

NTSi BOD Conference Call Minutes
Tuesday, June 23, 2020

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

Non-BOD Roll Call: Chris MacCurdy, Gloria Schuldt, Sean Sell, Gilberto Junior, Richelle Fox, Karen Rourke, K Kennedy, Sherry Gentry

Call to order 7:02pm

Purpose and Agenda:

- COVID-19 Updates
- Gloria Schuldt to present the recommendation of the updated meet template when teams submit for sanctioning
- USA Swimming July Sanctions

Suzanne: Read NTSi mission statement.

Jibran: Talked through the USAS presentation to athletes about COVID-19: CALM - Comfortable, Acknowledge, Listen, Model behavior. Be understanding, be a leader with the situation given to us, be inclusive.

Coaches Communication:

Vi: Update on social media. Some new followers on social media. Yet to see effectiveness of communication through social media. Still getting that off the ground.

Barbara: Sent out a test round of text messages. Sent out to 23 coaches, 8 of them bounced because they didn't have verified numbers. She will send out instructions again.

Kenneth: Talking to other Texas LSCs about how we can help each other. Officials are doing joint Texas LSC officials clinics. These clinics are for bringing officials together.

Barbara: Can we get a list of officials from our LSC that are attending so we can know for team membership.

Kenneth: Can organize clinics for teams if they want a clinic for their members.

Safe Sport:

Jason:

- Two NTSi teams are Safe Sport recognized: MARS and SELECT. Would like more NTSi teams recognized.
- Contacted USAS and asked what are some ways or resources that we can give coaches guidelines to become safe sport recognized? Contact gave Jason some information, but also directed him to the Safe Sport section on the new USAS website. There is a whole section for guidelines for each type of club. Resources that will guide you through the process of becoming safe sport recognized.
- There should be incentives that will be coming out later from USAS.
- Safe Sport Team Talk: Jason encourages coaches to review this material first and then be ready to have discussion with team/athletes.
- There are streamline programs that will help train each individual age level.
- Meet 360 (previously called Meet In a Box) is on the website too.
- Limited access may also be granted to select individuals to Club Portal to get safety training done.
- Further communication will be coming out from USAS about Safe Sport and incentives.

Suzanne: What could be a good goal for getting more teams safe sport recognized?

Jason: There are about 7 or 8 teams in our LSC that have started the process. Wants to see 10 or more teams in our LSC become Safe Sport recognized.

Suzanne: NTSi sent flowers for Jay Chagnon's memorial service. Jay's mentor and coach, Flip Gammon, is working on setting up a college trust fund for his 3 boys.

Return To Competition:

Suzanne: Not sure how competition will look, but will have a statement out this week. LSC will look at guidelines and evaluate and plan from there. Crawl, walk, race model.

Kenneth: What will meet sanctions look like for our LSC? Given not all teams are back in the water, is this something we can discuss? Will July look more like inter squad meets instead of sanctioned meets. The task force, Rodrigo, Wagner, and officials, are brain storming considerations they should take note of if and when we return to competition. Will email the working draft to the board. Gloria has worked extensively nation wide with meet sanctioning.

Gloria: Rules and regs met and made some changes: what is a virtual meet? sanctions? officials?

- If meet is running at separate pools, all pools have to be sanctioned. Number of officials have to be the same.
- COVID-19 guidelines: either an addendum to the meet sanction or a link to the club website. Guidelines have to take into consideration national and local guidelines, facility guidelines, capacity, etc. This will allow everyone that will be attending the meet to know what's going on at your pool.

Suzanne: Guidelines, not requirement to allow for each facility. Any guidelines from USAS about capacity?

Gloria: Every state, municipality, school district will have different rules. So USAS can't really give a punch list or set guidelines for capacity. USAS is saying that state/local/school districts will be what dictates each club's capacity.

Chuck: Likes the idea of the link on the team's website to access COVID-19 guidelines for meets.

Cody: Also likes the idea of a link, instead of adding an addendum to the meet sanctions. Things are constantly changing, so website updates and links will help with the fluidity of changes.

Gloria: Is part of UIL to help with back to swimming guidelines.

Cody: We've got to have each individual club communicate with parents about guidelines. Each club will have to be individualized.

Suzanne: Possibly request that each team post their COVID-19 guidelines so that we can link it to the website.

Gloria: Ultimately the club that is hosting needs to sign off that they will be following the guidelines. Each team will follow the basic set of guidelines, but each team might make tweaks of how they will be running that meet. That is why we need each team to post their guidelines for their meet.

Chuck: The link needs to be public so all athlete and parents can access and be prepared.

