

Minutes for Technical Planning, Georgia LSC

Sonesta Hotel, Duluth, GA, September 6th, 2014

Technical Planning Chair: Jonathan Foggin (ABSC)

Coach Foggin called the meeting to order at 11:20 am.

Committee Members Present:

Steve Potter (Administrative Vice-Chairman), Bill Forrester (Senior Vice-Chairman), David Weeks (Age Group Vice-Chairman), Rob Schreer (Officials Committee Chairman), Darby Wayner (Athletes' Representatives), Jamey Myers (Southwest Division Representative), Mike Irish (Southeast Division Representative), and Yit Lim (North Division Representative).

Andrew Baer (Metro Division Representative) and Meredith Green (Northeast Division Representative) were unable to attend. Jeff Demott (Coaches' Representative), resigned prior to the meeting and was not in attendance.

Since minutes from the April 2014 meeting had been distributed electronically, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to dispense with their reading. Coach Myers made said motion; it was seconded by Coach Weeks, and passed by acclamation.

Coach Foggin began the day's business with a recap of the Senior Committee meeting. The majority of the discussion revolved around a proposal to extend the Long Course Senior Meet to 3 and ½ days and the prospect of a new series of meets being developed by USA Swimming to fill a perceived gap between Sectionals and Junior Nationals (the so-called "Legends" meet). Action on tightening time standards was tabled until after USA-S Convention, when more information on the "Legends Meet" would be available. On the matter of meet bids, Coach Forrester stated that ABSC had agreed to host both Long Course Senior Sectionals (July 9th -12th) and Long Course Senior State (July 24th – 26th). The committee approved both the bid and the date. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded, and approved.

Moving on to Age Group matters, Coach Foggin reported that Coach Weeks' committee addressed several matters related to 14 & Under State. Coach Convery floated a suggestion that a 'B' Flight of 11-14 swimmers be added to the Long Course State Meet. This idea was discussed, but no action was taken since it would involve changes the Age Group Committee had not discussed. Coach Weeks also brought up the matter of increasing numbers of UNAT (i.e. parent-coached) swimmers participating in Georgia State Meets. It was suggested that swimmers not registered with clubs not be allowed to participate in State and Divisional meets, no action was taken since Coach Weeks said the matter would be discussed at Convention. It was agreed that the matter would be discussed at the Spring Meeting. There was only one bid for the Long Course 14 & Under State Meet, which was from Gwinnett Aquatics. This bid, which was for Georgia Tech, July 16th-19th, was accepted by the Age Group Committee. A motion to accept the report was made, seconded, and approved.

Seeing no further business from Age Group, Coach Foggin asked the athletes present to give a report on their meeting. The athletes stated that they were interested in developing a Georgia-specific website similar to Swim Swam. Coach Myers pointed out that there is a company in Florida doing that for those LSCs. It was agreed that if the athletes wanted to pursue something similar, the Athlete Representative would speak to Coach Convery.

Moving on to the Officials' Committee, Mr. Schreer reported that the Officials numbers had remained static over the course of the year. Coach Foggin concluded with an appeal to the coaches to assist in recruiting officials for their clubs.

Coach Foggin asked for a review of meet bids for the 2014/2015 Short Course season. Corrections were made and the schedule was forwarded to the webmaster. Afterwards, Long Course bids were reviewed and discussed. One change for the upcoming season was the addition of a Georgia Invite, hosted at Georgia Tech, and run the same weekend as Senior State. This meet is intended to fill a void for the 11 to 14 year old swimmers whose season is over in early July. It was determined that the Senior Committee would decide under what standards Senior swimmers would be allowed in the meet. The schedule (see attached) was then approved and forwarded to the House of Delegates for a vote.

In terms of Old Business, Coach Foggin opened the floor to comments about the Executive Administrator position, which would be discussed at the Board of Directors meeting. Coach Convery spoke in favor of the LSC establishing this position before the end of the year, stating that the Executive Director would pick up a lot of the slack that committee chairs are having difficulty covering. Coach Pishko, who recently moved to the Columbus Hurricanes, voiced his support for the move based on his experience with the North Carolina LSC.

Seeing no further business, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to recess, with recess becoming adjournment upon the conclusion of the House of Delegates meeting. Said motion was made by Coach Myers, seconded by Coach Weeks, and passed by at 12:10 pm.

During the Board of Directors meeting the Technical Planning Committee was asked to discuss a proposal made by the Age Group Chair that all State and Divisional Meet entries be done through OME for the 2015/16 Short Course Season. The majority of Technical Planning members present were in favor of this course, and when put to a vote, the proposal was passed by the Board. However, after hearing a number of reservations expressed during the House of Delegates, Coach Foggin asked Mr. Hixon to reconvene the Board and table the motion so it could be discussed in open session at the April Technical Planning meeting. This recommendation was then accepted and passed by the Board.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Foggin
Technical Planning Chair, Georgia LSC