

Georgia Swimming Age Group Committee  
Minutes - October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2017, 8:35pm

1. Roll Call, present:

Committee Members		Guests
Lucas Ferreira (Ga), Chair Sydney Pepper (DAQ) Jonathan Shaheen (CCAC), Athlete	Scot Davis (SA) Jamey Myers (SCAT) Mike Wardwell (GOLD)	Sam Wilson (DYNA)

2. Approve [minutes of August Meeting](#)  
Moved by Sydney; Second by Mike W.  
*No further discussion. **Approved.***

3. Zone Team updates

*Sydney: meet is confirmed for Midland, TX. Still working on logistics details.*

*Lucas: there was a concern about how to get to Midland, and the cost of the trip potentially being much higher than in years past. We learned that Southwest flies larger planes to Midland.*

*There was also a concern about many LSCs not attending the meet this year, but according to what we heard at Convention they should all be going. Still, it seems like the cost of this year's trip will be quite higher than in the past (however, we have found out that we seem to be the LSC with the cheapest cost amongst those attending the meet).*

4. Camp updates

- a. Looks like Emory will be available, but prices are higher than first estimate

*Lucas: have heard back from Emory and is currently trying to get final prices. Already got prices on lodging and meals, though, and it seems they are higher than the original estimate. Right now it looks like just lodging and meals will be around \$125/athlete. Once pool rental costs are added, it will definitely be over \$150 (original price goal), maybe over \$200. Lucas asked the committee, based on activities their teams do, would that price be prohibitive?*

*Mike W asked for a review of camp goals and target audience*

*Lucas explained the original intent of the camp is to make it an Age Group Select Camp, bringing together some of the best 14yr olds of the State. Camp would run Friday pm - Sunday am of memorial (4 training sessions in the water, plus some out of the water activities).*

**Note:** [complete camp info can be found here](#)

*Mike W: for GOLD, they try to keep things under \$200.00. Anything with that price and above tends to turn people down*

*Jonathan: same. Even \$195.00 sounds a lot more appealing.*

*Lucas: was thinking along the same lines. Goal is to keep it under \$200.00, but need to get all prices from Emory to see if that's possible.*

*Jamey: a big deciding factor for kids buying into the camp will be the Coach who's brought in (goal is to bring someone from outside the LSC to be the camp's head coach)*

*Lucas thanked everyone for feedback and will keep working with both Emory and Tech to see what the final price will really look like. Hope to have all that info by next meeting.*

- b. How to accommodate Senior committee suggestion to include Senior Zone Team swimmers?

*Update from Lucas: the Senior committee has suggested that, in order to also get camps jump-started for Senior swimmers, we add the 15-18 swimmers selected to the Zone Team into our camp (10 swimmers from each gender, the 8 selected to the team plus the 2 alternates).*

*Question on how we should accommodate that (camp could be too large with 80 swimmers).*

*Mike W: during the 1<sup>st</sup> year, we should keep the camp as originally designed, so that we can really target the audience we are shooting for. Plus, there is a concern about the Zone trip already costing a lot more than in years past, so it would likely be too much to ask for those same swimmers to pay for the camp as well.*

*Committee was in agreement with Mike. No motion from the committee to accommodate 15-18 swimmers at the camp, so camp will be as originally proposed.*

## 5. Old Business

- a. Tech Suit Policy

- i. [Update from Convention](#)

*Link above has Lucas' full report from Convention, including his notes on the Tech suit forum.*

*Lucas added that, following the forum, the feel from most in attendance is that USA-Swimming will keep dragging their feet on this issue, and so if LSCs want to change something they should continue to do so locally. Lucas asked the committee if this is something we should look into.*

*Jamey: it is worth exploring. At least take a look at what other LSCs have done so far, look into how that legislation would be written, and go from there. Lucas also asked if there was anyone in the committee not in agreement of moving forward with legislation on this, no replies.*

*Here are links to info on other LSCs policies on Tech Suits (many of these are news articles, but they have the actual policy wording easy to find - easier than in an LSC Bylaw):*

[Southern California Swimming](#)

[Arkansas Swimming](#)

[New England Swimming](#)

[New Jersey Swimming](#)

[Iowa Swimming](#)

*Committee members are asked to read other LSC's wording and come up with a proposed text to come through the committee, and then be submitted to the next HOD.*

- b. 11-12 stroke (back, breast, fly) Events: drop 50s for SCY; drop 200s for LCM State Champs?

