

# Minutes for Technical Planning, Georgia LSC

Sonesta Hotel, Duluth, GA, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2015

Technical Planning Chair: Jonathan Foggin (ABSC)

Coach Foggin called the meeting to order at 3:15 pm

Committee Members Present:

Steve Potter (Administrative Vice-Chairman), David Weeks (Age Group Vice-Chairman), Rob Schreer (Officials Committee Chairman), Naomy Grand Pierre and Andrew Tang (Athletes' Representatives), Jamey Myers (Coaches Representative), Wes Hamborg (Southeast Division Representative), Pike Hightower (Metro Division Representative) and Yit Lim (North Division Representative).

Michael Norment (Southwest Division Representative) and Meredith Green (Northeast Division Representative) were unable to attend. Bill Forrester (Senior Vice-Chairman), resigned prior to the meeting and was not in attendance.

Since minutes from the 2015 meeting had been distributed electronically, and posted on the new Georgia Swimming website, Coach Foggin (ABSC) asked for a motion to dispense with their reading. Mr. Schreer made said motion; it was seconded by Coach Hightower (RAYS), and passed by acclamation.

## **Senior**

Coach Foggin began the day's business with a recap of the Senior Committee meeting, which in the absences of Coach Forrester (GCAT) was led by the General Chair. Reconstruction of the committee's membership was discussed and a list of names passed along to Neil Harper (ASL), the LSC nominee as Coach Forrester's replacement. Though the committee had been charged with examining standards for Long Course State 2015, no action had been taken. As such, it was determined that the standards be kept the same. On a related subject, no action had been taken on the question of what level swimmers would be allowed to attend the Georgia Invite (a meet bid by SCAT for the same weekend as the Senior Long Course Championship). Coach Myers (SCAT) and Coach Taylor (ABSC), representing the respective meet hosts, stated that their position was no standards restricting entries need be enforced at the Georgia Invite. This arrangement was accepted by the committee and passed on to Technical Planning for consideration.

At this point Coach Foggin stated that it would be useful for the LSC to have some mechanism for determining what to do in such situations. Though through long standing custom, the weekend of the LSC championship meet had been considered "protected," there was nothing in the Rules and Regulations dealing with the issue. He further stated that with growth in the LSC, request to run concurrent meets was likely to become more common in the future. Opening up the question to the floor yielded a number of opinions.

Wil Bayer (SA) stated that such situations could be addressed through an agreement between host teams. It was pointed out, though, that a State Meet host was acting on behalf of the Georgia Swimming and such an arrangement would take authority away from the LSC. Mr. Hixon stated that such meets should be bid in the LSC meeting and approved by the HOD. Coach Foggin concurred, but

stated that additional oversight would be important, and suggested that the authority for approving such meets be vested in the Age Group and Senior Committees, and asked for a proposal from the floor stating such. Said proposal was made by Coach Lim (LINS) and seconded by Coach Weeks (LINS).

*In the interest of offering Georgia swimmers as many competitive opportunities as possible, it is proposed that clubs may bid and run meets concurrent with the LSC Championships, provided they have approval from the appropriate committee (Age Group or Senior) responsible for the conduct of the championship meet.*

After a brief period of discussion, the proposal passed and was forwarded to the Board for inclusion in the Rules and Regulations.

Finally, Coach Foggin noted that the Senior Committee had approved a joint bid from Swim Atlanta and Lanier Aquatics to run the Georgia Short Course Senior Championships on December 4-6, 2015.

Seeing no further business, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to accept the report, which was made, seconded, and approved.

### **Age Group**

Moving on to Age Group matters, Coach Foggin reported that Coach Weeks' committee addressed several matters related to 14 & Under State. The main point of discussion had to do with the format of final heats for the 14 & Under meet in 2016. Acting on the advice of the Athletes Committee, the Age Group committee decided to adopt the following format:

- A single heat of finals for 11 year olds and a single heat for and 12 year olds
- A combined 13-14 final, which would be run in 3 heats (A,B,C) with the C being restricted to 13 year olds only
- Scoring this format would be discussed and finalized by the Age Group Committee prior to the Fall 2015 meeting

Coach Weeks reported that he had added two new members to his committee, Sydney Pepper (DAQ) and Mary Buzeta (SA). He noted that there proposed standards for the 2016 meet would be posted on the website for review, with approval slated for the fall meeting.

Coach Foggin noted that the Age Group Committee had approved SCAT's bid for the 14 & Under Short Course State for February 19-21, 2016 at Georgia Tech.

Seeing no further business, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to accept the report, which was made, seconded, and approved.

### **Athletes**

Ms. Grand Pierre stated that the Athletes felt that Senior State time standards should always be faster than the 13 & 14 Standards, since the athletes view these as motivational times. Coach Foggin stated that he understood the desire, but there are other issues involved, such as the appropriate progression for Age Group Swimmers versus Seniors, who have higher level competitions (Sectionals, Futures, and Nationals) than State. He suggested that part of the solution might be better education of athletes

about this progression, but that the Senior and Age Group Committees should address the concerns of the Athletes.

### **Coaches, Officials, & New Business**

Seeing that there was no new business coming out of the Coaches or Officials Committee, Coach Foggin turned over the podium to the Executive Director, P. J. Keller. Mr. Keller gave a brief presentation outlining his proposals for running State Championship Meets. After fielding questions from the floor, Coach Foggin recommended that the proposals be divided into three parts:

- Proposed amendment 4.5.1, which would make the Executive Office responsible for archiving and distributing State Meet information.
- Proposed amendments 4.5.2, which places responsibility for creating the State meet file and processing entries, and 4.5.6, which would increase sanction fees from 6% to 12%.
- Proposed amendments 4.5.3, 4.5.4, and 4.5.6, which give the Executive Office authority to negotiate contracts with vendors for the LSC Championship meets.

A motion to accept amendment 4.5.1 was made by Mr. Potter and seconded, in his capacity as acting Senior Chair, by Coach Harper. This motion proved to be uncontroversial and was passed by acclamation.

A motion to accept proposed amendments 4.5.2 and 4.5.6 was made by Mr. Schreer and seconded by Mr. Tang. Coach Myers stated his concern with problems related to hard deadlines in the past. Mr. Keller suggested writing in an initial entry deadline and a last chance deadline. Coach Turcotte (DYNA) asked whether the host club or the LSC would collect fees. Mr. Keller stated that he would like the LSC to have responsibility for this. Further reservations were expressed from the floor, and when a vote was taken, the motion was defeated.

A motion to accept proposed amendments 4.5.3, 4.5.4, and 4.5.6 was made by Mr. Potter and seconded by Mr. Schreer. Coach Hightower (RAYS) asked Mr. Keller whether he felt these proposals would help hosts run a more professional seeming meet. Mr. Keller's response was that it would. Coach Turcotte expressed concern that passage of this motion would mean prior relationships with vendors, photographers, and hotels would be disrupted. There was much discussion on this, but without concrete proposals, it was difficult to assess the impact. Coach Foggin asked Mr. Keller to come back to the committee with more information. Upon taking a vote, the motion was defeated.

Coach Foggin asked for a review of meet bids for the 2015/2016 Short Course season. Corrections were made and the schedule was forwarded to the Vice Chair for presentation to the House of Delegates.

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 5:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Foggin  
Technical Planning Chair, Georgia LSC