Florida Swimming House of Delegates Meeting  
Sunday, October 11, 2015  
Orlando, Florida


Meeting began with Speaker Gemma Spoforth, Graduate of University of Florida. She spoke about her work in mental health, and on how we as coaches can help our athletes, as we have lost several over the past year to suicide.

Meeting was called to order by Jeff Smith at 9:30.

Review of Minutes from Last HOD, Motion to Accept, Seconded, ACCEPTED
Additions to Agenda:
Adding Safe Sport as a voting position on BOD
Adding Open Water Chair as a voting position on BOD
Recommendation to disallow 2 swimmers per lane
FL Swim Network proposal
Discuss eliminating “Death Penalty” for FLAGS, SR. Champs etc.
Recommendation to fee structures
Summer Sectionals---we are hosting---vote on host
OME and who is handling for the LSC
Reimbursement for Paralympic and Open Water athletes
Rule changes from USA Swimming
Nest year Awards Dinner @ convention
Athlete Presentation

Report of Officers:
Jeff Smith, FL General Chair: Report is in the book. He appreciates the support of the LSC and the opportunity to serve FL Swimming.

Bill Vargo, FL Vice Chair: Report is in the book
Charlie Rose, FL Senior Chair: There were 8 meets he worked with as Senior Chair. The Arena Grand Prix meet had 469 athletes. He recognized Melissa and Judy Wojcik for doing an amazing job. Spring Senior Champs had 680 swimmers and Summer Senior Champs hat 517. There will be no changes to the qualifying times moving forward. Spring Sectionals had 560 swimmers, and Summer Sectionals had 753 swimmers. For Sectionals, we have dropped out bonus cuts for summer. We are looking for a shorter meet with the goal of getting session to 2 hours and 40 minutes. The discretion of flighting is with the Senior Chair. The plan is to flight every session to 4 heats of 400’s, 6 heats of 200’s and 12 heats of 100’s. Charlie discussed Sr. Circuit meets and they will be reevaluated in Jan. There are two. The first is at Bolles in April, and the second at GCST in May. The Sectional cuts for Spring are being used for the senior circuit meets. Reimbursements will stay the same. Trials will be $100 per day, plus $100 per day of travel, plus flights with a max of $1725. We are adding paralympic athletes to reimbursements. We approved YCF to host Spring 2016 Sectionals, but the Sectional committee voted to switch Spring and Summer locations. We need to reopen for BIDs. Charlie would like to take care of that today at HOD. Motion to open BIDS, Seconded, PASSED.
Senior Swimmer of the Year: Female is Justine Bowker, and Male is Caleb Dressel.

Scott Caron, FL Age Group Chair: Report is in book. He attended the USA Swimming convention, and wanted to share that USA Swimming is looking to ban 12 and under swimmers from wearing tech. suits. The purpose of this is to better recognize the progression of athletes’ development. The zone meet will be in Raleigh in 2016, and in Tupelo, Mississippi in 2017. The zone team selection process will be on the website. There will be a job description to apply for team manager for these meets. This will be established by a committee of Dale Porter, Lisa Bitting, Sherwood Watts, and Elizabeth Richardson. The Age Group swimmers of the year:
10 and under Girls: Sydney Kang (GSC) both short course and long course
10 and Under Boys: Andrew Christensen (BD) long course, and Sage Sungail (PA) short course
11-12 Girls: Olivia McMurray (SWIM) both short course and long course
11-12 Boys: Hayden Kwan (DOLF) long course, and Hayden Kwan and Brandon Knight (EAJ) short course
13-14 Girls: Isabel Ivey (GSC) both short course and long course
13-14 Boys: Lucas Kravchenko (CBCS) both short course and long course

Mark McCaw, FL Treasurer: See attached report. 2014 was the first year that we accounted for reg. revenue in correct year. Assets are $800,000. $5,000 in investments (they are up a little). 2016 budget presented and the budget committee has requested we accept it. Proposed total athlete funding for 2016 is $138,675. $73,825 for coaches. This is a $60,000 deficit due to trials. The investment committee has recommended that we keep things as they are. Mark discussed taking term limits off of the Treasurer position. He suggested creating a Vice Chair of Finance or BOD with term limits to oversee the Treasurer. This will provide more continuity to the Treasurers role.

Helen Kelly, FL Executive Director: Gave Executive Director report as well as Registration. Her report is in the book. The Arena Series Meet was a great meet. Proud to have it as a LSC. She would like to host a Futures meet in years to come. The LSC is in good hands with Mark, and our financial structure is very good. She thanked Kiki and Ellen for their work in the office. Registration for 2017 will be online in September. The BOD will have to decide on a provider. It will cost more per registration due to credit card use.

