

Georgia Swimming Age Group Committee  
Agenda - November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017, 8:35pm  
Phone Call (404-465-2907 or [www.uberconference.com/gaswimming](http://www.uberconference.com/gaswimming))

1. Roll Call, present:

Lucas Ferreira (Ga), Chair Nick Graves, (DYNA) Pike Hightower (RAYS) Sydney Pepper (DAQ) Mike Wardwell (GOLD)	Mike Radford (ABSC) Wes Hamborg (WRA) Jonathan Shaheen (CCAC), Athlete Sophie Taylor (GOLD), Athlete
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2. Approve [minutes of October Meeting](#)

Moved by Mike W; Second by Mike R.

*No further discussion. **Approved***

3. Zone Team updates

*Sydney: nothing new to report, working on hotel reservations.*

*Lucas: nothing new from BOD since our last meeting*

4. Camp updates

*Lucas: has met with Emory and got final prices. While prices for housing and meals were a little higher than expected, it does seem like camp total would still be under \$200.00 (agreed as the 'shock point' at last meeting) and be on budget.*

*Currently working to secure a head coach from outside the LSC, with the goal of having a name who will motivate kids to attend. Has contacted a name who was initially interested but has not heard back in a few weeks now. Will move on, but if anyone can think of a name and/or has a contact please [let Lucas know](#).*

*Will also contact USA-Swimming for info on communications with athletes and parents, as well as for potential camp swag.*

5. Old Business

a. Tech Suit Policy (discussion on where to draw the line, language)

*Lucas updated the committee that once we work and agree on language, Technical Planning will be included on the discussion prior to sending it to the HOD.*

*Mike W shared that he learned from a suit manufacturer rep that they are now working on a suit with the goal to specifically target 12&U, based on the legislation passed by other LSCs. Thus, any work to pass legislation might be made wasted if manufacturers are already trying to figure out a workaround.*

*Mike R: we shouldn't allow suit manufacturers to dictate which direction we want to go with this. If we think it is an important issue, both for developmental and financial issues, we should still pursue it.*

*Discussion followed, and the committee was in agreement that this is still an important issue and worth tackling. The following was agreed as a consensus from the committee:*

- *The issue with technical suits is both financial (potentially driving newer families away from the sport) and philosophical (younger, developmental swimmers should be putting time and focus on developing appropriate techniques and training, rather than on what to wear in order to go fast)*
  - *Legislation to be drafted should take into consideration both points*
  - *The committee decided to look into possibility of making price point (MSRP Value) one of the factors in deciding whether or not a suit should be put on the restricted list*
- *The committee agrees that, whatever is decided constitutes a technical suit, it should be banned from all 10&U competition that is sanctioned by Georgia Swimming*
- *With regards to 11-12, the goal of the committee is to allow athletes to wear technical suits on Championship Meets only (championship meets to be defined as State or Divisional Champs; question on last chance meets, but that should be deferred to technical planning)*
- *There shall be no restriction on suits for 13&O swimmers*

*Lucas will draft the initial legislation for this, and then submit for committee review, to then be sent to Technical Planning, then HOD.*

*(note: Pike had to leave the call at this point)*

b. State Champs:

- i. Double check on moving the date to early March starting 2019 (possible conflict with Senior Sectionals)

*Mike W confirmed that, although the usual Sectionals date is on the 2<sup>nd</sup> weekend in March, it sometimes moves around depending on the host.*

*Wes: it would be hard for smaller teams to staff both meets if they fell on conflicting weekends.*

*As far as this committee is concerned, hosting SCY Age Group Champs in early March would be a viable solution, and possibly even an improvement; the questions regarding the potential conflict with Senior Sectionals and impact that has should be taken up by both Senior Committee and Technical Planning.*

- ii. 10&U session: eliminate scoring?

*Nick: although he was the one that brought this up as a possibility, after thinking about it, if we are including the 10&U at the meet, then we should treat them as part of it and continue to score the session as normal.*

*Discussion ensued, with the committee in agreement with that position.*

*There will be no change to the scoring of 10&U events.*

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

*This was discussed on the last meeting, but at the time we didn't have the data as to how much this would affect the meet. Lucas provided the committee with numbers of swimmers who entered over 7 events during last year's SCY meet (24% of 13&O; 36% of 10&U).*

*Mike W: looking at total number of entries, it doesn't seem this would really allow for too much loosening of the cuts (in order to bring in more athletes into the meet).*

*Committee was in agreement that this change would likely not produce the desired outcome of bringing in a larger percentage of the LSC into the State Champs.*

*No change to athlete entry limits at State Champs.*

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

*Lucas updated the committee that he plans on putting this up for a vote, but would rather do it in a forum where we can hear feedback from other members of the LSC. The next in person meeting should be during SCY State, so we'll plan on putting this for a vote there, after hearing feedback. Meanwhile, if anyone has anything they want to add to that discussion they are welcome to share.*

- c. LCM State Champs Order of Events

*Plan will still be to share a new Order of Events before Spring LSC meetings, and put it up for a vote during those meetings*

## 6. New Business

- a. Distance events at LCM (pair boys and girls?)

*Given that FINA has now decided to pair the distance events for men and women at the Olympics, should we go in the same direction? Currently, all ages/genders swim the 1000 at SCY, but during the LCM meet we have boys swimming 1500 and girls swimming the 800.*

*Committee was largely in favor of pairing the events for boys and girls, with questions as to how do so (switching events from year to year, etc.)*

*Nick: perhaps if we kept the 11-12s doing only the 800 there would be a much larger group of boys doing those events, especially as it pertains to the 11yr olds.*

*Mike R: could we have some time to talk to other coaches/think about how to do this?*

*Committee seems to favor offering the same distance event for boys and girls. Will bring this back up during next meeting to figure out how to do it. Meanwhile, committee members encouraged to talk to other coaches in the LSC to get a feel for preferences.*

## 7. Next meeting: December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017

**Meeting adjourned 9:30pm**