

Tech Planning Minutes - 03/17/2020

Present: Wes Hamborg, Ed Saltzman, Eric Pingel, Jamey Meyers, Lucas Ferreira, John Pepper.

Athletes: Jonathan Shaheen, Sarah-Grace Thompson, Will Foggin, Henry Bethel

Call to Order: 11:01

Ed Saltzman – Motion to approve minutes from April meeting, seconded and passed

Purpose of Meeting: To develop a plan to address the needs of the LSC in reinvigorating competition post-USA Swimming ban on Sanctioned events

GA LSC adopted USA moratorium on competition through April 11th, which was then extended through April 30th

General consensus among the committee is that it is too early to determine when competition will resume.

Wes would like the committee to be proactive and plan for multiple possibilities and discuss flexibility within the current bidding process.

Discussion point: Identifying challenges presented by the ban

Wes asked Lucas for the challenges from the Age Group perspective:

Lucas says the challenges presented will be affected by the length of the ban.

Lucas says the State meet may be affected

Mark not on call to address Senior challenges, Wes will follow-up post-meeting for input

Ed says there may be facility issues:

Availability of facilities

Competition for those available facilities

Wes asked Ed about the Officials' capacity to handle meets

Ed confirms it will be a challenge, but they can address it as needed

Discussion ensued regarding 45, 60, and 90 days bans, whether athletes will be able to train in the interim, and whether to focus on Short Course or Long Course, and Wes asked the athletes what their current concerns are:

Will says ABSC currently out of the water because Ramsay is closed. He said he is more concerned with when training will resume than competition.

Sarah-Grace says athletes want to train long course if trials are still happening.

Jamey and Jonathan discussed impact on State cuts for athletes. Jamey suggests loosening cuts to allow for a more viable meet, since athletes will not have many opportunities to improve times due to cancelled meets. Jonathan suggests waiving fines for those who fail to achieve times at the meet.

Ed asks if State will be competitive if swimmers remain out of training due to pool closures. Lucas says his committee needs more information to unfold before making any decisions, but he believes practice will resume (small gatherings) before competition (large gatherings).

John says State meets may not happen if swimmers are out of the water until June or later. Ed agrees, and suggests focusing on smaller meets. Jamey agrees and suggests looking to smaller Divisional meets at the end of summer.

Motion: Lucas, “**For long course season 2020, meets are exempt from being approval by other hosts on the same weekend in order to put a meet on the calendar.**” The motion was seconded.

Discussion: Jamey says hosts probably won’t want to run large meets. Jonathan adds that facilities for the meets already bid will likely not be open. Wes asked what the mechanism should be for granting exceptions. Jamey he says he feels the discussion is a little premature.

Lucas tables the motion.

Action points are identified:

- 1. Division reps - to petition their Divisions as to interest in running Divisional meets in the summer, but says this is just gauging interest and not a commitment.**
- 2. Lucas - meet with Age Group committee and bring back recommendations**
- 3. Wes - follow up with Mark**
 - a. Senior committee to meet and bring back recommendations**

Wes asks if the committee wants to recommend Sanction relief for host clubs. Jamey says he believes this is already a topic of discussion for Taskforce

Ed asks for a document that reassures GA membership we will be flexible, and available to assist in expediting the addition of meets to the schedule as the bans ease

Wes says the message should be that Tech Planning wants to be flexible, both with short and long course, in the bidding process.

Ed wants to discuss possibility of not having HOD meeting and asks Wes to email clubs to start sending in bids via email, to put together a possible calendar to be addressed at a later date or via email.

Wes agrees, but says calendar will be unapproved until HOD.

Action Point: Wes – send email for meet bids

Wes says the next meeting will be held after Age Group and Senior Committees are able to meet and discuss, and Tech Planning will aim to meet again in two weeks. Lucas agrees. Wes asks Lucas to consider discussing possible change of facility at AG committee meeting.

Jamey – Motion to adjourn. Seconded and passed.