

SZS Sectional Meeting called to order by Allan Williams at 5:15, Thursday September 22<sup>nd</sup>.

In attendance

**USAS** -David Thomas / Jay Thomas

**FL**

Jeff Smith / Helen Kelly / Scott Kimmelman / Sion Brinn / Scott Caron / Charlie Rose / Bob Griffiths / Steven Plapp / Melissa Hellervik-Bing / Erik Bing / Grace Easterling / James Daugherty / Ira Klein / Frank Swigon

**FGC**

Sid Cassidy / Duffy Dilon / Jimmy Parmenter / Jim McCombs / Chris Anderson / Liz Kershaw / Jennifer Gibson / Adam Ziechne / Steve Goldman / Kathleen Prindle-Kline / Cameron Anderson (athlete rep)

### **Confirmation of dates for Spring/Summer Southern Sectional Championships 2017 and 2018**

- March 9-12, 2017 (FGC)
- July 6-9, 2017 (Florida Swimming)
- March 8-11, 2018 (FGC, LSC entries by 12/1/2017)
- July 5-8, 2018 (FL, LSC entries by 4/1/2018)

After discussion regarding managing number of swimmers and controlling duration of sessions, Jay Thomas reminded the group of rules set forth by USA Swimming (Shall allow 700 swimmers/meet). USA Swimming sponsors this meet so the group agreed to disregard discussion on controlling number of entries (650-spring; 600-summer) and follow guidelines provided in USA Swimming Rule Book. Goal size is 700 swimmers with provisions for meets registering greater or equal to 800 up to 1100 entries, specific options described in the rule book.

In discussion of number of heats for finals relative to lengthy sessions, there was support for both 3 and 4 heats in the finals. Whether to limit one or two of the finals heats to 18 & U, and whether or not to score 2, 3, or 4 heats in the finals was also debated:

**Motion:** Finals for 50's, 100's, and 200's will have four heats. A, B, and C finals are open to all entrants and the D Final is limited to 18 & U. **Passed**

**Motion:** A, B, and C Finals scored, D final is non-scoring. **Passed**

There has been confusion and problems with the language in recent Sectional Championship Meet Letters as a result of multiple individuals making entries to the document. It was agreed that only one person (Sr. Chair of respective LSC's) will have access to the official document in order to avoid confusion and conflict within the meet letter. All edits made by other parties involved with the process shall be done in the body of email communication, not allowing multiple parties to make edits to the master document.

The entire group of attendees were voting and it was recognized as such. Prior to next meeting a list of committee members with voting privileges will be produced. It is also a recommendation that for all future meetings of this group a sign in sheet will be provided to record those in attendance. In addition,

proper planning between FL and FGC as to who will prepare agenda in advance of the meeting and who will be assigned to run the meeting will be organized.

Dave Thomas requested to be advised ASAP when each LSC selects hosts for future meets.

Rowdy Gaines has confirmed to members of this group that the YMCA Orlando is making significant improvements to the facility (\$4 mil) installing new heating/ac and large fans which will improve the competition environment significantly.

**All-Star Meet April 1-2, 2017** will be hosted by Indian River College. Friday the pool will be open to teams from 5-7 PM. With the approval from the group Scott Kimmelman will develop meet letter, and after approval from both Age Group Chairs will send letter to Florida Swimming Office for sanction. Indian River will again host this meet in 2018. The first weekend in April is the Easter Holiday so the weekends of March 24-25 and April 7-8 were discussed. Conflict with other high profile meets exist for the March 24-25 dates however the group agreed putting off this meet until the second weekend of April is not optimum for the athletes. The time between the age group championships and the April dates (5 weeks) is too long to sustain taper. The March 24-25 date was agreed upon with the pool open on March 23<sup>rd</sup> from 5-7 PM. Indian River will again host this meet. Allow two weeks prior to the meet for entry deadline, LSC's will provide their roster on Sunday Night after the Age Group Champs in order for host to order T-Shirts in a timely manner. **Motion** for the entry deadline and providing list of roster (Sunday PM) followed by entries within a reasonable time was seconded and **passed**.

Duffy Dillon talked about in years past a third LSC was included with a three year rotation. The idea was well received but no motion/vote or declaration was made.

Group did not recommend a meeting in February but will schedule at a later date if the need arises.

Discussion regarding 15-18 age group at Zone Championships. The importance of the 11-14 age group on the development of our athletes was discussed. Many agreed with multiple opportunities for the 15-18 age group (Juniors, Futures, Sectional Champs) considering removing our 15-18 age group from the Zone Meet was worthy of consideration. Ira Klein supported keeping the 15-18 age group citing the advantage to many swimmers in our LSC who benefit from this meet and motivation by the coach for many athletes within this age group would provide a meaningful opportunity for many from this age group. James Daugherty reported that athletes from other LSC's have stated if the 15-18 age group was removed from the meet their LSC may boycott the event entirely. No motion or further debate developed.

Group agreed at this time there was no need to have a virtual meeting in February. Allan Williams and Charlie Rose will touch base in December change or confirm this.

*Next meeting date – September 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> 2017.*

Meeting adjourned at 6:20 PM.

