FLORIDA SWIMMING, INC
HOUSE OF DELEGATES – MEETING MINUTES
Radisson Hotel, Orlando, Florida
October 1, 2006

General Chairman Bill Vargo called the meeting to order at 9:30am.
Roll Call was taken by Gay Wright to include all member teams.
The minutes of the previous House of Delegates Meeting were approved.

REPORT OF THE OFFICERS:

General Chairman *Bill Vargo*

In addition to the report in the book Bill advised that Greg Cross has been asked to serve as the Open Water Committee Chairman.

Administrative Vice Chairman *Chuck Burgess*

No Report.

Senior Vice Chairman *Peter Banks*

In addition to the report Peter advised that Summer Sectional Times had been updated and the Summer Sr. Championships would be open to FGC.

Age-Group Vice Chairman *Sherwood Watts*

Sherwood adds the following; the spirit award would be enhanced and the selection committee would be increased to 9 members scoring based on a determined criteria. The JO cuts will pretty much remain the same, however he will be looking at the 11-12 Girls long course cuts, we will be scoring 16 places instead of 8 places at JO's, There will be an Open Water JO's with specifics to follow, Zone Team selection will change to selecting 80% of the team at the end of short course season, the remainder will be selected at a later date to get the best possible candidates, Zone Meet will held in Houston the first week in August, one chaperone to be added and a team manager, Jr National Qualifiers and under can compete, no Sr National Qualifiers.

Sherwood asked **Zone Team Head Coach Tarn Thompson** to address the delegates; Tarn advises he would like to provide a comprehensive overview of this year's Zone Team. We filled 36 of our 48 positions only 75% of the allotment and finished 7th overall in a field of 16 teams, with the 12 vacant slots filled we could have easily finished 5th, the other team fielding 36 athletes (Louisiana) finished 11th. 215 swims 47 top ten finishes, 104 best times, 5 top 16 times, one Jr National time. 6 coaches and 2 chaperones were with the team. It is important to fill our roster with our best 48 athletes; otherwise we will finish in the middle of the pack. More coaches need to get behind this and encourage their best swimmers to go, the competition is outstanding. The Open Water Team finished 3rd. **Bill Vargo** stated that Florida Swimming would like all members to make a concerted effort to support the Zone Team by encouraging potential qualifiers to aspire to be selected and if selected to compete, FS spent $30,000 to send 36 athletes to place 7th, we should be staffing & equipping a team to win this meet.

Jim Kelly announced that he had been contacted by Swimming World Magazine to announce their plans to do an article on the top 5 LSC's in USA Swimming. WAY TO GO FLORIDA SWIMMING!

Treasurer: **Stuart Michelson**

Stuart made the following comments to his report; we appear to be on budget for 2006 notwithstanding the expected increased spending on Seniors, which continues to be bolstered financially to support and encourage our Senior Athletes to remain active in the sport. He will be reworking next year's budget to reflect more increases for the Seniors to be presented in January. With respect to earnings on our investments we have gained 2.5% on our money market and 1.6% on our mutual funds, August and September has been very good for us which will show marked improvement to the report included in the book. He and Bill Vargo are working on getting a formal audit on our books, it has not been done since he became treasurer and feels it is important to have this done to make sure everything is clean and appropriate before submitting to USA Swimming.

OTHER REPORTS:

Executive Director: Helen Kelly – report is in the book

Helen adds the following comments; the web address was printed incorrectly in the HOD book. Starting January 1st all USA Swimming Coaches and non-Athletes will have background checks performed, the info will be sent out to everyone with 30 day to be completed, you will be required to pay $20.00 and once successfully completed it will be valid for 2 years (See BOD Minutes). Florida Swimming will not receive any personal information back from these checks only a cleared response, USA-S will receive all appropriate feedback directly from the firm doing the checks.

Officials: Jack Goltz – report is in the book

Registration: Helen Kelly – report is in the book

Safety: Tish Kimball has resigned due to moving out of area; Bill will appoint Corey Welbes (CFM). Corey conducted CPR Training earlier today.

Disability: Mitzi Tighe-stated those 5 teams currently have integrated disability swimming into their programs. She highlighted accomplishments of two swimmers and told a heartwarming story of Christian Baker. She provided Criteria to start a program for disabled enticement-

$40 - per athlete at regular meets.

$1000 – Host team can earn from USA-S thru 8/2007 at meet.

Mitzi explained the different levels and also spoke of the huge need to have more teams involved. Everyone benefits!

