Florida Swimming Board Meeting
12/3/2013 8:00 p.m.
Conference Call


Meeting was called to Order at 8:00 p.m.

Jeff Smith asked if there were any additions to the agenda. He then mentioned that he would be sending out some files that he would like for us to read/go over. This meeting, we are going to stick to the time standards. He turned it over to Dale Porter, Age Group Chair

Dale: Thanks to everyone for being on the call. Dale explained that this process was a long one, and that he has come up with three different proposed versions of the cuts. He stated that tonight we are going to look at the standards for proposal and decide if that is the meet the HOD charged him with designing. Second, we need to decide when to implement the changes. He is going to present his version A, but if that does not pass, there is also a B and C version.

In beginning to present version A, he stated that that he considered seed times (average), and elected to go with 24th place seed for the 12 and 14 year old standards. He stressed that he was shooting to not make the meet any larger. To get the cuts for the 11 and 13 year olds, he took the 24th place time and compared it to the USA Swimming AA standard, as well USA times for 11 and 13 year olds. He mentioned that there has been some concern over how slow the 11 year old times are. Dale encouraged us all to research how many 11 year olds have managed to swim that time. Far fewer have done this. He is confident that the times will keep the meet manageable. He then questioned.....do we need relay cuts? Do we need bonus standards? Dale stated that it is in line with the meets our swimmers will be going to in the future to allow bonus swims. His proposal offers them at the same ratio as senior champs and junior nats. He stated that if we vote no on the bonus cuts, he, as our Age group chair is not comfortable with version A, and feels we should pull the A version and make cuts softer. The cuts are too fast to go without the bonus standards.

Discussion:

Jeff Wise stated that Dale did an excellent job as this was a lot of work. He is up for whatever Dale would like to do. Yes on versions A AND bonus cuts. If we are going to move forward we just need to try it.
Fred commented that he likes version A, but NO to bonus standards. There is no need to make the meet bigger. The only time that bonus cuts are used is at meets that need to be bigger. We don’t need to give kids free swims. Too soft on kids. The meet is already too large.

Dale stated that the standards will reduce the size of the meet without the bonus cuts. He feels that the meet would be 10% smaller. The 11 year old cuts are in line with USA swimming ration. Many are slower that 11-12 A cuts. Personally, he wouldn’t minds changing them so that all of the 11 year old cuts are at least A times.

Unidentified Caller: Made a motion to amend the current time standards (with no implementation date) as described in the A version of Dale’s proposal. Proposed that the 11 year old cuts be adjusted so that none of them are slower than A standards.

Joe Fink: Asked why bonus cuts were not mentioned for 10 and unders?

Dale stated that nothing had changed in the proposal for the 10 and unders.

Fred stated that we need relay time standards. **Made a motion to have relay time standards.**

Erin Crabtree : Last year the Board made a change that a team could not have a relay without at least two individual qualifiers on it. Would this still apply?

Dale discussed the 200 medley relay and how we would have to use a qualifying time for the 400 medley to qualify for it.

Fred asked why would we have to do that, as at Nationals we now have 50 events, and most meets are now offering 50’s of stroke. We could aggregate a 200 medley relay.

Jeff reminded us that we have a motion for relay time standards.

Sherwood asked if we went with relay cuts, would we still require two individual Flags swimmer per relay? He also stated that he has never gone to a meet that has relay cuts. Are our cuts going to be so strong that we limit kids with individual cuts from swimming relays?

Jeff stated that he thought it would help smaller clubs swim relays.

Terry Maul stated that OME would need to be tweaked as it allows you to build relays with kids that aren’t even in the meet.

Jeff threw the motion back to Fred to amend.

Fred **changed his motion to state that we have relay time standards and not have the requirement to have 2 individual qualifiers.** Time standards would be strong enough to eliminate that need. The rules and regs. Would have to be adjusted. He also stated that we would need to set up OME to allow for an aggregate of eligible swimmers only.
Doug stated that he feels we should not have relay standards as it is not going to have that much effect on the meet.

Fred suggested that we go by the 20th place time for a time standard to be made up of aggregate times.

Jeff proceeded with the vote:

*After ½ members voted no consecutively, Fred pulled his motion. Result: No relay time standards*

There was a motion to accept version A with an addendum that 11 year old cuts are not slower than A time standards for 11-12’s, and that there are not standards faster than AAA times, and that there are not 14 year old cuts faster than the Sr. Champs cuts. Proposal includes bonus standards.

**Discussion:**

Charlie Rose: Asked Dale how this would effect the size of the meet?

Dale answered that in his research the current time standards had the average number of swims per swimmer at just over 4. This includes the relay only swimmers. With the proposed standards that number falls to an average of 3 per swimmer. The cuts reduce size of meet by 10%. The bonus standards keep the average between 3 and 3.5 swims.

Doug stated that he took 4 random people on his team to see how the proposed cuts affected them. They were 12 and 14 year olds, and with new cuts were almost the same.

Charlie stated that if we are trying to get athletes to the meet, bonus swims are not a bad thing. We can always drop them later, if we find the meet does not run as we like it to.

Fred states on the contrary. Every time we do cuts, kids go and make them. No, we are going to have too many kids. What are we going to do in the future? He is totally against bonus cuts but wants the faster standards.

Charlie stated that SYS is hosting in the Spring. If anyone is equipped to host a larger meet, it is Sarasota.

Jeff suggested that we set aside the motion for A, and vote on bonus swims.

Dale reiterated that he is not in favor of his A proposal, without the bonus cuts. He stated that his B and C proposal included implementation dates. Version B is the old cuts with propsed 11 year old standards. Version C is old standards period.

Sherwood stated that he is against Bonus cuts and that the even age cuts proposed in version A are too hard.

**Vote to accept version A with bonus cuts:**

12 for Yes/ 8 for NO (motion passes)
Dale: Moving forward, when do we want to implement. Dale recommends summer 2014 meet in Gainesville due to delay in getting cuts out.

Fred reminded us that we stated that SYS has more space to host a bigger meet. Since we voted to try this, we should try it in the Spring.

Doug stated that due to the date of the meet, we have an extra week over last year, and that we have plenty of time.

Dale made a motion to implement version A in the summer:

Vote:
16 for NO/ 4 for YES (motion failed)

Motion was made to start in the Spring of 2014 with Version A, seconded,

Vote:
19 for YES, 1 for NO (motion passes)

Dale stated that he would correct version A and send it to Helen for posting tonight.

Jeff thanked everyone, and meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,
Cashel Mack
Secretary