

For North Texas Technical Planning Committee: August, 2011

Meet Thoughts from Coaches:

1. When bidding a meet.. ANY and ALL exceptions need to be available to everyone before the bid meeting
2. The ability to get lead off 50 splits as official times on 200 free relays long course need to be known BEFORE the bid is granted.
3. All Bid and where the meets will be held should be known before the bid meeting.
4. Bid Meeting room should be air-conditioned and large enough to accommodate the LSC
5. Go back to 3 times in a Class .. BB or A and you can swim anything. The rule really discourages distance swimming. You have to have the cut to swim the event because no bonus swims over 200's. Where do you get the cut? Go to a slower meet and spend another weekend.
(#5 -- This was the sentiment of many coaches. – the rule was set to keep meet length and size down and the A meets are outrageously long now)
6. Go to 2 divisions for BB and BC – 3 BC divisions has never been equitable in size.
7. In contrast to 6 – coaches like the divisions and believe they should be based upon the athlete needs not the club or coaches needs.
8. Several coaches also like the long course **A/BB meets for 12 & Unders** (some liked it for all their team.) But many stated they were strongly in favor for 12 & U .. the A meets for 12 & Unders are long when added with the 13 & Over .. and too short as A only .. they have to rush from one event to the other .. when 12 & U A/BB are together the BB rise to be A and the A worked to stay on top .. they swim as a team and they grow together .. this will work for long course .. not necessarily for short course.
9. **Many coaches agree to review the Bonus rule – we are asking our 12 & unders to specialize far too early. Or they have to go to 2-3 meets. This was stated over and over in people's notes.**
10. If you are on the TPC, and something comes up concerning your team .. excuse yourself so that a fair decision can be made without the influence that stands to gain by the decision
11. Seeding of 400 and over: If on the Friday night there are 2 distance events 400 or longer .. Do NOT seed one slow to fast and the other fast to slow. That puts the fast swimmers swimming back to back with minimal rest.
12. NO more leaving awards in a pile or even in a box in hospitality. They must be hand delivered to each team rep. at the meet.
13. USA Swimming rules must be followed at all times and by all coaches AND officials.
14. All committee members must be contacted concerning a decision to be made by that committee. NO EXCEPTIONS.
15. Please do anything and something with the bonus rule. Right now there is confusion about meets and what they need to accept them or not. Can you bid this as an exception.
16. Encourage 4 hour sessions. Some LSC's have a fine if a meet exceeds 4 hours. We need to consider this.
17. If a meet bids multiple divisions can we request 2 pools be used for short course? The length of the meet is the concern.
18. Late Entries are an issue .. especially during LC – If a meet doesn't take them, the meet is criticized for not being athlete friendly. If it does take them and the sessions are long

the meet is greedy. Suggest to not take late entries for championship meets. Please look at this issue.

19. A-BB Champs next summer should be two separate meets. It is currently bid as on. There were too many issues with this summer leading into the meet and the question of the size. It ran fine .. but should be reviewed.
20. A-BB run the 13 & Overs at one pool and 12 & Unders at another .. as an option?
21. Also would like to revisit the calendar and have weekend options for teams to have different meets and open meets.
22. Review Ron Forrest's option of 6 week rotation with meets that are invites.
23. If we go to free market .. we will need to have and encourage more officials.

And more views:

maggie:

not knowing the previous history of nts, it is my opinion that the entire system needs to change. the current system forces teams, swimmers, parent, coaches and volunteers to be away 3 weekends per month. this costs money. when it comes to a meet schedule, it is my opinion, that the only thing tech plan should be setting is the dates for championship meets. it is also my opinion that the rules for entry into a meet are ludicrous.

if the lsc would turn to a free market system of meet hosting, then not only can every member of the lsc be serviced, but people wont be away so many weekends. it is not the responsibility of the lsc to ensure that a team is financially viable. by telling teams what types of meets have to be hosted and when, the lsc is dictating how business will be run. but in a free market system, more meets can be hosted for the needs of the teams. bottom line, teams good at hosting meets and creating the meets coaches want to take their teams to, they will do well; teams who cant run meets will no longer be able to do so.

there are too many rules regarding meet entry. why should a **swimmer who has "a" times not be allowed to swim longer events in which they might not?** those kids/parents are forced to go to a meet and swim against kids and decimate their competition – and no one is having fun. this comes back to free market.

next, and this isnt something you asked for, but why is the lsc getting back-ups of meet manager databases? they DON'T need them. it is not the property of the lsc, it is the property of the team. athlete registration can be done by sending an sdif file. if entries need to be checked against swims (why this is done in a non-championship meet is ridiculous) can be done by sending the completed entry file. coaches are not children and the lsc admin are not parents.

so, get rid of the **meet schedule and go to free market.** let teams create the meets THEY want to host. get rid of rules preventing kids from being allowed to compete where they really should – i.e. "a" and above swimmers with those kids. and the lsc needs to stop getting meet manager back-up files.

I know its too late to change 2012, but there needs to be change to better suit the membership. another thing I would suggest... the **meet year should go from sept 1 until aug 31.** the meet schedule can be voted on by the hod at the spring, or even summer meeting, but spring would be better. this way, teams from outside the lsc would then be able to plan their

schedules better. thus, possibly, improving out-of-lsc teams coming to nts to compete. just another thought.

at the spring meeting, coaches/teams could present their meets for through march or april 2013 and the hod could then vote on it.