

Minutes for Technical Planning, Georgia LSC

Gwinnett Place Mariott, Duluth, GA, April 13th, 2013

Technical Planning Chair: Jonathan Foggin (ABSC)

Committee Members Present:

Phil Hurd (Administrative Vice-Chairman), Adam Byars (Senior Vice-Chairman), Rob Schreer (Officials Committee Chairman), Jim Young (Coaches' Representative), Josh Grover and Thomas Lock (Athletes' Representatives), Bill Forrester (Southeast Division Representative), Yit Lim (North Division Representative), and Jamey Myers (Southwest Division Representative).

Coach Foggin called the meeting to order at 2:40 pm. David Weeks (Age Group Vice-Chairman), Andrew Baer (Metro Division Representative), Meredith Green (Northeast Division Representative) were unable to attend.

Since minutes from the September 2012 meeting had been distributed electronically, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to dispense with their reading. Coach Forrester made said motion; it was seconded by Mr. Schreer, and passed by acclamation.

Coach Foggin began the day's business with a report out of the Senior Committee. Short Course State was hosted by Swim Atlanta at Georgia Tech; Senior Sectionals was hosted by Excel Aquatics at the Centennial Sportsplex in Nashville. Coach Byars reported that both meets went well. Moving on to summer, it was reported that ABSC would be hosting Long Course Senior State and Senior Sectionals; Dynamo would host the Long Course Senior Circuit at Chamblee. On the matter of meet bids, Coach Byars stated that Swim Atlanta had bid Senior State for December 6-8 at Georgia Tech. The committee had approved both the bid and the date. Coach Young stated that he would need to check with Swim Atlanta on meet entry fees, but that the information would be available for the Technical Planning report the following day.

Moving on to Age Group matters, Coach Foggin reported that the Short Course State Championship Meet, which was ably hosted by SCAT, was run with a single-age scoring format, and that the Age Group Committee had decided to do the same in the upcoming year. He stated furthermore that the LSC was in year two of the five Division format, and that aside from some minor issues, the Divisional meets seemed to go very well. He noted that he would be working with the Divisional representatives to ensure that the 2014 meets were manageable. As for the 2013 Long Course season, GCAT would be hosting the State Championships, and Zones would be held in Greenville, South Carolina. Moving on to the matter of Short Course 2013-2014, he reported that the State Meet had been bid by SCAT/BUZZ for February 21-23 at Georgia Tech. Meet entry fees would be the same as last year. As for the Divisions, the five meets would be hosted by ABSC at UGA (Northeast), GCAT at Chatham County (Southeast), HURR at Columbus (Southwest), GOLD at Mountain View (North) and RAYS at Mountain View (Metro). Finally, Coach Foggin noted that Age Group Sectionals had been scheduled for the same weekend as the Divisional meets and that SCAT planned on bidding for it at the summer meet

Seeing no further business from Age Group, Coach Foggin asked an Athlete representative for that committee's report. Mr. Locke stated that he and Joshua Grover had created a survey about athlete participation in the LSC meetings. There had also been some discussion on the matter of whether athletes would prefer All Star Jackets or Towels. LINS, SA, AAAA, GCAT, DYNA, GOLD, GA, CCAC, RAYS, and CAD had all participated.

Moving on to the Officials' Committee, Mr. Schreer reported that the Officials would be working to implement a policy that would allow all Georgia Meet Referees to train candidates for Stroke & Turn, and for those with a certain level of experience to train candidates for Admin, Starter, and Referee. The intention of this proposal is to increase the number of officials through decentralizing and expanding opportunities for Officials' training. The Committee had also discussed a tiered pricing policy for training clinics. 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. Corrections were made and the schedule was forwarded to the House of Delegates.

In terms of Old Business, Coach Foggin mentioned that the LSC was in the midst of a four year cycle with Divisionals. He mentioned that a set of guidelines that was approved the year prior did not make it into the Georgia Swimming Rules and Regulations as was requested. That matter would be taken up by the Board later in the day.

Seeing no further discussion on Old Business, Coach Foggin moved on to New Business. He began by asking for input on the issue of Officials' Training after reading the following proposal put forward to the Officials' Committee by Kathleen Schmaltz.

Proposed: That the Officials' Committee

- empower any Georgia Swimming Meet Referee in good standing to train candidates for Stroke & Turn;
- empower Georgia Swimming Meet Referees in good standing with (a number of sessions to be determined by the Officials' Committee) to train candidates for Admin Official and Starter
- empower Georgia Swimming Meet Referees in good standing with (a number of sessions to be determined by the Officials' Committee) to train candidates for Referee

To assist these referees in training new officials, a Training Manual will be developed and made available on both the Georgia LSC and Officials websites. To allow time for development of this resource, the target date for implementation of this proposal will be the LSC meeting in September 2013.

During the discussion Stu Hixon noted that the morning's proposal was defeated because of the timing of the resolution, not the content. He stated that he thought allowing candidates to train locally and over an extended period of time might be an effective strategy for increasing the pool of officials. Coach Foggin asked for volunteers from the Technical Planning Committee to assist the Officials in their efforts. Jim Young and Kathy Lim-Sang (GOLD) volunteered.

Coach Foggin then moved on to a request from AAAA whether that team could be moved to a different division for 14 & Under State Meet scoring. The coach making the request was not present, so the discussion was brief. It was noted that USAS seasonal registrations do not count in terms of calculating total team size.

Next, Coach Foggin recognized Coach Myers, who made a proposal regarding a change to the LSC's current method of collecting revenue. Instead of collecting a 6% splash fee from meet hosts, Coach Myers asked that the LSC increase USA-S registration fees across the board. The amount would be determined by a budget neutral estimate, but would likely be in the \$10 range. The proposal was seconded by Coach Byers and discussed, but in the end it was felt that the proposed increase would be too high. The proposal was defeated 6-2.

Seeing no further business, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to recess, with recess becoming adjournment upon the conclusion of the next day's House of Delegates meeting. Said motion was made by Coach Lim, seconded by Coach Young, and passed by at 4:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Foggin
Technical Planning Chair, Georgia LSC