



BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

Tuesday, April 7, 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), Malicia Policard (CS), Jake Eastman (SOLO), Isabelle Hiller (UVAC), Aaron Zhu (SOLO)

Board Members Absent: (2) Caleigh Wukitch (KING), Ellie Soska (CRIM)

Guests: (10) Carol Healey (UN), Moriah Tyrrell (UN), Gretchen Turner (USC), Nadine Johnson-Jesionek (UN), Patrick Hunter (UN), Jon Castaldo (CRA), Laura Matuszak (GMA), Mike Spring (CRIM), Scott Ellis (UVAC), Alessandro Eramo (YNS)

MINUTES

1. Welcome

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

2. State of the LSC

No updates provided.

3. Approval of March 31st Minutes

Having been moved and seconded, the minutes from March 31st Board of Directors meeting were approved.

4. Finance Committee Recommendation: New England Swimming COVID-19 Relief Grant Program

In his opening remarks, Financial Vice Chair Bill Glass referred to the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program draft plan (*attachment: NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgram_DRAFT.pdf*), written by the Finance Committee, that was circulated to the Board of Directors in advance of the meeting. Representing the Finance Committee, and as the Financial Vice Chair, Bill Glass made a motion that the Board of Directors approve a maximum of \$200,000 for the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program ("Program"), and:

- to authorize the Finance Committee to administer the Program in accordance with the documentation circulated pre-meeting (*attachment: NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgram_DRAFT.pdf*["RGPDraft"]), including the authority to make minor adjustments to the RGPDraft based on final legal and/or accounting expert review;
- to authorize the Finance Committee to administer the Program, including the finalization and release of the formal Application form to be used for clubs applying for relief under such Program, and to review, approve, or not approve such submitted Applications;



- to authorize the Finance Committee to direct the New England Swimming LSC office to disburse funding associated with the approved Program Applications to the applicant clubs, with the intent to complete all distributions before the end of April.

The motion was seconded, and discussion began.

During discussion of this motion, a point of order was raised about compliance with a New England Swimming policy requiring that financial matters must be introduced in one meeting, but may not be voted on until the next meeting. Rick Osterberg noted that although he recalls several times when this was practiced, there is no language in the Bylaws, Policies and Procedures for New England Swimming establishing this policy at this time. He noted that if there were such a policy, the Board could overrule the policy with a 2/3 vote. He said that given the ambiguity of the financial policy, it may be prudent to vote to suspend the rules of that policy for clarity.

Bob Menck made a motion to lay the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program motion on the table to address the New England Swimming Board policy/procedure of financial matters being introduced in one meeting, but not voted on until the next meeting. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

Bob Menck made a motion to suspend the rules with regard to any policy/procedure that would prohibit the adoption of the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program immediately. The motion was duly seconded, and requiring a 2/3 vote, passed unanimously.

Bob Menck made a motion to take the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program motion from the table. The motion was duly seconded and passed unanimously.

Discussion of the initial draft of the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program continued. After further discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

5. Financial Town Hall Recap

Matt Soska and Bill Glass held a Financial Town Hall for Head Coaches and Club Owners on Monday, April 6th. Over 50 people participated on the call representing 46 clubs within the LSC. Participants on the call were generous sharing their experiences thus far with the financial ramifications of the COVID-19 crisis.

6. Update from Development and Performance

The Senior Committee and Age Group Committee met to discuss priorities for the LCM season if/when facilities come back online. The following priorities were established and listed in order:

1. Move meets later.
2. Honor bids already in place. If hosts can move dates, award them the meet. If hosts cannot move dates, offer them a different meet (i.e. Regional type meet instead of 11 – 14 Age Groups).
3. Maximize opportunities for all levels in the LSC, working from the top down.
4. Long course opportunities prioritized for 11&Over, rather than top 10&Unders.

The Calendar Committee reserves the right to adjust the meet schedule as necessary based on the developments surrounding COVID-19.

As of today, Brown University is available to host Senior Championships from August 13th to 16th.

Three different working scenarios for the Age Group Championship Season have been developed with all sites TBD based on priority list and site availability.



If able to happen, all age group championship meets will be timed finals and not trials/finals.

7. Other Business

General Chair Matt Soska appointed the following individuals to the Finance Committee, several of whom are required by the Bylaws: Matt Soska (as General Chair), Bill Glass (as Financial Vice-Chair), Betsy Russell (as Treasurer), Brian Crawford (as Administrative Vice-Chair), Jake Eastman (Athlete member), Aaron Zhu (Athlete member), Kelty White (General Chair Designee) with the advice and consent of the Board of Directors.

New England Swimming has engaged the legal services of outside counsel Tamsin Kaplan from the law firm of Davis Malm at their small non-profit rate. She has reviewed the initial draft materials of the COVID-19 Relief Grant Program and provided input.

Calendar Committee has determined that Spring 2020 Silvers hosts will get to host Spring 2021 Silvers meets if they want them. They would then apply in 2022 as part of the Quad Plan.

The next Board of Directors meeting will be on Tuesday, April 14th at 5:00pm.

8. Adjournment

Having been moved and seconded, the meeting was adjourned at 6:02pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Kelty White
Secretary

Attachments: NESwim_C19ReliefGrantProgram_DRAFT.pdf