Stephen Plapp, FL Official Chair: Report is in the book. Three officials moving out of the committee are Judy Wojcik, Tom McCaleb, and Kay Caldwell. The new officials moving in are: Joe Glennon, Doug Garhwait, and John Jensen. The Fred Cruciger Award was presented to Dave Nesper. The AL Soltis Award went to Dorene Sprague. The coaches reps on the committee are Pat Piper, John Halvey, and Clay Parnell.

Cori Welbes, FL Safety Coordinator: Report is in the book. 17 people went to the certifications this weekend. She is going to put links on the website to make certification easier. The goal is every other month to have a Red Cross Instructor do a clinic. We would rotate through the LSC. The goal would be to make certifications use friendly. Cori attended the Safety Chair meetings in Denver. There was a lot of talk about concussions. It is important to know and be aware of, and critical to treat properly. They also discussed hypoxic training and shallow water blackout. She discussed the importance of having a first aid kit and having it complete and up to date. She also stressed that you need to be sure that all of your coaches have their credentials and that they are up to date.

Kevin Doel, FL Adaptive Coordinator: No Report

Robert Thompson, FL Diversity Coordinator: Not Present, but Justin commented that he had done a great job with his position. Justin added that National Diversity committee discussed several things at
USA Swimming convention. There was new wording to help transgender athletes compete in our sport. Transgender is on the diversity / inclusion agenda. If you would like more information, get a hold of a diversity member. Justin stressed that there is a difference in diversity inclusion and outreach. Diversity inclusion is to build base. Outreach is to help underprivileged individuals participate.

**Brent Arkey, FL Technical Planning Chair:** Not here due to family emergency.

**Mike Brady**: stood in for technical planning.

There were 4 motions brought forth by technical planning.

Spring Championship meets discussion regarding 3 in a row

Free market for Splashes and facility surcharges. This failed the vote

Minimum number of officials to host meets

Sectional meet host we are voting on later.

B Champ Dates are December 10-11, 2016 and Dec. 9-10, 2017.

All Star Dates are April 2-3, 2016 at Indian River, and April 1-2, 2017 at Indian River

The athletes brought forward two discussion points, which they will present later.

Technical planning discussed support of Sr. circuit meets.: there is an amended motion that will be brought forward later for discussion

Kevin Rosepapa stated that we need to make a bigger deal of our championship meets. As an LSC, we need to have more pride in our meets, and make the kids feel more special for attending. It was recommended that he join the committee that discusses these meets, and present his ideas then.

**Justin Correia, FL Coach Representative:** USA Swimming Convention offered a pilot program for coach mentorship. We applied and were awarded $4,000 to run the program. FL Swimming matched this with $4,000. We have only gotten 2 applications for the program. He encouraged assistants to participate. He changed things around a little on the Coach of the Year award. The committee came up with 5 nominees for Age group Coach, and 5 nominees for Senior Coach. He had ⅔ of the teams respond to vote. The Age Group Coach of the year is Ryan Gober, and the Senior Coach of the Year is Jaime Lewis. Our National Team Coaches for the year are: Gregg Troy and Jaime Lewis. Our Junior National Coaches for the year are: Fred Lewis, Randy Reese, Brent Arkey, and Anthony Nesty. The HOF inductees nominated and voted on are: Al Soltis, Nicole Haislett, Nancy Hogshead and Kim Lenhan. Justin is talking with Duffy regarding an all Florida hall of Fame. Yesterday the coaches had a good session discussing technology and swimming. The discussions at the National convention included “How do we make our country better? “ It made folks look at the past and how think on how to be better in the future. Looking at reports there are 42 FL Swimmers who made National top 10 times. We are leading the way for a model of growth in areas within USA Swimming. Our areas are huge in bringing kids in and on performance, but we need to work on retention. In 1996 we had 8 swimmers on the Olympic team. The past couple of Olympics we have had 1 or 2 athletes on the team. We need to educate ourselves about how to improves in these areas.

