

Georgia Swimming Age Group Committee
Minutes - February 6th, 2019 - 8:35pm
Phone Call (404-465-2907 or www.uberconference.com/gaswimming)

1. Roll Call, present:

Lucas Ferreira (GA), Chair Sydney Pepper (DAQ) Ryan L’Roy (GOLD) Sarah-Grace Thompson, Athlete	Megan Kinsley, LSC Admin Mike Radford (ABSC) Ed Saltzman, Official
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2. Approve [minutes from November meeting](#)

Moved by Sydney; Second by Ryan. No further discussion.

Approved.

3. Zone Team Reports:

a. Open Water

Sydney: has taken over general organization of that as well; definitely need one female coach to be on that staff!

b. Age Group Zones

Sydney: has gotten less applications than the usual number up to this date. Has yet to get an application for Head Coach, and have very few from coaches with experience at the meet.

Lucas: perhaps we should directly reach out to veteran coaches asking them to apply.

Lucas and Sydney will work together on the next week to see if they can get some qualified coaches to apply to be on that staff.

4. 2019 Age Group Select Camp updates

Lucas: Emory is already working on contracts for the pool and housing/meals, which is ahead of when they were done last year.

Has contacted a few candidates from outside the LSC to serve as Head Coach for the camp, but none confirmed yet - if anyone has any ideas/leads on potential candidates please get in touch with Lucas.

List of selected athletes is being worked on, and all should be contacted within the next couple weeks.

5. Any items/concerns regarding SCY State?

Lucas: there has been a couple revisions to the original sanction, one related to switching the disability qualifying times from CanAM to the USA-Swimming Para-Motivational Time Standards as voted by the committee, and a couple regarding the correct date for times to be eligible for time verification (original info did not include last chance meets being held this coming weekend).

Last updated Sanctioned info is available at the Georgia Swimming website.

Reminder: Coaches’ Social on Friday, February 15th, at Hop City Beer ([1000 Marietta St NW #302, Atlanta, GA 30318](#)), starting at 8:00pm

6. Old Business

a. Clarification needed on GA Tech suit rule

Lucas: there’s been an issue with a meet in Athens in December, where some events were listed as 11&O. That is a blind spot in the way the rule has been written - original intent was to allow 11-12s to wear tech suits when competing in “Open” events, but really thinking of meets such as Sectionals (if hosted in Ga) or Atlanta Classic. From a host standpoint, it makes great sense to have events (especially distance events) listed as 11&O, which helps seeding and the running of the meet. In that case, 11-12 might be

competing side by side with Senior athletes, but not sure if that is enough to warrant the tech suit rule not applying.

Ed: this meet was on the same weekend as Senior State, so there were a lot of phone calls back and forth in order to try to address the issue. At first, officials recognized the event as having an age classification, and so were barring 11-12s from wearing tech suits. However, parents came down on deck and confronted officials, which is a very unfortunate situation. Eventually, officials decided to avoid conflict and allow 11-12s to wear tech suits during those events. Ed asked the Age Group committee to come up with a clearer version of the rule so that officials are not put into that position again.

Mike: was not the meet director for this particular meet so was not directly involved, but saw some of what was mentioned by Lucas and Ed and agrees that the situation got out of hand.

Committee decided to recommend a change to the rule, to be submitted to the board and, if approved, become effective April 1st (prior to the first LSC LCM meet).

See Attachment 1 for proposed language change

- b. Additional talk/concerns over adopting USA-Swimming's Para-Motivational time standards and recommendations.

Lucas: when the committee voted to adopt the USA-Swimming Para-Motivational time standards several members voiced concerns with the potential for that system to be abused. When making the appropriate changes to the meet information Lucas felt some of those were already addressed by the wording.

Ryan: agrees there was a concern when looking at the language proposed by USA-Swimming, but that it seems to be appropriately worded in the meet information.

Committee agreed this issue seems to be resolved for now. Will revisit in case the system gets abused in the future.

7. New Business

Ed: is working with Tech Planning and Senior/Age Group committee to devise a better way to go over post-championship meets time reconciliation. Lucas to be included in those discussions.

8. Next meeting: Sunday, February 18th, 8:00am - Hospitality Room at Age Group State

Motion to adjourn by Ed; Second by Ryan. Meeting adjourned at 9:08pm

Attachment 1: Georgia Swimming Tech Suit Policy - Proposed language update

Suggested Effective date: April 1st, 2019

Purpose: to clarify when and where 11-12 swimmers will be allowed to wear Tech Suits in meets Sanctioned or Approved by Georgia Swimming. The original language. The original language left too much room for interpretation, which caused unnecessary conflicts between officials and coaches/parents. This proposed change closes that gap and moves our rule closer to the national rule which will become effective August of 2020.

In all Georgia Swimming Sanctioned or Approved competitions, the use of Tech Suits as defined below will NOT be allowed by any ~~10&Under12&Under~~ athletes (whether competing in age-specific or “Open” events). ~~In addition, the use of Tech Suits will NOT be allowed in any 11or 12-year-old events, with exception of~~ 11-12 swimmers only will be allowed to wear Tech Suits at meets determined as Championship meets in the LSC including Divisionals, State Championships, and Age Group Sectionals.