Florida Swimming Technical Planning Committee
MINUTES

October 22, 2016 | 1700 hrs. | Rosen Centre Convention Center, Suite 3, Orlando, FL

Meeting called by
Mike Brady, Interim Chair

Type of meeting
The Technical Planning Committee shall be responsible for long range planning for the swimming programs conducted by FL and for advice regarding the technical aspects of those programs and of the sport of swimming FL generally.

Facilitator
Mike Brady, Interim Chair

Note taker
Ellen Earley, Florida Swimming staff

Attendees
[Attendees]
TP Committee members: Fred Lewis, Bob Ruth, Mike Brady
Non-committee members present: Jeff Smith, Charlie Rose, Randy Johnson, Dale Porter, John Hulvey, Rocco Aceto, Jonathan Jordan, John Bruenning, Scott Caron, James Daugherty, Manny Noguchi, Maria Zambito, Mike Rochelle, Susan Nesper, Sion Brinn, Matt Stoneburg, Ira Klein, Terry Maul, Don Henshaw, Gregg Cross, Kiki Cook, Helen Kelly, Ellen Earley

AGENDA TOPICS

Call to Order & Roll Call
Meeting called to order at 1710 hrs. by Interim Chair Mike Brady

Approval of previous minutes
Discussion: No minutes available from previous meetings to review and/or approve

Unfinished Business
Discussion: No unfinished business to present for review
New Business

Action items

TOPIC: All-Star Meet

Discussion: Question to Committee members and others present to keep/replace/remove the existing All-Star meet on Florida Swimming annual competition calendar.

Conclusion: TP sent recommendation to Age Group committee to keep the meet as-is in its current format.

Action items

TOPIC: FLAGS Time Standards changes

Discussion: Updated time standards presented by Scott Caron, Age Group chair. Scott recommended to TP that consideration be given to the idea of establishing a 2-year set of standards in lieu of a single-year set of standards. He believes that this would significantly reduce the work load attached to the Age-Group chair, and establish better continuity for Championship meet selection criteria/cuts. TP committee members and several other coaches all spoke in favor of this consideration, and moved to accept the new 2-year set of standards.

Conclusion: Motion passed unanimously, with recommendation sent to the BoD for immediate implementation and dissemination to the general membership.

Note: Dale Porter applauded Scott for his efforts, stating that as a past Age-Group chair he understood the tremendous amount of work and time that goes into these updates.

Action items

TOPIC: Set the B Championship meet schedule for 2017 & 2018

Discussion: Fred Lewis explained that the 2016 B Championship meets, scheduled on December 10-11 were moved from the first weekend of December due to the timing of Senior Nationals meet and the popular and well-attended Gainesville meet. However, this year (2016) a conflict has arisen on that weekend with respect to a National Certification clinic for officials, leading to a short-fall of available officials to preside over these meets. Fred moved to reschedule the 2016 B Championship meets back to the first weekend of December (12/3-4/16) in order to be able to have enough officials available. Discussion ensued to support this move, since the Gainesville meet is not going to be held this year due to venue renovations. It was also decided that neither the 2017 nor the 2018 meet dates would be affected. These dates would be: December 9-10, 2017 & December 8-9, 2016.

Conclusion: Motion passed unanimously for recommendation to be sent to BoD.
Action items

TOPIC: Revised meet bid forms & bid process

Discussion: Suggested revised Championship meet bid forms submitted by Scott Caron for TP review. Scott stated that he believes that clubs who bid for Championship meets should provide more information about their venues that go beyond a brief “sales pitch” from the floor of the HoD meeting so that the voting delegates can make a better-informed decision. He took it upon himself to do some research and found a Zone application form that he modified to present for review. Discussion ensued from those present, with some suggestions made with regards to form content.

Conclusion: Item tabled at present for further review and modification by TP, to be presented for BoD review in January.

Action items

TOPIC: Justin Correia proposal

Discussion: Justin stated that he believes our LSC can provide a different type of Championship meet structure that would allow more opportunities for our swimmers to compete at that level. His research into the Florida Swimming meet archives showed that our LSC has had an increase in overall membership, but a decline in the percentage of swimmers who are able to compete at the Championship level.

He proposed splitting our LSC into its Areas or by geographic boundaries, with each “area” hosting a qualifying Championship meet, after which the top 24 would advance to a State Championship meet. This new format would be similar to the existing FHSAA (high school) bracketing system.

Conclusion: No decision was made on this proposal, but a large number of those in attendance encouraged Justin to continue to develop a plan for future proposal.

Action items

TOPIC: Ira Klein proposal

Discussion: Ira offered a multi-point proposal:

1. we limit the scheduling of the annual championship meets to only the upcoming calendar year at each year’s HoD;
2. the 2018 bids be removed from the 2016 HoD voting agenda;
**Action items**

3. the 2017 Championship meet schedule be completed at this year’s HoD;
4. open the bid process for future Championship meets after January 1st for the following calendar year’s meet cycle;
5. move FLAGS before Senior Championships;
6. move 13-14 age group to Seniors;
7. change Senior cuts to 13-14 FLAGS cuts;
8. score FLAGS and Seniors together for a cumulative point ranking for overall combined team championship;
9. introduce a B-Championship meet in the Spring as another meet opportunity for our swimmers

Discussion ensued amongst all present. Questions were raised regarding venue availability versus the timing of bids. A few of the larger-venue tenants stated that while it would be challenging to forecast availability, it wouldn’t be impossible to be able to bid for these meets.

Conclusion: Proposals 1-4 passed unanimously for recommendation to BoD. Proposals 5-9 were tabled for further review and revision to a committee to include TP, Age Group Chair, Senior Chair, Justin Correia & Ira Klein.

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**Action items**

**TOPIC: Zone selection process**

Discussion: Proposal made to modify the current Zone selection procedures in an effort to encourage more 15-18-year olds to apply for and participate on the Zone team. Changes include open and close dates for applications, Zone team announcement dates, and due date of deposit monies. Refer to Zone Selection Procedure Proposal addendum for details.

Conclusion: TP recommended the proposal be sent to BoD.

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**Action items**

**TOPIC: 14 & Under Swimmer of the Year awards**

Discussion: Proposal made to split all 14 and under swimmer of the year awards into single-age group, and add an additional award based on IMX points earned in a competition cycle, in addition to the existing award based on overall participation in events (well-rounded).

Conclusion: TP recommended the proposal be sent to BoD.
**Action items**

**TOPIC: Open Water**

Discussion: Gregg Cross announced that the 2017 Open Water Festival would be held the last weekend in April at Miramar Lake. He proposed the addition of an open water qualifier meet to be held in late March/early April somewhere in the center of the state in an effort to increase participation and help promote open water. He invited everyone to come to the festival. Suggestions were made that he reach out to Bill Vargo (CFM) and Don Gibb (NTCA) to try to plan another meet.

Meeting adjourned at 1855 hrs.

Respectfully submitted,

Ellen Earley

Florida Swimming staff