Cody: How do we enforce these guidelines? Does it fall on the meet marshal?

Gloria: The facility will ultimately have to enforce the guidelines. More so than meet marshals, etc.

Gloria: New rules and regs:

1. New policy that every team must have a photography policy put into place. This would be put into meet announcements. This is a safe sport initiative. This would pertain to any photographer on the pool deck. During practice and swim meets. USAS will come up with a template, but it can be team specific too. Will all be part of MAAP for clubs.
2. Changing the rules on sectionals. Sectionals will be no more than 800 athletes. If more than 800, the meet must be split into 2 meets. (This pertains to the future when normal meets resume.) This will go into effect 2021.

July Meet Sanctions:

Chuck: Would like to discuss July meet sanctions. Maybe a few teams that could potentially do virtual meets. What is the fairness in the LSC for sanctioning meets in July?

Suzanne: Suspending 60 day time for meet sanctions. She doesn't see the need for having a sanctioned event in July.

Gloria: Did her first meet last week... outdoor, 10 lane pool, every other lane, unsanctioned. The kids had a blast. It gave the club an opportunity to run a low key meet to see how meets will run when they are being sanctioned. Even when a meet is unsanctioned, officials are still covered by insurance.

Cody: He has a hard time telling another team they can't do certain things just because he can't. He thinks it's only fair that teams run their team/business how they see fit. His team personally isn't looking to sanctioning meets until the fall. Doesn't think anyone should be hindered just because not everyone is doing the same thing.

Carson: Doesn't think athletes will care whether a meet is sanctioned or not. Thinks it would give athletes a fun opportunity to get up and race either way.

Rodrigo: Doing inter squad meets. No plans on running official meets anytime soon.

Barbara: Don't think kids are ready for sanctioned meets yet.

Suzanne: Times will only count at a LSC level. Nothing beyond.

Gloria: Any meets sanctioned from now until further notice, will not go into SWIMS. It will only count at the LSC level.

Suzanne: Does the sanction document need approval?

Gloria: Doesn't need approval. But it needs to be approved that we will follow this template only.

Kenneth: Task force recommendations... in red the BOD approve until HOD approval.

Suzanne: For COVID-19 meet guidelines... Do we have teams make an addendum on their meet sanction or post link/guidelines online?

Gloria: All she would be looking for is a plan. Will check to make sure the link is live and it has something in there. Not her responsibility to make sure plan is in compliance with each facility. If you use the template that Gloria provides, it will be easy to get their meets sanctioned. The COVID-19 guidelines will need to be part of getting a meet sanctioned. Having a live link needs to be part of it for meet sanctioning. "This is the link, can be updated prior to the meet." Or something that reads like that.

Kenneth: Make a motion to approve:

1. Application for Sanctioning must use the updated Sanctioning template to be provided by Sanctioning Chair.
2. Temporarily waive the 60 days or \$200 fine requirement, valid until end of August 2020. Application must be submitted 14 calendar days prior to the meet in order to be considered.

Chuck: Seconded the motion

Discussion:

Gloria: The 14 days will help her.

All in favor.

Motion carries.

Back to July Meet Sanctions:

Suzanne: Are we going to allow NTSi teams to host sanctioned meets for July? Are we going to be more strict than USAS?

Discussion: Will athletes jump ship to other teams that are hosting sanctioned meets? Is there a percentage of teams that need to be in the water before we allow sanctioning? Remember that right now, the times don't go into SWIMS. The less seasoned athletes will have a hard time with meets right now. Throw swimmers the least amount of curve balls as possible.

Chuck: Make a motion:

That we, as NTSi, not allow any meet sanctions for the month of July 2020.

Barbara: seconded

Discussion:

Chuck: Would encourage meets in general as long as they follow COVID-19 guidelines.

Kenneth: Asks that when we communicate this information to our LSC, it would include why we made this decision. Mainly because not many athletes are in the water as of now.

Suzanne: Agrees. We want to give solutions and information why decisions are being made.

Sean: Thinks it would be in the best interest of everybody that the board move forward with a plan of what our LSC will be doing in August.

Gloria: Recommends that we make a plan by mid-July.

All in favor.

Motion carries

Suzanne: Will put a note out to the LSC of when they can expect a decision from NTSi about meet sanctions for August.

Discussion and questions open to all other participants:

Discussion about what different ISD's are allowing pertaining to return to sport/water.

Gloria: Will pull down the Medal Madness meet information for July and will notify RACE.

Sherry: Is in favor of the BOD discussion and decisions made on this call.

Meeting adjourned 8:46pm