the remainder of the LCM season will be to prioritize the health and safety of its swimmers over competition, and therefore taking a more local/regional view as opposed to national view.

USA Swimming’s policy on athlete transfers will not be handled until a future date.

6. Finance Committee: COVID-19 Relief Grant Program Award Recommendations

The Finance Committee reported on their award recommendations (*attachment: NESwim_C19ReliefGrant_AwardList_20Apr2020.pdf*) to the Board of Directors at the April 21st BOD meeting. The award recommendation report represents the following:

- 37 eligible applications were approved representing a total of \$172,803 in funding
- 2 additional applications remain under review for eligibility
- 21 clubs have chosen to recruit new officials as a requirement of the grant program
- 36 clubs have chosen to participate in or attend a New England Swimming LSC Board sponsored event as a requirement of the grant program

Having been moved and seconded, the Board of Directors unanimously accepted the report from the Finance Committee.

Letters of agreement will now be sent to all award recipients for their signature prior to funding. Once a signed agreement is received back from the recipient, a check will be issued with a goal of all funding checks to be in grant recipient hands by May 1st, 2020.

For reference purposes, the following documents from the New England Swimming COVID-19 Relief Grant Program have been provided as attachments to these minutes:

- Program Overview: *NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgramOverview_FINAL.pdf*
- Program FAQs: *NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgram_FAQsFINAL.pdf*
- Program Announcement: *NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgramAnnmtFINAL.pdf*
- Application (screenshots of online application): *NESwim_C19ReliefGrant_Application.pdf*



7. Strategic Communications Committee Update

There have been no formal meetings since the April 14th BOD meeting to report on.

Chris Sheppard, Development and Performance Vice-Chair, has sent communications to the LSC about how planning will be handled for the remainder of the LCM season once facilities begin reopening and public health advisories are lifted.

The webinar series began on April 18th. The first one was held with Alex Meyer, and 47 athletes participated. The next webinar will be on April 25th with Steve and Cole Kuster, followed by one with Elizabeth Beisel on May 2nd.

8. Other Business

The Board discussed frequency of meetings going forward and decided on a bi-weekly schedule of Tuesdays at 5pm. With this change, there will also be a return to the consent agenda format.

The Executive Committee will no longer have any pre-scheduled meetings but will meet on an as-needed basis moving forward.

Laura Matuszak, member of the New England Swimming Governance Committee, will be conducting a formal onboarding session for Board members at the next Board of Directors Meeting. During this onboarding session, topics like fiduciary and ethical responsibilities as well as committee work will be covered.

In light of the financial impact of COVID-19, the Finance Committee will be reconsidering the previously proposed 2021 Budget and will present an updated budget to the Board so that it will be ready for when the HOD meeting is ultimately scheduled.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Tuesday, May 5th at 5:00pm.

9. Adjournment

Having been moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 5:38pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelty White
Secretary

Attachments: *NESwim_C19ReliefGrant_AwardList_20Apr2020.pdf*
NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgramOverview_FINAL.pdf
NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgram_FAQsFINAL.pdf
NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgramAnnmtFINAL.pdf
NESwim_C19ReliefGrant_Application.pdf