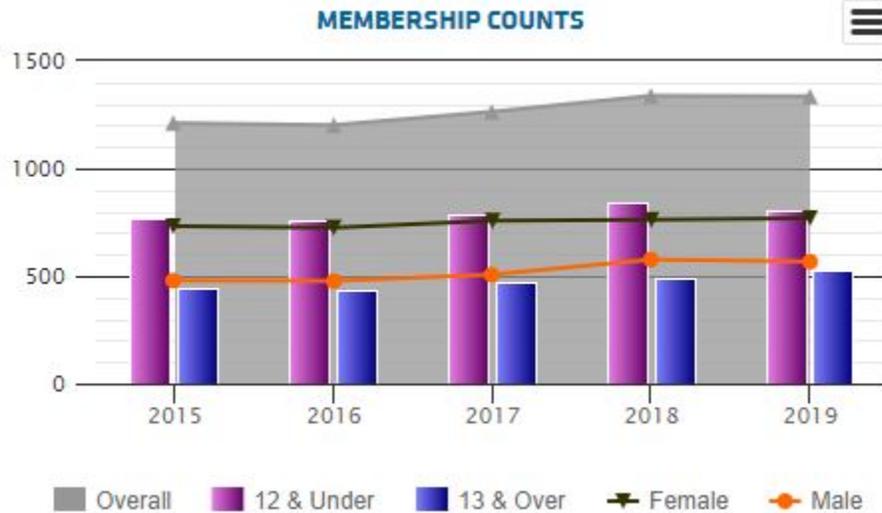


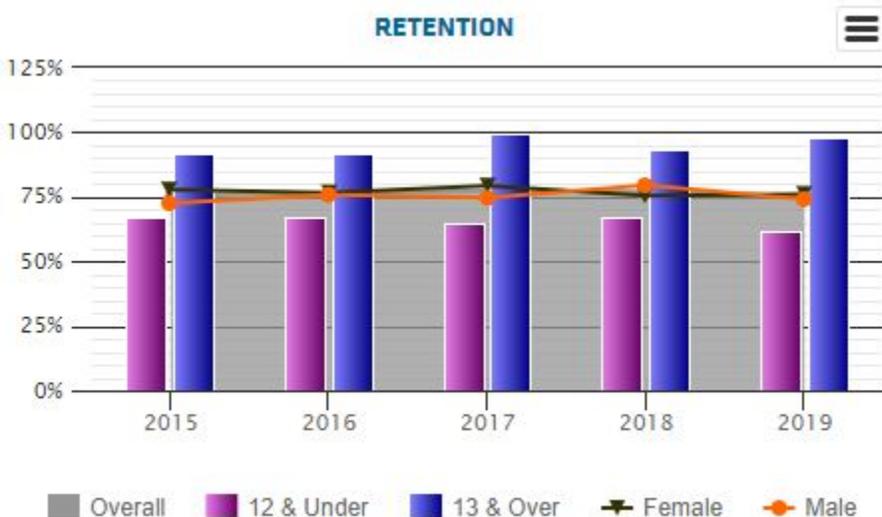
**General Chair Report  
LSC House of Delegates Meeting  
September 29, 2019**

**Membership and Retention**

Below is a report on our membership for 2019. We had 1335 swimmers in 2019. This was down two swimmers from 2018. It represents an increase of slightly more than 100 swimmers from 2015. Growth from 2015 to 2018 is largely the result of an increase in male swimmers from 479 to 566.



Our swimmer retention continues to exceed 75% for male and female swimmers although we did experience a drop in female swimmer retention from 2018 to 2019 of 79% to 75%. Swimmer retention for 12 and under swimmers dropped from 67% to 61% from 2018 to 2019 while swimmer retention of our 12 and over swimmers continues to exceed 90% (97% in 2019!).



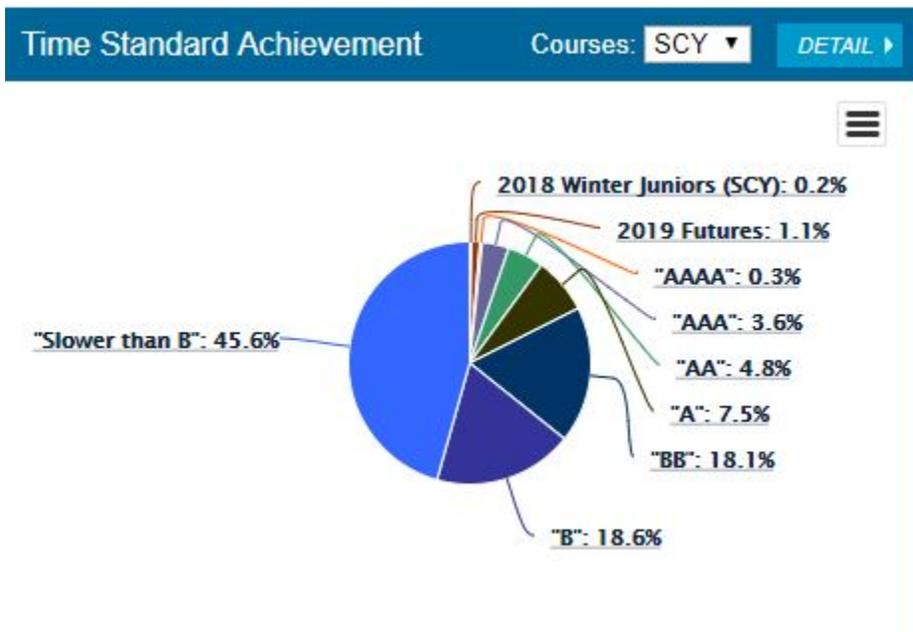
## Performance

Below is a quick comparison of performance changes from 2018 to 2019 short course season. There are subtle changes between the last year and this year. Most notable is the drop of swimmers with “slower than B cuts” and the percentage of swimmers with cuts of BB, B or slower from 84.7% to 82.3%. This represents a 2.4% increase in the percentage of swimmers with A cut of faster!

