

Georgia Swimming Age Group Committee
 Agenda - July 21st, 2019 (Sunday of Age Group Champs, at conclusion of Prelims)

1. Roll Call, present:

Committee Members	Guests		
Lucas Ferreira (GA), Chair	Caleb Weir (SA)	Kristen Moore (TCS)	Cathy Copeland (SCAT)
Scot Davis (SA)	Wil Bayer (SA)	John Cherok (ASA)	Caitlin Roth (LINS)
Nick Graves (DYNA)	Max Cristofori (SA)	Bill Forrester (GCAT)	Jason Mezaros (CCAC)
Ryan L’Roy (GOLD)	Tera Wilkins (BAY)	Matthew Grant (VAST)	Bandon Little (HLHK)
Sydney Pepper (DAQ)	Jonathan Foggin (ABSC)	Chip Holland (SHOC)	Jabari Kind (HLHK)
	Andrew Baer (TWS)	Mark Keaveney (RAYS)	Crystal Tavares (LA)
	Dexter Bown (TWS)		

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

Note: there were no athletes present at the meeting, so no votes could be taken.

Remainder of meeting were discussion points with no votes, so not affected by the lack of quorum.

3. Zone Team Reports:

a. Age Group Zones

- i. 55 Total applications for 11-14 athletes (18 11-12 Girls; 18 13-14 Girls; 9 11-12 Boys; 20 13-14 Boys).

Numbers were good except for 11-12 boys (no idea why)

- ii. Para Athlete Selection process:

Lucas: there’s been a request to make the selection process for Para Athletes more public and streamlined with either the Senior or Age Group application and selection. Up to this point, we relied on individual coaches and word of mouth, but there are enough para athletes in the State now that it would be beneficial to both the team and the athletes to make the application and selection process mirror that of the able-bodied swimmers. Lucas will work with Sydney and Fred Lamback to define language and dates for this implement it for next year’s team.

4. State Meet Review

Andrew Baer: could we get the meet information for next year’s SCY meet already.

Lucas: There are always edits that need to be made from one year to the next, and a few changes suggested by the committee. Would rather take the time to have all the info reviewed and done right, which takes some time.

Jonathan F: with the rising costs to rent the two main pools in Georgia (Tech and UGA), what kind of help is the LSC/BOD offering to host clubs of Championship meets.

Lucas: Ga-Ga is considering asking for Sanction relief for this meet.

Jonathan F: beyond financial help, is there a strategy from the LSC/BOD to negotiate better terms with those institutions? Individual host clubs hold little leverage, but the LSC/BOD might be in a different position to negotiate. Both institutions are State-run, and benefit from taxpayer money. Georgia swimming serving a large number of people in the state, might be able to leverage better terms for rental.

Lucas: while there had been a steady increase in costs, those had, up to this point, been able to be absorbed by the host clubs and mitigated by a steady increase in entry fees. The recent rise has been a factor leap, and really took hosts and LSC by surprise. Will bring the issue to the BOD, and agrees that the LSC as a whole should have a negotiating position when dealing with those institutions.

Lucas: option to add a “no-cut”, or “no faster than” meet to the afternoon session. Currently, the biggest issue for hosts is how much money is lost in the afternoon session, as there are very few athletes, and we even need to create breaks so that the session doesn’t run too quickly.

Widespread agreement that this would be a good option.

Jonathan: this might also serve to solve an issue we’ve been discussing for many years: the need for a “B-level” Championship meet. The afternoon session could serve as such.

Lucas: one concern would be on how to manage the size of that meet, so that it doesn’t grow out of control and affects the P/F meet.

Jonathan F: additional consideration for the committee, would be if it’s even worth it to host the 10&U State as it is. Only 150 athletes in this year’s meet (seems many are choosing other options already). Is there a real benefit/need to maintain that session?

Lucas: would like to give the committee time to think this through, and start getting through specifics on our next meeting. **Tabled.**

5. New Business

- a. 2020 SCY Champs moved to Feb 21st-23rd (one week back)

Lucas: Tech requested the original weekend (Feb 14th-16th) for a college meet. Our options were to either move the meet or re-open the bidding process. Committee to accept the date change.

6. Old Business

- a. Change of Selection Criteria for OW Zone Team

Lucas: committee has already approved this in our June meeting, but still waiting on the BOD to approve it. BOD meetings have been fully focused on Bylaw changes which will be proposed at the Fall HOD.

Nick: just as an overview, the goal is to start recruiting a few athletes with more Open Water experience to the team, while still allowing for a couple first-timers to apply based on their pool times.

Discussion on the event itself, and which races will be used. Committee and guests in agreement with potential change.

- b. Review cuts for SCY State Champs, approved formula:

Lucas: committee has been working on re-tweaking cuts for the SCY Champs, with the goal of including more 12 and 14 year old athletes into the meet. Formula currently under consideration for that is Attachment 1. Has recently been approach by Wil Bayer with a different proposal, yields the floor to Wil.

Wil: with the meet being re-combined into Age Groups, would like to propose single cuts for each Age Group.

Additionally, looking at the meet numbers, think there is an opportunity to increase those. Calculated cuts looking at the top 60 times in the State (top 70 for 50s) in each age group. Has not looked into how many of those kids would have aged up before the meet, so those numbers could end up being much smaller.

Lucas: seems both proposals have similar goals (increase total participation at the meet, with most of that being aimed at more kids in the older end of each age group - 12, 14). Since committee only received Wil’s proposal the night before, would like to give everyone a chance to look it over prior to deciding which direction to take.

Tabled.

- c. Formula for proving State Cuts in SCM

Lucas: will see about creating a page on the website with a formula to be used in case someone needs to prove a time using SCM times ([link to example formula](#)).

7. Announcement

Lucas: will be taking a year sabbatical from coaching. Plans on completing his term as chair - will attend Fall LSC Meetings, Convention. Most other business conducted via phone/online. Will likely have to miss what would be his last meeting in the Spring LSC meetings, but can take care of all other business up until his term running out.

8. Next meeting:

Since there are many loose ends from this meeting, committee should meet again prior to the Fall LSC Meetings. Lucas to e-mail everyone with a date and time, so that committee has its business in order prior to those meetings.

Update: next meeting August 21th, 8:35pm, via conference call.

Attachment 1: Formula (approved by committee in June meeting) for adjusting cuts to the SCY Champs:

For 11yr olds & 13yr olds (goal 20-25 entries/event):

- Events with average ≤ 19 swimmers: add 0.5%
- Events with average 20-25 swimmers: no changes
- Events with average 26-30 swimmers: drop 0.5%
- Events with average ≥ 31 swimmers: drop 1.0%

For 12yr olds & 14 yr olds (goal: 30-35 entries/event)

- Events with average ≤ 19 swimmers: add 1.0%
- Events with average 20-29 swimmers: add 0.5%
- Events with average 30-35 swimmers: no changes
- Events with average 36-40 swimmers: drop 0.5%
- Events with average ≥ 41 swimmers: drop 1.0%