

NTSi BOD Conference Call Minutes
Thursday, July 23, 2020

BOD Roll Call: Suzanne Dangelmaier, Laura Ring, Barbara Roselli, Kenneth Chung, Cody Huckabay, Jason Roberts, Rodrigo Pereira, Vi Nguyen, Carson Brockett (athlete rep)

Non-BOD Roll Call: Gloria Schuldt, Karen Rourke, Sean Sell, Mook Rhodenbaugh, Julian Fischer, Gilberto Junior, Richelle Fox, Kameron Kennedy, Sherry Gentry

Call to order 7:00pm

Purpose and agenda:

- COVID-19 Updates
- NTSi Updates
- USA Swimming Updates

Athlete rep: Carson: get more athletes involved in building athlete committee

Chuck and Suzanne meeting with USA Swimming next week to update our NTSi logo

Communications: what has been going well?

Safe sport: Jason Roberts thinks a monthly newsletter would be helpful for communication. There used to be one from USA Swimming, but it stopped.

Kenneth: town hall meeting directly to membership might be helpful. See if there is any interest.

Barbara: along the lines of crawl, walk, run. Educate our members as to why they would want to hear from us and then add more from there.

Cody: not overload, but maybe start of short course and long course.

Rodrigo: something we could do more of would be to recognize our athletes. They're why we exist.

Vi: Likes the idea, but curious about format and what would be presented.

Suzanne: Let's continue the discussion at another time. Continue to consider this idea of a town hall meeting for our membership (parents and athletes).

Media liaison? We don't have one as of yet. Something to consider. Finding someone or no comment or quick summary about our goals.

Would we be comfortable with Kenneth representing us? Barbara, Cody, Suzanne are good with him being our rep.

Cody thinks we should have a response. People that work for ISD facilities should not be the ones communicating.

Kenneth accepts and will be NTSi media liaison. He will come up with a statement and present it to the BOD for approval before we respond.

NTSI HOD meeting is in the calendar for October 4, 2020. Our bylaws strictly state that we cannot host a virtual HOD meeting. If we cannot host a virtual meeting, then what

do we do? Members of the NTSi BOD have checked around with other LSC's and with USA Swimming for suggestions. This is the proposed idea (approved by USA Swimming as well): We would propose meeting virtually on October 4. First item on the agenda would be to ratify the bylaws that allow for virtual meetings. So then anything after that would be amended, so that we could host the virtual meeting.

Kenneth suggests sending out a survey/poll of the delegates to let them know this will be on the agenda and get their responses so we aren't going out of code on that first agenda item.

Gloria: this issue was brought up at their last rules and regs meeting and this is an acceptable way of hosting a virtual HOD meeting. This is a viable option for any LSC to do.

Send out delegate forms prior to the meeting. Understand that delegates can change prior to the meeting, but getting the ball rolling/get a reading/survey started.

Karen: In terms of voting, all delegates need to be verified.

Suzanne: Names will need to be submitted prior to the HOD meeting so that Karen can verify their standing.

Return to competition:

We have to have a unified policy for return to competition across our LSC. We sent out a survey to NTSi about their return to water at this time. Reviewed survey results.

Suzanne shared the survey results through a shared screen.

Cody: do we think anything would change with latest health department changes? Who is able to host meets?

Gloria: contacted so far for requests about how to sanction meets from TFA, COPS, Tyler Rose

Julian: DM is getting ready to submit a sanction. (Inter squad, time trial meet)

Kameron: is applying for a sanction tonight.

Gilberto: not yet. Pool isn't open until September.

Sherry: they're planning on doing an unsanctioned inter squad meet in September.

Suzanne: USA Swimming has sent out return to competition and sanction links.

Emailed to coaches via Laura.

Gloria: A lot of information from USA Swimming has come out. Gloria and about 40 sanction chairs from USA Swimming got together on a call and reviewed new meet sanctions updated for COVID-19. Important items to note: (Gloria shared her document through the shared screen.)

- All participating athletes and clubs must be registered within the LSC to participate in a meet.
- The majority of the new items are COVID-19 requirements. These are non-negotiable from USA Swimming. Part of application for sanction:
 - Statement setting forth all local protocols/requirements must be stated and/or linked.

