



**NEW  
ENGLAND  
SWIMMING**

## **BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

Tuesday, March 24, 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.

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### **ATTENDANCE:**

**Board Members Present:** (20) 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), Malicia Policard (CS), Jake Eastman (SOLO), Isabelle Hiller (UVAC), Ellie Soska (CRIM), Aaron Zhu (SOLO)

**Board Members Absent:** (1) Caleigh Wukitch (KING)

**Guests:** (5) Carol Healey (UN), Moriah Tyrrell (UN), Gretchen Turner (USC), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Denise Leckenby (ATST)

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## **MINUTES**

### **1. Welcome**

The meeting was called to order by General Chair Matt Soska at 5:01pm.

### **2. COVID-19 Update**

The Board exchanged brief updates from around the LSC about COVID-19. On the minds of coaches in the LSC is the desire to provide remote instruction to their athletes during this time of social distancing, but the fact that the insurance coverage through USA Swimming does not cover activities that do not have a member coach providing direct and active supervision. (*Reference: USA Swimming Covered Activities document, issued 3/23/2020*) General Chair Matt Soska will report back on any relevant information discussed during the LSC Chairs and LSC Office conference call scheduled for Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> on this topic, and any others that would be useful for our membership during this unprecedented time.

### **3. House of Delegates Meeting Update**

In light of the postponement of the Annual HOD previously scheduled for April 25, 2020, there was a continued discussion about different ways to address certain business needs of the LSC, such as adopting the 2020-2021 budget (the new fiscal year starts September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2020), in light of the uncertainty around whether an in-person HOD meeting will be possible over the next few months. Carol Healey will be researching possible meeting spaces once venues begin to reopen, and Rick Osterberg will consider possible technological options in the event a remote meeting will be necessary.

General Chair Matt Soska will report back on any relevant information from the LSC Chairs and LSC Office conference call scheduled for Thursday, March 26<sup>th</sup> on how other LSC's are planning to handle their HOD meetings during COVID-19. Rick Osterberg will also be checking in with the National Office on this topic.



#### **4. Strategic Communications**

At the March 10<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting, a Communications Task Force was formed to look at how we communicate as a Board to our membership, and to consider possible ideas/additional channels of communication beyond the LSC website to bring to the May BOD meeting.

General Chair Matt Soska would like to expand on the original task force into a Strategic Communications Committee to be co-chaired by Kelty White, Secretary and Carol Healey, Office Manager. The members of this committee are Jon Castaldo (CRA), Gretchen Turner (USC), Moriah Tyrrell (UN), Nadine Johnson-Jesioneck (UN), Todd Bohannon (PHX), Anne Kaufman (UN), Erik Linseisen (UN), Isabelle Hiller (UVAC) and Ellie Soska (CRIM). The committee will work to set a list of objectives/timelines and will provide reports to the Board as other committees do as they embark on their work.

#### **5. Committee Plans for LCM in light of COVID-19**

The Coaches' Committee had a call to discuss various issues teams are experiencing right now, particularly the issue with remote instruction and insurance coverage. They also discussed possible issues down the road with different teams and different timelines for facilities coming back online – i.e. could you lose swimmers to another team if one's facility comes back online sooner than another? The committee is researching resources that might be available to teams in the four states of our LSC (MA/RI/NH/VT).

Development and Performance Committee will be looking at different scenarios for the upcoming LCM season in the event facilities are back online, and the public health emergency has abated. A priority that will inform some of these scenarios will be to maximize splash opportunities for our swimmers at championship meets, and structuring bonus opportunities accordingly.

#### **6. Other Business**

The Finance Committee will be researching ways the LSC might support our membership during these difficult financial times. One idea that has been proposed is to reallocate funds from our club grant program to a possible financial support grant program. The Committee will come back to the Board with a recommendation once they've had a chance to meet and conduct some analysis.

#### **7. Adjournment**

Having been moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:13pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelty White  
Secretary