FLORIDA SWIMMING, INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
USA Triathlon Training Center, Clermont, Florida
February 5, 2006

MINUTES

Chairman Bill Vargo called the meeting to order at 12:00 PM following a technical planning meeting. Those in attendance were as follows: Bill Vargo, Helen Kelly, Gay Wright, Stuart Michelson, Steve Lochte, Peter Banks, Sherwood Watts, Larry Shofe, Jack Goltz, Tish Kimball, Helen Ryan, Al Forbes, Mike Yearwood, Mio Vasic, Tom Keer, Ryan Woodruff, Don Henshaw, Randy Johnson, Terry Maul, Aaron Swartzman, Brittany Boldizsar, Gina Mayer, and guest, Melissa Hellervik-Bing,

Bill Vargo reminded the board that the meeting would be taped and to speak loudly. This is in concordance of USA Swimming.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

General Chairman: Bill Vargo – In setting upcoming meeting dates inquired about preference of day and time. The agreement is to meet May 7th, Sunday, Technical Planning at 10:00 AM and the Board Meeting at 12:00 noon. Bill explained we no longer want to have meetings during our championship meets, but by having our date set in August we will have had time to digest the past season. A conference call was suggested but majority were in favor of meeting August 20th, keeping times the same. Bill reminded the board that he would like the Senior Chair, Technical Planning and Age Group Chair to meet at least 3 times a year to discuss matters. This effort had a successful start with a meeting prior to the technical planning meeting. They were able to discuss things and prepare.

Admin. Vice Chairman: Chuck Burgess – Not in attendance, no report.

Senior Vice Chairman: Peter Banks-announced the Senior Champs letter had been sent out. He stated there will be a correction to the Sectional Meet Info for qualifying standards. Don Henshaw asked if these would need to be submitted by disk. Stuart Michelson, the championship entry data person, responded yes. Details covering this matter will be sent out from the office and on-line. Peter stated he plans to confer with Duffy Dillon, Jay Thomas and the Sectional Committee about changes. Further discussions and plans will be addressed at the Southern Zone Sectional meeting at the Southern Zone Sectional Meet in March.

Age Group Vice-Chair: Sherwood Watts- Announced the SC and LC Junior Olympic cuts had been changed, this was done to even-out the inconsistencies and to be fair. He reviewed the hand-out on the all-star and zone meets. The dollar numbers reviewed were high-end and would most likely come down. Stuart Michelson informed the board that the proposed figure was within $200 of last years. Sherwood explained the athlete fee would be raised from $35 to $40 to help cover luncheon planned for Saturday of All-Star meet. Head Coach, Graig Fischer will be doing the entries. We will take the top 6 in each event, any swimmer from any heat may score, an awards ceremony, DJ and the prior mentioned lunch. The luncheon will be for both teams (the cost shared). These changes will enhance the meet being held at Indian River on April 1-2. Sherwood stated that Tarn Thompson, the Head Coach for Zones, has been working diligently since Christmas securing prices and making travel plans to Atlanta. The costs for rooming will be more than Houston because dorm rooms were available there and they could walk to the pool. Helen Ryan suggested checking into dorm availability at Emery which is close to Georgia Tech. Bill said he would relay to Tarn. Peter Banks asked if we were benefiting as an LSC attending this

meet since our best athletes were unable to attend due to school starts, etc. He stated it had been discussed before to changing to a June date. Bill stated with the Proposed Schedule which will be in effect for two years that a lot of the problems we've experienced may work themselves out. Plus there are rumors that school may start later. Sherwood stated, once again, that he had done a 180 degree on how he felt about the value of Zones. He recommends to all and that the LSC needs to continue to support this meet. At Georgia Tech, August 1-6, Sherwood feels he'd like to definitely participate in the Open Water (opted out in Houston) and support the effort of locating Disability Athletes to represent our LSC. In comparing numbers the cost should be less than last year, mostly due to airfare. Bill stated we would need to "lock-in" as soon as possible to get the best rates. In closing, Sherwood stated he's putting together a panel of 4 or 5 age group coaches to look at bringing back finals for 10 and under at Junior Olympics. He feels it is a BIG deal and will come back in May with more info.

Treasurer: Stuart Michelson - Passed out year to date financial report stating Mutual Funds and Money Market are up this year. He highlighted several areas of concern; Age Group due to last Years Zone expense, Seniors Chair due to increased athlete support which started in October and the cost of attending the National Convention, again due mostly to airfare. Stuart said he would be watching the numbers. He suggested Florida Swimming pay a percentage to send delegates to the Convention and stated he was in favor of supporting the Senior athletes, but that it is greatly impacting numbers and it hasn't even been a full year. Peter indicated we don't have the number available of senior athletes that this will affect this year. He can get those numbers. Peter added that he would be very opposed to charging the delegates any amount to attend convention. Delegates give up their time away from their families and should not have to pay. Helen Kelley agreed wholeheartedly. She stated our LSC needs the representation and we need to be there to exercise our right to vote. Since it is being held in Detroit, airfare should be more reasonable.

. **OTHER REPORTS:**

Executive Director: Helen Kelly – Stated the Incorporation has been renewed for another year.