2018



2019



**Strategic Planning**

In April, the Board of Directors engaged in a strategic planning process. This was part of our LEAP certification process. We identified several goals for the LSC. To help us focus, we narrowed down the goals further. Below are the top five goals and objectives we identified:

Goal	Objectives
To Increase athlete performance and retention of upper level swimmers.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase in number of people qualifying for meets at a level outside of South Dakota, and above the state qualifying standards.</li> <li>2. Swimmers making an impact (placing) in regional and national meets.</li> <li>3. Increase in number of swimmers continuing swimming in college</li> <li>4. Regularly host a Select Camp</li> </ol>
To increase 11 and Over athlete performance and retention of mid-level swimmers (	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Increase 11 and over athlete attendance at State A meets</li> <li>2. Get mid-level swimmers excited to be around swimming (maybe a midlevel camp)</li> <li>3. Encourage the hosting of exciting meets for mid-level swimmers (duals, pentathlons, relay meets)</li> </ol>
Host an annual awards banquet	
Governance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improve LSC recruitment by effectively using a Governance Committee.</li> <li>2. Run effective and productive Board and House of Delegate meetings.</li> <li>3. Increase the use of committees to improve board succession planning.</li> </ol>
Improve communication within the LSC	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create a communication committee</li> <li>2. Educate people on the role of the LSC</li> <li>3. Improve use of social media to communicate</li> <li>4. Establish a communication path where the LSC can communicate directly with families.</li> </ol>

**MAAPP**

I have had several interesting discussions with coaches and volunteers about the Minor Athlete Abuse Prevention Policy (MAAPP). I agree that these changes may seem like an additional burden. But, I am reminded of the counsel from one of the coaches from the Zone meetings that I attended in May. He pointed out that we can view MAAPP as an inconvenience or that we can view it as a way to protect us as coaches or volunteers. In the end, the extra steps that we must take will help protect us.

**Bylaws**

It turns out that I was supposed to submit our revised bylaws to USA Swimming for approval following our April meeting. I learned that we cannot operate under bylaws until they have been approved. Laura and I submitted those on July 3. They were approved on July 5. As part of the process, USA Swimming provided simply typographical and formatting errors. They also asked for us to expand the section on the athlete at large elections. I added language to clarify that we had 2 athletes at large and that one was elected each year.

## **Policies and Procedures**

The Bylaw changes that were approved in the Spring, required a reworking of our Policies and Procedures. These changes included adding anything that was removed from the Bylaws as well as eliminating anything in the Policies and Procedures that was covered in the Bylaws. I want to extend a big thank you to Laura Pineiro and Martin Schmidt for leading this effort.

## **State meets**

Thank you to the team that worked on the state meet sanctions for LC season. Martin and I have asked for copies of the database for each meet. Creating the meet file can be a time-consuming process. We are thinking it would be helpful to future hosts if we had a blank copy of the previous year's meet for the host to use as a starting point. It would also be useful to have templates of meet invites/sanctions for these events so that teams are not using old copies.

I want to thank Brookings for hosting the B meet and for their hard work to recover from severe storms before Saturday's sessions. I also want to thank Sioux Falls for hosting a great State A meet. Their volunteers did an outstanding job. Congratulations also to our swimmers who broke records this weekend. We recognized the following awards at the meet:

- Spirit Award: Mitchell Aquatic Club
- Ernie Gunderson Volunteer Award (and Conoco Philips Volunteer Award): Blake Waddell
- Coach of the Year: Bonnie Biel
- Lifetime Membership to USA Swimming: Edie Mueller

## **Athlete Elections**

Thank you to our Athletes for hosting a very successful election this year. The athletes self-nominated and were elected during an online vote. Over 70 votes were recorded in the first three days of voting and 127 total votes. *We are excited to welcome Cole Kincart and Katie Timmer to the Board. They will start their term following the next HOD meeting. Nathan Brey (WASC), Matthew Grebner (ASC), Gena Jorgenson (ASC), Burke Lauseng (WASC), and Matthew Sorbe (SFST) were elected to the House of Delegates and will start their terms at the September meeting. Morgan Jones (PST) is the first alternate to this group in the event someone does not complete their term. Thank you, Katie Parady and Thomas Bierschbach, for leading this effort and for your service. Under your leadership, the athlete involvement has greatly improved. Best luck in your future endeavors.*

## **Wyoming State LC Meet**

Due to construction delays at the Gillette pool, Wyoming is hosting their state meet in Rapid City this year. It will be July 19-21. Since the meet is happening within our LSC boundaries, we had to sanction the meet. Thank you to Cassie for expediting this for us. Thank you to the staff at the Roosevelt Swim Center and to the Rapid City Racers for helping Wyoming with logistical support.

## **Convention**

We have a larger group going to Convention this year. I will be attending with Martin, Kyle, Chuck, Brenda, Laura, Robin, and Misty. Caleb, Cole and Katie will be attending as athlete from the Board. We have also extended an invitation to take two athletes from the House of Delegates (still determining those two as of this draft). Hayden White will also be attending as an athlete as he was unable to attend an earlier training as a member of the House of Delegates last year. The Finance Committee approved the expenditures to take a larger group as we believe that the LSC benefits from increased exposure to USA Swimming training.