*Lucas asked to move around the agenda items as a number of other topics should be discussed together with this one.*

## 6. New Business

- a. SCY State dates (Tech asked about moving it one week up starting 2019)

*Update from Lucas: Tech contacted Jessica about possibly moving our State meet one week earlier (week right after HS Champs) starting in 2019, as they are looking into securing a contract*

*with a small college conference for the weekend we currently have. Lucas would like to get the committees' feelings on this.*

*Update from Jamey: met with Tech earlier in the week about some of his other meets, and got a little more info about this. They are looking for possible ways to bring in more meets, but would still like to have a good relationship with the LSC. Jamey feels like if we really think we should keep it where it is, they would respect that. Jamey also mentioned there could be a possibility of moving it later (1st weekend in March) rather than earlier.*

*Mike W: concern about moving it early, backing up against HS State and therefore not really allowing a weekend for last-chance meets. If we had to move it, would rather see it moved to latter.*

*Consensus from the committee: would like to keep the meet where it is. If needed to move, would rather move it to later in the season.*

b. LCM State Champs Order of Events

*Lucas: has worked on a draft of Order of Events for the LCM meet, but would like to wait for discussion on some of the topics below prior to sending it out to the committee. As with the SCY meet, we'll wait to hold voting on it during the next LSC meeting, therefore hopefully allowing for feedback from more coaches and teams.*

c. 11-12 stroke (back, breast, fly) Events: drop 50s for SCY; drop 200s for LCM State Champs?

*Proposed by Hugh Convery during the last meeting. Would serve to balance the number of events between 11-12 and 13-14 age groups, and could provide a progression for the 11-12s, steering them towards the 200s of stroke during the SCY season (more chances to get those cuts through the season, and easier to compete in than LCM), and then keeping the 50s during the LCM season. One of the issues with the 200s of stroke during the LCM season is that there are very few opportunities for 11-12s to swim those events and get the cuts during the season.*

*Jonathan: main concern is about dropping the 200s during the LCM season, and possibly not setting the 11-12s correctly for the future, as the 50s go away when swimmers turn 13. One possible solution would be to allow 11-12s who are interested in swimming the 200s of stroke to do so with the 13-14. 200s of stroke could also be turned into 14&U events instead of 13-14.*

*Mike: some teams/coaches feel very strongly about the 50s of stroke, so there is likely not going to be a consensus on this. Perhaps it should just be put for a vote rather than trying to hash it out.*

d. Limit total number of events for swimmers at State (7)?

*This had been brought up at one of our past meetings; at the time, it seemed to have support from the committee, but never made it into a proposal, so Lucas would like to know if this is something we should look into.*

*Mike W: what would the goal of this proposal be? What problem are we trying to address?*

*Lucas: at the time it was talked about it, we were looking into ways to increase % of LSC participating in the State meet, and this option could cause fewer entries from the same pool of athletes, thus allowing for some loosening of the current cuts. Not sure what the actual effect would be since we currently don't have numbers on how many athletes are entering more than 7 individual events, so we should first look into that data.*

*Lucas: when talking about adding a mixed relay to the event line-up, the concerns were that those were not recognized events, and that swimmers are already spread thin over the meet. The USA-Swimming Times and Recognition Committee has announced they will start recognizing NAG and top-10 performances for mixed relays starting in August 2018, leaving the only concern over excessive number of swims. Question over what is more important developmentally for 14&U, the 8<sup>th</sup> or 9<sup>th</sup> event or an additional relay swim?*

*Mike: not sure how many clubs are already self-limiting the number of events they enter swimmers into the meet, and thus this would not change that concern.*

*Tabled for lack of data, will look into it and address again at the next meeting.*

- e. From Technical Planning: review team size (division) structure and align with LSC team reps structure - 0-199: 1 athlete rep (Small Teams); 200-449: 2 athlete reps (Medium Teams); 450+: over 2 athlete reps (Large Teams)

*Lucas: this was originally brought up to Technical Planning with the goal of changing the team size structure for both Senior and Age Group Champs. The Senior committee has voted to eliminate scoring based on team size, and so it only pertains to Age Group.*

*Mike: this would be a radical change from the current numbers. While for large teams the current division (or the awards based on team size) doesn't mean much, he believes if he were a coach from a small team to whom those scores are important, going from competing with teams of up to 80 swimmers to competing with teams of up to 199 would completely eliminate some teams from the actual race*

*Jamey: the team size awards seemed to be prized by the current small teams, and this would be a large change in that structure.*

*No motion from the committee to accept the proposed change. **Team Size Divisions to continue as they currently are.***

- f. 10&U session: eliminate scoring?

*Tabled for lack of time.*

*Mike: if we are seriously going to talk about this, member of the committee need to go out and talk to coaches on other teams to get a sense of how the LSC feels about it.*

## **7. Next meeting: November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017**

**Meeting adjourned at 9:38pm**