

Technical Planning Minutes, 4/09/2019

Committee Members:

Admin Vice Chair: Jamey Myers - present
Senior: Beth Winkowski - present
Age Group: Lucas Ferreira - present
Coaches: John Pepper - present
Athletes: Jonathan Shaheen - present
Katie Jordan - present

Addie Rose Bullock - present
Division Reps: Pike Hightower - present
Nelson Camillo - present
Matthew Grant - present
Yit Lim - present
Jennifer Bowers - present

1. Wes called the meeting to order at 8:45
 - Matthew made a motion to dispense with reading of and to approve the minutes, which was seconded and passed.

2. Divisional Realignment Proposal
 - Matthew made a motion to discuss and adopt the realignment proposal presented by the Division reps, which was seconded.
 - Wes asked if anyone had questions. Matthew asked if estimated totals for the new Divisions included the teams with an asterisk. Wes said yes, but they are seasonal clubs and historically their participation has been very low with the exception of Eagles Swim Club.
 - Wes asked if there were any other questions. Jamey asked if Wes has spoke with Swim Atlanta or Gold about the Big 3 Division. Wes said his conversations with each of the Metro teams have been non-committal, with the possibility that they may choose to participate, but without any definite commitment. Pike said he spoke with Mike at Gold and Sam at Dynamo, and they were largely indifferent about the proposal because their whole season was not dependent on their having an end of season Divisional meet, and if it worked out for everyone they seemed to be, at worst, indifferent and not particularly opposed to it. Pike said there was some concern as to how it might affect the 10 & Under Warren Stephens meet, but that is outside off Divisionals. Wes asked if there was any other insight, and there was no response. Wes said he didn't want this decision to made in a vacuum, and they should get as much input as possible. Nelson said we can't make everyone happy, so let's just put it out there and see what happens. He said its a good meet for certain and other teams just don't want to participate, so why force them, let's just try to make it a great meet for the teams that do want to participate and it can always be changed in the future. Pike said we need a little latitude to try, since teams seem ambivalent, without any staunch support or opposition, and there seems to be an openness to experimenting. Pike said the model is broken right now, because three teams are overwhelmingly larger than any other teams attending the meet, and that creates a mathematical problem that will be difficult to resolve, but that each team has seemed affable to this proposal.
 - Wes said he hopes this realignment also addresses other issues, outside of Metro and that this proposal has taken those into account and will address as many as possible. Wes says this is the big issue that needed to be worked out ahead of the upcoming LSC meeting.
 - Wes asks if there is any other discussion. John asks expressed concern about how many teams in the proposed Central Division would be able to host a meet of that size. He mentioned Carrollton and Mountview pools. Wes said that Pike said Stingrays could host, at least the first year, and Nelson hopes Tara could host in the future. Wes also said there are a lot of great

pools in the area, if the Division wanted to choose other pools. Wes said the only alternative is to have a 250 swimmer meet, that doesn't really feel like a Championship, season-culminating meet.

- Jonathan asked about Northern Division. Wes said Northern will remain largely untouched at the advice of Yit Lim, because ASA is disbanding, which would probably bring the meet to a manageable size, but would leave a gap if a larger team like Lifetime was also moved out as in the original proposal, so the advice of the Northern rep is to leave that Division alone for right now.
- Addie Rose said she joined the call late, so her question may have already been addressed earlier in the call, but she asked if anyone had spoken to Swim Atlanta to ask if they will attend Divisionals, because they have not attended in the past. Wes said they did discuss it earlier, and that he has spoken with Swim Atlanta in the past and that Pike has also spoken with Dynamo and Gold recently, and he agrees the big question is that we don't know what the large teams will do and that we won't know until they do it. Wes said so far they have opted out and had their own season-ending meet, and we don't have any way of forcing them into anything.
- Nelson said let's move forward and call it to a vote, and the motion was seconded.
- Jennifer suggests emailing new Division teams to determine who has pool available to host the meet, if there is concern about lack of facilities. Pike said Stingrays would be willing to host for a couple of years, if necessary, to help get the Division off the ground, until other teams are ready to start hosting, knowing that the end game is other teams hosting meet.
- According to Nelson's previous motion, Wes called the discussion to a vote, unless there was any last-second discussion. Hearing no further discussion, Wes called the proposal to a vote, there were no dissenting votes, and the proposal passed.

3. New Business

- Wes asked if there was any new business that would be coming out of Senior committee. Beth said no, but that Senior Committee is recommending that Sr State be held December 6-8, 2019, with ABSC hosting, and they are unaware of any other bids.
- Wes asked if there were any other new business items that needed to be taken up, and there was no response.
- Wes said he would entertain a motion to adjourn. Jamey made the motion, it was seconded and passed.

Wes dismissed the meeting at 9:05