**Erik Bing, FL Senior Athlete Prep.:** Erik is excited about our Junior athlete reps. He is proposing an athlete manual. At USA convention he learned a lot . If we achieve Leap III, we are awarded 41.00 per reg. athlete or up to $5,000. It will take all of us to work together to achieve Leap III.
**Don Henshaw:** Open water. The zone team took 2nd to North Carolina who had 2 national team members on their team. Congrats to Gregg Cross on being nominated as 1st Vice Chair for Open Water for FL Swimming BOD. The GCST has been awarded the National Champs, and USA Swimming is looking to make them a permanent host. This event is April 8-10. April 9 is the FL Swimming open Water Championships. Zone Champs will be on Ft. Myers Beach, on June 3-5. The open water committee had a meeting, and has decided to have an LSC Open water camp on May 21st weekend at national training center in Clermont. Congrats to all of the officials who traveled out of the country to help with open water.

**AREA CAUCUS:**

**Area 1:**
The Spring Area 1 and 4 meet will be February 26-28 at Bolles (possibly March 4-6 depending on deadline for FLAGS)
The summer Area 1 and 4 meet will be July 30-31 at ATAC.
Area 1 reps are John Hulvey 1 year, Dale Porter 2 year, and technical planning rep is Mark Corley

**Area 2:**
Spring Area 2 Champ Meet will be March 5-6 at Patriot Aquatics
Summer Area 2 Champ Meet will be July 30-31 at BD/CFM
Area Reps are: Crystal Tavares 1 year, Mike Brady 2 year, and Mike Brady technical planning
They discussed Southwest Stars to run a distance meet TBA, and Developmental meets hosted by BD and SA. Also discussed a relay meet at Stars in Jan.

**Area 3:**
Area Reps are Fred Lewis 2 year and technical planning, John Breunning 1 year, and Sue Curnutte 1 year.
We voted to keep our area meet separate from Area 5. Dates are March, 18-20 for Spring at SPA and summer is July 29-31 at SPA
SPA is canceling their February 6-7 meet due to TBAY meet
We discussed a distance meet on Sat. Feb. 13th at Berkeley.
Discussed a below FLAGS long course championship meet hosted by WFLA and Brandon (same weekend as Sectionals)

**Area 4:**
Area Reps: Bob Ruth 2 year, Terry Maul 1 year, and Bob Ruth technical planning

**Area 5:**
Area Reps: Don Henshaw 2 year, Sherwood Watts 1 year, Sherwood Watts technical planning and Jeanne Epps is alternate
Area 5 Meet will be open time final meet to all area. Spring will be in Sarasota March 18-20 and summer will be July 28-31 host TBA. There will be awards ceremonies for both meets.
Area 6:
The Spring Area 6 meet will be March 12-13 at Brevard Swim
Summer Area meet will be July 2-3 at Sebastian Aquatic center
Area Reps: Pat Toner 2 year, Adam Epstein 1 year, and Steve Lochte technical planning.

Nominating Committee Report:
Jeff added that USA Swimming mandated that we add Safe Sport and proposed Cori Welbes to a 2 year term. Called for vote to add Open water coordinator/chair as a 2 year term with a max 2 terms. Recommended Gregg Cross for a 1 year, then 2 x 2 year. Called for vote to add open water chair, seconded, PASSED

Asked Delegates if they had an additions to nominating slate of officers. Erik Bing was nominated for Vice Chair. Erin Crabtree was nominated for Safe Sport Chair.

Vote: Bill Vargo voted in Executive Vice Chair
Vote: Cori Welbes Safety Chair
Slate of Officers (see attached slate) seconded, APPROVED

Jeff asked that the HOD provide a vote of support for working with Mutual of Omaha. Voted, seconded, PASSED

Jeff stated that FL Swimming Network came to us and asked for $5,000 for going to Rio on behalf of FL Swimming. We have 2 page proposal from them. We can get a copy for anyone interested. BOD supports $2.00 fee added to championship meets to support them and hire them as an agent at FLAGS and Senior Champs. Fred made motion to charge $2.00 on FLAG and Senior Champs to hire FL Swim Network to televise all 4 meets for the year. Motion was seconded.
Discussion followed. Motion restated that we put $2.00 surcharge on every swimmer to pay for Florida Swim Network or other video production company to broadcast each championship meet (4 meets). Motion seconded, PASSED

Meet BIDs:
Summer 2016 FLAGS: YTO
Summer Sr. Champs: Indian River
Spring FLAGS 2017: TCA
Spring Sr. Champs 2017: YCF
Summer Sectionals 2016: YCF

Jeff brought up that the topic of Sr. meets three weekends in a row was presented to the BOD and technical planning, and both felt things should be left as they are.