- Planned number of individuals. You have to state how many people per session, including number of coaches, the plan for spectators, and how this falls within the requirements of your local entity.
- Safe Sport statement: live streaming is approved by USA Swimming. But there has to be something listed in your meet information on how you will be fulfilling Safe Sport considerations.
- All meets have to be pre-seeded, no deck entries.
- Risk disclaimer that has to be in meet information, announcements, and heat sheets. If heat sheet is on MeetMobile, this statement has to be posted all over the facility. Release language also has to be included to the above places as well.
 - Inherent risk, hold harmless (if contract COVID, can't sue LSC). You're taking your own risk in hand. Basically telling all participants that if you choose to participate you are taking your own risk in hand.
- Guidelines: number of swimmers per lane during warm-up, athlete/team seating areas, what you're doing for social distancing, how many athletes you're allowing, etc.
- Safe Sport Statement: required. Live streaming plan, plan for parents in facility, social distancing plan. How athletes are coming and going. The flow of movement.
- Liability: COVID-19 statement has to be in your meet information. Doesn't have to be posted elsewhere.
- This basically makes your meet information turn into a legal document.
- Gloria has shortened this as much as she can.

Kenneth: USA Swimming board has spent a lot of time in how is the best way to protect club teams during this time. The attempt of these new meet sanction requirements is to have a more consistent approach (disclaimer) to protect clubs.

Comments

Barbara: how are teams handling live streaming with parents that haven't allowed media participation?

Suzanne: one way is no specific names are being posted.

Gloria: parents sign a waiver that allows their swimmer to be live streamed. Make it a condition of a swimmer entering a meet.

Barbara: what happens if we get a day or 2 before the meet and conditions have changed?

Gloria: answers... contact her for last minute meet changes to sanctions.

Jason: question about statement that has to be posted... where and how often?

Gloria: answers... meet information, heat sheet, make announcements. Suggests the door as they enter and where results are posted. Thinks that should cover it.

As a BOD are we going to allow for sanctions and in what capacity?

Kenneth would like to make a motion:

Motion 1)

For the month of August, subject to the guidance and limitations of State and local governmental and health authorities, and provisions set forth by USA Swimming, North Texas Swimming inc. will allow sanctioning of Intra-squad, Dual and multi-location virtual meets with each session limited to no more than 80 swimmers. NTSi Board of Directors reserves the rights to revoke approved sanctions should there be deterioration of the health and safety concerns in North Texas counties.

Barbara seconds.

Discussion:

Kenneth: rationale - we have a full spectrum of teams (some not in a pool yet and some are ready for competition). Keep health and safety top priority for our athletes and clubs. This will be a big learning process. Learn collectively. Based on feedback we have received so far, it seems that some clubs are ready and we don't want to hold our swimmers back.

Carson: from an athlete's perspective he sees his fellow athletes working at social distancing. Thinks it's important to let swimmers have their sanctioned meets now. Worked hard and are prepared and ready to compete. Swimmers need to work toward being prepared for college and get times, etc. Think they need to have that opportunity. Will help motivate younger kids to stay in the sport. Incentives to see progress.

Cody: consider the number of 80 capacity. Thinks that number might be a little restrictive. Left it alone to let each team follow county's guidelines to follow building capacity, etc. Thinks keeping meets in house is best for contact tracing, etc. How many requests for sanctions have been multi team meet?

Gloria: the only sanctions that have come through are inter-squad meets.

Cody suggests take out dual and 80 limitation.

Kenneth: this is only for the month of August. It could change for September. This is the crawl phase.

Gloria: part of the sanctioning requirements, you have to tell exactly district/county guidelines. Have to tell how many swimmers would fit those county/district/capacity guidelines. That is part of the sanction request now.

Cody: if a team meets the letter of the law within county/district/capacity guidelines, doesn't want to limit them to an enforced number of 80.

Barbara: would personally be more comfortable with a ceiling on the capacity number.

Gloria: the capacity includes not just swimmers, but everyone that is on deck: officials, starter, deck ref, admin official, coaches, swimmers, timers, etc.

Rodrigo: is 80 for swimmers or everyone.

Kenneth: 80 capacity is for just swimmers. Can have multiple sessions in a day.

Do we want to amend the motion? Cody: no, let it go to vote as is.

Call to question:

All those in favor of motion as is: Kenneth, Carson, Jason, Barbara, Laura

Opposed: Cody, Rodrigo, Vi

Motion carries.

Motion 2)

For the month of August, no Relays will be allowed in any sanctioned meets.

Motion seconded

Discussion:

Kenneth: simplifies sanction process.

All those in favor: Kenneth, Carson, Cody, Rodrigo, Jason, Barbara, Vi, Laura

All those opposed: none

Motion carries.

Email will go out tomorrow. Contact Gloria for request for sanctioning.

Open board meeting adjourns 8:12pm

BOD meeting continues at 8:13pm

Further discussion about Motion 1: just making sure we get it going in a safe manner before we go into lifting restrictions. Important that there is control to making changes as seen fit. Have a working plan in mind of how we will address sanctions in September.

Meeting adjourned 8:21 pm