

## Technical Planning Minutes 4-22-2017

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### Committee Members:

Senior: Beth Winkowski	Admin VP: Stephen Potter
Age Group: Lucas Ferriera	North Representative: Yit Lim (LINS)
Coaches: John Pepper	Northeast Representative: Adam Sasso (ASL)
Officials: Rob Schreer	Southeast Representative: Wes Hambourg (WRA)
Athletes: Hannah Lee, Harrison Wayner	Metro Representative: Pike Hightower (RAYS)
Nate Wright,	Southwest Representative: Michael Norment (MAAC)

Coach Foggin called the meeting to order at 1:52 pm. All members of the committee were present with the exception of Hannah Lee, Nate Wright, and Michael Norment. Coach Foggin recognized Adam Sasso as a newly appointed member to the committee and asked that the agenda to accommodate Coach Winkowski, who had to step out.

Mr. Schreer gave a report on behalf of the Officials. He noted that the LSC currently has more officials retiring than are being trained. This is a perennial problem and he asked the club coaches for assistance in recruiting new trainees. He stated that USA-Swimming has advised officials to bar swimmers wearing from wearing kinesiology tape in competition.

Next up Harrison Wayner gave a report on behalf of the athletes. He stated that they discussed the issue of All Star towels, social events, and how to get more athletes to come to meetings. Seeing no further items to discuss, Coach Foggin moved on to the Coaches' Committee.

Coach Pepper gave a similarly brief report, stating that the clinic with Coach Mike Koleber was well attended. He also noted that a coach mentoring program was in the works and that there was some money available in the budget.

Coach Ferriera then gave a report on behalf of the Age Group Committee. He stated that SCAT's bid for hosting the Age Group State Meet at Georgia Tech (February 16<sup>th</sup>- 18<sup>th</sup>, 2018) had been accepted. He further noted that the Age Group Committee had discussed two proposals for changing the format of the meet. One, advanced by Coach Pike Hightower (RAYS), was deemed innovative and interesting, but not feasible at this point. The other, put forward by Coach Wil Bayer (SA), which recommended simplifying the current meet, was passed. This format is noted in the Age Group Committee minutes. Coach Foggin asked for a motion to approve both the report and the meet bid. Coach Sasso made the resolution; Coach Lim seconded and the motion passed.

With Coach Winkowski having returned, Coach Foggin next asked for the Senior report. She began by stating that SA's bid for the Senior State Meet at Georgia Tech (December 8<sup>th</sup> - 10<sup>th</sup>, 2017) had been accepted with a summary of the budget spending for travel meets and stated that the Senior Committee had made its recommendation for the upcoming season. She noted that the zone camp would be Memorial Day weekend in 2018. She concluded by stating that the Senior Committee felt it would be appropriate to find a way to honor the memory of Coach Buddy Baarke, whose memorial service was occurring during the meeting. Coach Foggin asked for a motion to approve both the report and the meet bid. Coach Hightower made the resolution; Coach Sasso seconded and the motion passed.

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Moving on to Old Business, Coach Foggin stated that he and the Committee had carried out a review of the Divisional system. The consensus that emerged was that there is broad support for the Divisional concept (i.e. providing a team oriented, season-ending meet) as it stands; the Divisional concept is generally understood to involve a meet held in mid-to late March; geographic proximity to potential host sites is important, as it is thought that increased travel/hotel costs would drive down participation; having teams of similar size is desirable, but not at the expense of promoting individual swims; in other words creating "team competitive" meets is worth considering, but not if it results in decreased participation; and that outside of a couple of instances in the Metro Division, teams are generally satisfied with their Divisional meets. Seeing this, he stated his recommendation that Technical Planning create a subcommittee, headed up by the North and Metro Division representatives and consisting of two to four North and Metro coaches, to advise on creating new divisions in the greater Atlanta area and maintaining an equitable competitive structure.

After this, he asked the committee to review the Long Course 2017 schedule, noting one change that had been approved. Seeing no further items under Old Business, he moved on to New Business, stating that Swim Atlanta had requested that the fine for non-conforming times at the State meets be reduced from \$50 to \$25. No motion was made so the matter was dropped. Coach Foggin then asked for a motion to clarify when fines would be assessed, noting that if a swimmer entered an event, failed to swim, and was found not to have the cut, fines were currently being assessed. A motion was made to exempt those swimmers from fines by Coach Ferreira and seconded by Coach Hightower. The matter was discussed, alongside the related topic of failure to make the standards in time trials. A vote was taken and the motion failed. Mr. Schreer noted that swimmers could currently appeal fines to the Board.

Seeing no further New Business, Coach Foggin moved on to meet bids for the 2017/2018 Short Course season. Bids were reviewed and the schedule confirmed.

Having finished business early, Coach Foggin opened the floor to Coach Charles Todd (NWGA), who spoke about his desire to host a BB and below Age Group State Meet. Coach Ferreira noted that BB and below would exclude a significant cross section of swimmers, since Age Group State cuts were often close to AA times. Coach Todd agreed he would investigate this. Coach Foggin suggested that this might be an opportunity to experiment with Coach Hightower's proposal. It was agreed that Coaches Todd and Hightower would discuss matters further.

With that matter resolved, Coach Foggin asked for a motion to adjourn. Said motion was made by Coach Lim, seconded by Coach Hightower, and passed. The Technical Planning Committee adjourned at 2:58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jonathan Foggin (ABSC)  
Technical Planning Chair