State Meet. I want to thank the Sioux Falls Swim team for hosting a great Short Course State meet. They did a great job helping us host our first prelim/finals state meet. They did so in less than ideal weather circumstances as the meet started. The host facility did excellent work keeping the walks clear and the parking lot clean for our guests. Hosting the state meet is hard work and volunteer intensive. Host clubs receive much less financial benefit than they do for hosting regular season meets. I want to extend my thanks to Sioux Falls for being gracious hosts. Touches like the YouTube livestream, walk-up music, and athlete hospitality really enhanced our meet. Congratulations to the many swimmers who swam personal best times this weekend as well as to the many that set new state and state meet records. Sixteen overall state records were set at the meet and thirty-two state meet records were set. I also want to congratulate Hannah Nelson on her unofficial (as of this writing) Age Group National Paralympic Record.

I would also like to acknowledge that the host team is not responsible for the meet format (age groups, scoring, timeline, etc). Those decisions are the responsibility of the LSC through the Board of Directors or the House of Delegates.

LEAP 1. On December 10 we were notified by USA Swimming that we had completed our renewal of LEAP 1. This renewal is valid until November 1, 2022. The letter confirming our renewal is attached.

LEAP 2. On December 20 we were notified by USA Swimming that we had completed LEAP Level 2. This is valid until November 1, 2022. We will receive $1000 from USA Swimming as a financial incentive for completing this level.

Strategic Planning. As part of the LEAP renewal process, the Board met with Jane Grosser from USA Swimming this August. We continued with a strategic planning meeting facilitated by Jane on April 6. This report was written prior to the meeting. More information to follow in future reports.

Service. I want to thank the board members who are leaving the board. Paula Huizenga has served as the Sanctions Chair the past two years. As Caleb is finishing his club swimming career with PST, Paula has decided to not seek another term. I am grateful for her service making sure our sanctions meet the standards set forth by the LSC and by USA Swimming.

Regan Luken has served as the Membership and Registration Chair for the past two years. She is not seeking another term. I am grateful to Regan for her service. The Membership and Registration Chair is by far the most complicated position within the LSC. It requires weekly work that is time sensitive. As a meet director, I appreciated Regan’s quick replies to the membership verification reports.

I also want to thank Donna Bierschbach for her service as the Admin Vice Chair the past four years. Donna is not eligible for another term. I am grateful for Donna’s leadership within the LSC Board of Directors the past four years. Donna is part of a team that included Blake Waddell and Sara Hogg that took leadership responsibilities at a critical time for our LSC. It has been a pleasure to serve with Donna. I look forward to seeing her on deck as she continues her work with WASC.
Membership information
Here is a snapshot of our membership and retention numbers through the short course season. Counts start each year in September.

Membership
- We have 1280 registered swimmers compared to 1338 last year and 1263 in 2017. (2013 was the first year we had more than 1000 swimmers. Last year was our top year for number of swimmers. The previous best year was 2013 with 1268 swimmers.)
- We have 732 female registered swimmers compared to 762 last year and 757 in 2017.
- We have 548 male registered swimmers compared to 576 last year and 506 in 2017.
- We have 763 swimmers 12 and under compared to 844 last year and 788 in 2017.
- We have 517 swimmers 13 and older compared to 493 last year and 475 in 2017.

Retention
- We have retained about 71% of our swimmers compared to 77% last year and 73% in 2017.
- We have retained 94% of our swimmers 13 and older compared to 91% last year and 97% in 2017.
- We have retained 60% of our 12 and under swimmers compared to 66% last year and 63% in 2017.

Time Standard Information (SCY Comparisons)
19.2% of swimmers have an “A” time standard compared with 14.6% in 2018 and 16.2% in 2017. The percentage swimmers with a time standard “Slower than B” was 43%. This is near our 10-year average, with 2017 and 2018 being ten-year highs.

2019
December 10, 2018

Greetings South Dakota Swimming,

Great News! It is with great pleasure that I officially congratulate your entire LSC on successfully renewing LEAP level 1 for this quad South Dakota will next need to renew LEAP level 1 by November 1, 2022. Congratulations to you and your colleagues in South Dakota Swimming!

I have logged into your portal and generated the approval process that officially designates your LSC as having successfully completed LEAP Level 1. Also, I have attached a file with the LEAP Level 1 logo. Please feel free to use this on your web site or any other LSC documents. Display it proudly!

Again, thank you for your leadership and commitment to South Dakota Swimming, both of which were instrumental in this latest accomplishment. Congratulations!

Jane Grosser
Jane Grosser
USA Swimming
LSC Governance Consultant
leap.grosser@sbcglobal.net
630-803-4058
Greetings South Dakota Swimming,

Great News! It is with great pleasure that I officially congratulate your entire LSC on successfully achieving LEAP level 2. Congratulations to you and your colleagues in South Dakota Swimming!

I have generated the approval process that officially designates your LSC as having successfully completed LEAP Level 2 with USA Swimming. Also, I have attached a file with the LEAP Level 2 logo. Please feel free to use this on your web site or any other LSC documents. Display it proudly!

In addition to your achievement, LEAP level 2 certification also carries a financial incentive of $.50 per year-round USA Swimming registered athlete with a minimum stipend of $1,000 and a maximum stipend of $2,500. I have notified USA Swimming of your Level 2 certification for processing of your stipend from USA Swimming.

Again, thank you for your leadership and commitment to South Dakota Swimming, both of which were instrumental in this latest accomplishment. Congratulations!

Jane Grosser
Jane Grosser
USA Swimming
LSC Services Senior Manager
jane.grosser@usaswimming.org
630-803-4058