Ira mentioned and suggested we move Sr. Champs 1 week earlier as meets are too watered down. Discussion.
Fred made a motion in regards to meet fees: He proposed that we change fees to
Timed Final meets: $3.00 - $4.00 splash fees
Prelim/ Final meets: $4.00 - $6.00 splash fees
Facility fees for single day change from $5.00 - $7.50 and for multiple day timed final from $7.50 - $10.
Moved that multiple day prelim/finals charges go from $10.00 - $15.00. These figures are the proposed maximum. This was proposed for new meet BIDS, and non sanctioned meets. Seconded, PASSED

Motion made to 1/1/2016 as start date for new fees. If you have already submitted your meet, you may resubmit to Helen. Seconded, PASSED

There has been a challenge to rule 233.6 which has to do with number of officials per swimmer to host meets. Ira stated that the rule should go along with what type of meet you want to run.
Fred stated if you run a b level, one session, one day meet, you should not have to have an admin. Official.
It was stated that this discussion should go to Officials committee for resolution.
Stephen Plapp said that there was discussion at the officials committee meeting in regards to this. The committee was not interested in backing off ratio, but would work with clubs to get officials. We are 40-60 officials light in the LSC.
Question presented “Does HOD support rule per # of officials/ swimmer. Vote yes /no. There was not 90% vote to remove the rule. Officials will put a committee in place to study the rule.

Jeff brought up that the bylaws had some formatting issues with titles

The Job Search for the office is chaired by Bill Vargo (committee leader). The committee is Fred Lewis, Helen Kelly, Stephen Plapp, Terry maul, and James Daugherty. There have been 5 applications. They are going to open up the search on Fl Swim network. If you are interested, send Vargo, and Helen your resume. The LSC would like the office staffed full time Monday through Friday from 8-12 and 1-5. We would like to keep Helen and Kiki and move to another full time person.

Jeff asked the HOD to approve the nominating committee for next year:
James Daugherty
Kay Caldwell
John Sakovich
Kevin Meisel
Jeanne Epps
Seconded, PASSED

Next HOD meeting will be October 8-9, 2016

Athletes brought up two concerns:
The first is multiple swimmers competing in a lane (typically in distance events). Made a motion to ban circle swimming and split lane swimming. Seconded, discussion, **PASSED**

Second concern is the “death penalty”, which states that when an athlete misses a final swim, or sign in event, they are out of the rest of the meet. This has been used in our championship meet letters. Motion was made to abolish the “death penalty” and go to next chronological individual event instead of rest of meet. See last year’s FLAGS letter for example of new wording. Seconded, **PASSED**

Fred proposed to have special fee structure for Sr. level P/F meets that have sectional time standards. For example, the GCST May Sr. meet. The last Olympic year when they did this meet, they barely broke even. He proposed that these meets be allowed to charge Grand Prix fees. Seconded, **PASSED**

Mark stated that we need to vote to approve the budget. Vote, **APPROVED**

OME position for championship meets is an open position. If anyone interested, please reach out to Helen. It was discussed that we need to have something up on the website for this position. It was mentioned that we should consider input from the host team in determining OME position. Jeff stated that we are going to work on this process between now and January. It was suggested that we work on the timeline for getting the psych sheet posted for these championship meets. Several hosts feel that the meet host should have the ability to select person running OME. We will form a task force for this concept and bring it to the BOD in January.

We need to vote to approve paralympic athletes for reimbursement for championship meets. Ira stated that paralympic events are outside of our organization. It would be like Masters or tri-athletes asking for reimbursement. The question came up is Paralympic Trials a USA Swimming sanctioned meet? This was tabled until January when we can bring more information regarding details.

Vote to support open water athlete reimbursement, **PASSED**

Anyone wanting to help with Leap II contact Jeff and Justin.

Plan to have an awards banquet next HOD and discontinue BOD meeting. This would help in bringing out achievements of our athletes and honoring them.

Mark McCaw spoke on the open water committee and the discussion to make the zone open water meet a qualifier to get berth in National meet.

**Athlete Proposal:**
The athletes presented their proposal (see attached doc.) The purpose is to give athlete committee structure, create educational workshops for athletes, and change rules. It will also give the athlete committee organization, and structure in line with the USA swimming format. It is designed to allow for more involvement from athletes.
Motion to accept Policies and Procedures chapter 4
Bill Vargo questioned checks and balances of proposal.
Jeff stated he would like a committee formed to work with athletes to study and tweak proposal and represent in January.
Vote on Athlete Policy Manual. **PASSED**
Athlete bylaw changes 604.13, 606.7, and 606.9.2
Motion to approve bylaw changes, seconded, **PASSED**

Motion to adjourn at 2:00 p.m. seconded, **ADJOURNED**

Respectfully Submitted,

Cashel Mack
Secretary