

Georgia Swimming Age Group Committee
 Agenda - February 17th, 2019 - 8:00am
 Hospitality Room at Tech (Age Group SCY State Meet)

Meeting called to order at 8:02am

1. Roll Call, present:

Committee Members		Guests
Lucas Ferreira (GA), Chair	Jason Swaim (SMAC)	Max Cristofori (SA)
Jamey Myers (SCAT)	Sydney Pepper (DAQ)	Wil Bayer (SA)
Nick Graves (DYNA)	Mike Radford (ABSC)	Andrew J Baer (TWS)
Scot Davis (SA)	Sarah-Grace Thompson, Athlete	Mike Fitzsimons (SA)
Ryan L’Roy (GOLD)		John Cherok (ASA)
		Kathy Lim Sang (ASA)

2. Approve minutes from [February meeting](#)

Moved by Jamey, second by Sydney. No further discussion.

Approved

3. Zone Team Reports:

a. Open Water

Nick: staff is all set-up. Sydney Pepper will be team manager, Nick will be Head Coach. Assistant coaches will be Kevin Sullivan, John Cherok and Jen Bowers.

Athlete applications are open thru February 23rd. Meet will be in Fort Myers, FL, and team will travel April 11th-14th.

b. Age Group Zones

Sydney: has received a total of 19 applications for coaches, 3 for head coach. Staff to be selected on Sunday and announced during finals.

Update: *Mujahid Ell-Amin II will be the Head Coach. Assistant Coaches will be Jennifer Bowers, Bethany Tilson, David Menchiger, Max Cristofori, Matt Bishop, Kevin Sullivan and Fred Lamback. Mary Bowman and John Cherok were announced as alternates.*

4. 2019 Age Group Select Camp updates

Lucas: Emory has already sent us the contracts for the camp, which are being reviewed and should be signed within the next week. Home coaches of selected athletes were e-mailed on Thursday as a heads-up (coaches have to option to decline invitation for their athletes). Individual invitations with the registration link should go out by the end of the month. Camp cost will be \$195.00/athlete

Lucas has also already secured the Head Coach for this years’ camp, who will be Ben Lee, from NC (director of Age Group Performance at Nomad Aquatics and has done extensive work with Team Elite). Announcement should be make on the Georgia Swimming website soon.

Lucas has not been receiving the applications for Assistant Coaches, so he’ll have to track those down and announce it within the next couple weeks.

5. Old Business

a. Proposed language change for Tech Suit Rule (see attachment 1)

Lucas: language was drafted after our last meeting and distributed via e-mail. Copies were also available for those present.

Wil: suggests we scratch the rule instead, and wait for the national rule to come into effect, so that it is less confusing.

Lucas: reminder on how we came to this point. Over 12 LSCs had rules with regards to Tech Suit use by 12&U, and Georgia Swimming was likely behind the 8-ball on that matter. Current discussion is about closing a loophole in the way the rule was written that caused more confusion.

Some questions regarding the national rule. Lucas states that it will be far more restricting than what we have in place. 12&U swimmers will only be allowed to wear Tech Suits at Juniors, Nationals, and Olympic Trials. In addition, suits with Woven material that extend past the hips will also be considered Tech Suits, regardless of the seams - some suits that were brought into question during this weekend will definitely be considered Tech Suits under that rule.

Some discussion on issues with the application of the rule through this season. Overall, committee members felt that despite the hiccups in certain meets, rule was a step forward.

Questions on whether having this rule was an issue for meet hosts that rely on out of state teams. Meet hosts present stated that they had no problems with out of state teams understanding and following the rule.

Wil: thinks changing the rule might make things more confusing, as rule will change once again in August 2020.

Nick: points out this is not really a rule change, rather than closing a loophole on the language.

Lucas: reminds that the Age Group Committee can only recommend this to the BOD. Ultimately, BOD will vote on the adoption of this language.

Committee recommends the new language to be voted on by the BOD, and adopted effective April 1st, 2019.

6. Meet Review

a. Fri pm pool set-up

Lucas: recommendation to switch the pools for Friday Finals/10&U 500 Free was so that Finals could have the entire scoreboard while the 10&U 500 Free would only use the smaller scoreboard by the deep end. There seemed to be a lot of concern about that and at the end officials decided to swim Friday finals in the pool by the deep end, as it is for every other Final session, with the scoreboard split.

Committee decided to keep the usual split (Finals in the pool by the deep end, 10&U 500 Free in the pool by the scoreboard) for Friday evening session.

b. 11-12 200s of stroke

Wil: would like to eliminate positive check-in for 11-12s 200s of stroke and swim all heats in Prelims.

Lucas: positive check-in was added so that there were no empty lanes in Finals, which has worked so far. The committee has also extensively discussed whether or not to swim heats of 11-12s 200s of stroke in Finals, and decided those swimmers also deserved a chance to swim during the Final session. There has been a relatively recent change to only swim one heat of those events in finals (used to be 2), so at this point we'll keep it as is.

c. Cuts

Wil: would like the committee to look into cuts. Some events seem to be oversubscribed while some are undersubscribed.

Lucas: the current cuts have been in place since the 2016-17SCY season (this is the 3rd year). So last year there were not enough data points for the committee to make recommendations on adjustments. Lucas will plot the entries by event and share that with the committee.

Lucas: committee has also discussed re-weighting the cuts - current cuts are shooting for 30/30 entries between lower (11, 13) and higher (12, 14) age groups. Since the meet is combined, committee can also decide to weight cuts so we get more entries from the older age groups. No official decision on this topic has been made yet, though.

d. 12&U, 14&U 200 Medley Relays

Discussion on why the 200 relays for 11-14 are in different portions of the session.

Lucas: having the relays at the end of Prelim session decreases the number of swimmers in warm-ups, while having them at the start of the session is likely a more exciting way to start the session.

Kathy: thinks having relay-only swimmers during early warm-ups makes it better for those swimmers, who can then warm-up with their teammates rather than warming-up by themselves at the deep end.

Scot: motion to move the 11-14 Medley relays to the beginning of Sunday AM session. Second by Sydney.

No further discussion

Approved.

7. New Business

8. Next meeting:

*Lucas: likely no need for meeting in March. Coaches' committee will submit nominations for Age Group Coach of the year and would like us to vet the list, but that can be done via e-mail. First week of April is Spring Break, so **next meeting will be April 13th**, with the LSC Spring Meetings (specific schedule and location TBA)*

Meeting adjourned at 8:43am

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&Under~~12&Under athletes (whether competing in age-specific or “Open” events). ~~In addition, the use of Tech Suits will NOT be allowed in any 11 or 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 such as Divisionals, State Championships, and Age Group Sectionals.