Sr. Vice Chair report:

Awards –

Awards have been ordered for State B & State A and I have a contact person with both hosting teams for delivery and inventory. I sent out an email last week asking if anyone knew if we had a vector file for our logo and I appreciate all the help that was offered!  Donna got me in touch with Russ Miller who originally did the logo and he did not have the file I needed.  In the meantime, Hasty Awards was able to redraw our logo to a usable form for the awards I was ordering.  So, we are good for now. We may still want to work with a graphic designer to update the logo to a better (newer) format so we have it for our use.  In between emailing Russ and Hasty getting back to me that they were OK for now I did talk to a graphic designer and they said they could do it for us if needed, but their concern was if we had permission to use the logo in the first place since it is a SD logo.  If anyone has any thoughts on that let me know and I can touch base with Russ to see what he knows. I know we have been using this logo for a long time.

Athlete rep elections  -

The athlete reps and I had a phone conference last week and are working on ideas to present at the HOD in April as to athlete rep elections. Ideas are being discussed on whether athletes should be nominated or apply for the position, how many votes (both athlete and coach or adult representative) each team should have, and if elections will take place at summer state or be done prior to the state meet, and the best way to build interest in being an athlete rep. The current athlete reps plan to host a meeting for athletes at Short Course State A in Sioux Falls.

Officials Chair Report

HOD Meeting

January 27, 2019

Officials Training

Kevin Axtell and Jamie White did attend the USA Swimming Referee Workshop the weekend of

October 19-21, 2018 in San Antonio, TX. Both reported an enjoyable and educational experience. State Championship Meets Referee, Starter and Head Stroke & Turn Officials for the State A Championship in Sioux Falls and the State B Championship in Watertown have been selected. The State A Championship in Sioux Falls is planned to be an Officials Qualifying Meet (OQM). However, the national evaluator that we had lined up to attend (Bill Rose) had to have open heart surgery and will no longer be able to come. Edie is checking with other evaluators to see if anyone else is available. DQ Slips Order details have been posted on the Officials page of SD Swimming for any clubs that may need to order additional booklets prior to our next order.

Technical Planning

I've been working closely with Bonnie to get the state meet sanction done. There have been a lot of things to fix and clean so that is why it's taken so long to get out. It's been good to have fresh eyes on it as well that have found fixes. Hopefully we are almost done!

I also think it would be good to put together a survey to send out to people after the state meet to get some feedback. From there the Tech Planning Committee can start working on that and making recommendations on changes for next year's meet. I'm going to put together a template survey then send it out to the committee for their input. Will probably have to send a link to the coaches that they would then send out to the parents, we can post it on the LSC website, and then maybe on the Instagram account so athletes will see it.

I think there has been a lot of confusion among members of the LSC about what the state meet is going to be like with all the changes already. I think adding a curve ball like this now would be even more confusing considering we approved this format a year and half ago. We waited a season to implement this meet as it is so the host didn't have to change the entire meet, even with 5 months notice.

I think part of doing a prelim/final meet for our athletes is an effort to raise the level of competition and performance at our championship meet. Having listened to prelim/final state meet format proposals get presented to the LSC and shot down or tabled for years, part of that conversation has always been concern about numbers, specifically the amount of open lanes during finals and the depth for a meet like this. Looking at the 17-19 age group the numbers appear to be about 10-11 swimmers per event. Certainly there are events with more but there are also events with less than that. So with 8 finalists and 2 alternates that is basically everyone in the event. Using last year as an example, when you look at the 17-19 girls 200 free, the winner went a 1:55 while 8th place went a 2:12. If you combine the top 8 from the 15-16 and 17-19, you go from a 1:52.9-2:00. That's in the 200 free, there are some events like the 500 Free where the different between 1st and 8th is over a minute.

I think parents are used to having to double check results and look at who is what age because we have always swam combined age groups for our 13 & overs. While I understand that for those age groups prelims becomes a little more important, I don't think that is a bad thing. The only thing this would help is knowing how many slots are available in finals for 15-16 year olds and 17-19 year olds. The 9th place finisher in prelims could still end up with a faster time than the 8th place finisher in finals.

When the technical planning committee was meeting on a regular basis to discuss options for this meet we thought a lot about those previous proposals and comments and how we could hear those comments and still provide a meet to help raise that level of competition. I feel like we should give this a chance before we make changes because some people might be confused or uncomfortable. It will definitely be bit messy the way we have it currently because the software isn't set up to work exactly the way we want to run this but it's doable and our admin person is prepared for that. I also think that is why the committee proposed this meet for 3 years, so there is opportunity for change and improvements to be thought about and discussed over the course of the year so we can be prepared for a better meet next year.

I will respect any decision the board makes but my vote would be to leave the format as it is this year and we can make changes for next year if necessary.

Thanks,

Kyle



Sr. Representatives: Katie Pardy and Thomas Bierschbach, (Jakob Studer)

Jr. Reps: Caleb Swanson and Mason Anderson

Athlete Delegates- Megan Schulte, Cole Kincart, Hayden White, Abbie DeJong, Hunter Bauer\*

(not active in swimming this season)

Done:

● Athlete Instagram posting more regularly

○ Almost 200 followers!

● First athlete committee meeting completed (with Brenda Hendricks- Sr. Vice Chair)

○ Conference call

● Organized informal all athlete meeting for Winter State in Sioux Falls

● Began discussion on voting procedures for this summer

○ Will be ready to present to Board and HOD if necessary at April meeting

In Progress:

● Working on Athlete tab for website (with Trish Harrell)

● Board approval for voting procedures being created and approved by athletes

Goals going forward:

● Be more active and organized as an Athlete Committee

○ Regular communication

○ Age Group Chair and Senior Chair as non-athlete members

● Electing Athlete Reps (Bylaws)

● Athlete Rep from each club for communication purposes

○ Could be one that already sits on the BOD of their home club

○ Not necessarily on Athlete Committee

● Building Community

○ Newsletter?

○ Social Media

○ Flyer at Meets to spread awareness of governance

○ Service Projects

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