Officials: Jack Goltz- Reported that he and Bob Griffiths had attended an Officials Meeting In Omaha where officials from around the country were sharing experiences and benefiting from each other in how they can continue to develop officials. Our current number is 172 and 20-25 haven't recertified for 2006 yet. Jack feels good about that number compared to Michigan that has 64, where they have to pay their officials. In his absence at the October Meeting a Proposal was passed stating FS will pay the Head Referee $400.00 and the Administrative Ref and Chief Judge $200.00 each at the following FS Championship Meets when approved by the BOD. There was no amendment to change the expenses which are currently being reimbursed as a $20.00 per diem plus mileage. Jack made a motion to increase payment and leave reimbursement of expenses as they have been. Stuart indicated the budget would cover the increase. This simply replaces the incorrect motion passed in October. Jack explained why there is a difference in payment. The Admin does not do the amount of work at a Championship Meet as other meets nor does Chief Judge. Terry Maul initiated a discussion on the intent and that we need a philosophy in place regarding are they volunteers or do we need to pay them. Jack explained this is for Championship Meets only and needs to be put in place to have consistency at those meets. After more discussion, Stuart seconded motion and motion passed. Jacks next item for discussion was increasing the number of officials per team. His proposal which was tabled is to double the current number of required officials per team based on team athlete numbers as of August 31st. This was explained this is to host meets to receive a sanction. A great deal of discussion followed. Bill pointed out that if it passes it wouldn't go into effect until August 31, 2007. Melissa Bing pointed out ways to encourage parents to get involved. Jack suggested this matter be tabled until the May Meeting

Registration: Helen Kelly – Reported current numbers vs. previous year;

	2006	**2005**
ATHLETE MEMBERS	5282	5180
NON-ATHLETE	537	509
CHARTERED CLUBS	85	81

Safety: Tish Kimball – Reported having attended a safety clinic last weekend. The last quarter reported contained incidents involving mostly 11-12 year old group and mostly in water leg or foot injuries. She encouraged coaches to call with questions and to go on-line and check under risk Management/Safety for more info.

Disability Swimming: Mitzi Tighe **–***not in attendance, no report. Bill reminded coaches to help locate disabled athletes competing and to contact Mitzi with those names.*

Technical Planning: Steve Lochte – Presented the 2007 Florida Swimming Championship Meet Schedule:

SHORT COURSE

February 22-25, 2007	Junior Olympics
March 1-4, 2007	Senior Championships
March 15-18, 2007	Southern Sectional
March 27-31, 2007	Spring Nationals

LONG COURSE

July 5-8, 2007	Junior Olympics
July 18-22, 2007	Southern Sectionals
July 26-29, 2007	Senior Championships
July 31-August 4, 2007	Summer Nationals
August 7-11, 2007	Junior Nationals

Steve made a motion this schedule be approved for two years, 2007 and 2008 in respect to same flow. Don Henshaw seconded. Larry Shofe shared the effort put into the decision of the progression, keeping in mind the **Mission- to take athletes to the highest level.** Aaron Swartzman mentioned the FCAT Testing dates may be changing, and should that be considered? Bill said it would be impossible to consider all things and to work around them. He recommended we go with the proposal. Motion passed.
Discussed a "fly-over" clause be included in all meet info letters and that "chase starts" are recommended for LC championship meets. B Championships meets are being reformatted and improved; the restructured format will be presented at the May meeting. Steve made a motion the $10.00 Scratch Rule be in effect for the Spring Championships, Mike Yearwood seconded, motion passed. Steve concluded with announcing the entry qualifying times for Sectionals is being redefined and will be turned in by Peter Banks.

Coaches: Larry Shofe-Announced applications to join FSCA have been sent out. There are currently 20-25 coaches registered. Plans are underway to put together coach's clinics throughout the year, possibly pinpoint meets to invite coaches to speak and to share info with others. Bill has asked Larry for three coaches to be on the Officials Committee. Larry announced that 4 athletes from our LSC were selected for the National Junior Team. He continued that he had met with the performance director and also contacted USA Swimming requesting the camp be Sunday thru Tuesday. He received notification from John Walker, USA Swimming, that change had been made. This will eliminate any conflicts with FHSAA State Meet. Larry shared info regarding possible upcoming changes regarding high school championship selection.

Athletes: Brittany Boldizsar and Gina Mayer- Encouraged teams to check athlete website, newsletter is available there.

OLD BUSINESS:

Bill announced Stuart Michelson is the Championship Entry Data Person. Responsible for four meets a year. Stuart indicated he has been asked to do Sectionals also this year. Reminder that Meet Information Letters for championship meets will come from the FS Office. Terry Maul asked if the office will continue to provide "best times" report for each team. Helen said teams could go on-line for info. Teams are asked to make sure they send a disk or CD with their entries.
Bill mentioned the B Championships had been "bounced around" this past year. Moving forward we need to SET the date and KEEP it.
Payment for championship meet awards paid by Florida Swimming discussed. Bill clarified that his October statement to handle on a meet to meet basis meant the host team would need to come to the board each time, state their case and await a decision. Larry suggested this be part of the bid process.

NEW BUSINESS:

Bill stated the question had come up about a closed and open meet being held in the same area on the same weekend. He stated this is covered under Policies and Procedures from USA Swimming and there is no objection.
Bill announced there are two positions available as Outreach and Club Development Chairpersons. If anyone is interested please contact Bill. Al Forbes ask if they need to have their own club pool, Bill indicated it's open to anyone.

Next Board of Directors Meeting will be Sunday May 7, 2007, at the National Training Facility.
Stuart motioned meeting to be adjourned, Steve with second.
Meeting was adjourned at 2:00 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Wright, Secretary
Remember; THE JOY IS IN THE JOURNEY