Technical Planning: Steve Lochte-Calendar Changes Only, See attached schedule

Coaches Rep.: **Larry Shofe – report is in the book**

Larry added these comments; The Coaches Assn is now the largest it has been since the 1980's. Last night he was elected President and Coaches Rep, Frank Bradley, Vice President and Ryan Woodruff, Sec/Treas., they amended the bylaws for terms to be 2 years with a 4 yr maximum. Announced a monthly newsletter being published and distributed, coaches clinics at JO's and Sr Champs. Coaches of the year would be selected by vote. His goal is to help coaches be the best they can be. He mentioned the ASCA Clinic and Mark Schubert's address to the coaches at USA-S

convention about doing and being your best. Larry reported that the topic of "how do you get your kids to come to swim practice" was debated for an hour in their discussions. He reports that he sees a large wealth of knowledge among the coaches and looks forward to more open dialogue and information sharing. He strongly offers his encouragement to all coaches to join the Association.

Athlete's Rep.: **Gina Mayer – report is in the book**

Gina added that an Athletes Committee would be formed and wished to Thank Helen Kelly and Bill Vargo for all of their support during her term of service as this is her last meeting.

Before adjourning to the caucuses Bill Vargo announced that they were looking at having next year's meetings on one of our coastal areas as a family beach retreat and possibly a banquet as well, no specifics as yet and further details will announced later.

ADJOURNMENT FOR AREA CAUCUS MEETINGS

AREA REPORTS: Following elections were made

Area 1
2yr Jon Sakovich gatorsak@earthlink.net
1yr Ryan Woodruff gatorswimclub@hotmail.com
TP Jon Sakovich gatorsak@earthlink.net
Area 2
2yr Jeff Wise
1yr Scott Caron scaron@cfl.rr.com
TP Charlie Rose dolphins@cfl.rr.com
Alt Rocco Aceto AcetoR@trinityprep.org
Area 3
2yr Cashel Mack zookeeper5721@cs.com
1yr Randy Johnson cvstrandy@aol.com
!yr Fred Lewis swimstpete@aol.com
TP Fred Lewis
Alt Graig Fischer rgfish111564@aol.com
Area 4
2yr Terry Maul perfenh@aol.com
1yr Bob Ruth bobruth15@juno.com
TP Terry Maul
Area 5
2yr Tom Kerr tomswfl@aol.com
1yr Carey Martin coachcarey@lwrsa.org
TP Don Henshaw GCST@swfla.rr.com
Area 6
2yr Mark Wilson mawilson@cfl.rr.com
1yr Scott Kimmelman skimmelm@ircc.edu
Alt Frank Bradley fbradley@ircc.edu

Please refer to the schedule for dates of Area Meets.

Randy Johnson, Chairman of the Nominating Committee presented the following list of Officers for 2007;

General Chairman – Bill Vargo
Admin Vice Chairman – Terry Maul
Senior Vice Chairman – Peter Banks
Age Group Chair - Sherwood Watts
Treasurer- Stuart Michelson
Secretary- Gay Wright
Technical Planning- Steve Lochte

Upon presentation Randy called to close nominations, Larry Shofe seconded and The House of Delegates accepted these as the Officers for 2007.

Bill Vargo remarks that the Board of Review Committee includes Terry Maul whom was elected as an officer for 2007 and states he needs vacate his place on this committee and another be selected. Duncan Sherrard is appointed.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill Vargo calls Jim Kelly to report on Bylaws, Jim makes the announcement that everyone should have received a package that included rules changes by USA-S for this year and that everyone should familiarize themselves with them. Secondly he relinquished the floor to Fred Lewis to make the following proposal, the swim calendar should be drafted for 2 years at a time and should be voted on at the House of Delegates not the Board, he feels equal representation is better achieved in this manner. He used the Sectional Meet Changes as an example; Jim Kelly advised Fred that the Sectional Committee made those changes not the Board.

Terry Maul stated although he had no problem with a 2 year schedule that opening up these matters on the floor of a general meeting would promote lengthy discussion and little production and that the area caucuses are for the development and submission of schedules, he maintains that the smaller body needs to vote on these matters once they are developed by HOD and caucuses. Steve Lochte agreed with Terry and reiterated that the area reps brought their areas concerns and plans to the board equally. Larry Shofe also agrees with Terry and Steve and elaborated on the process and remarked that the board meets four times a year to hear and act on Areas requests. All of the plans and structure that have been developed to promote the sport up to and through Seniors, which is the goal for these kids.

The HOD **rejected the proposal** made by Fred Lewis by vote.

A second proposal to raise entry fees for Seniors and open events by 25 cents, $2.25 per timed final events and $3.25 per prelim and final event. This would create a travel fund for national Qualifiers and to bring a Gran Prix Meet to the LSC, this was seconded after some discussion Terry Maul suggested this be tabled and a committee be set up to bring back a comprehensive proposal. A vote was called and the **proposal failed.**

These are to be voted on as concepts with details to be developed and approved later.

By-law Changes:

It was asked that the House give Jim Kelly the authority to make the appropriate changes to the By-laws having to do with the following proposals, with the fact that some portions of the changes are being mandated by USA Swimming having to do with Athlete Representation. Notion was seconded and **passed.**

1. Athletes' Committee Proposal (from Gina Mayer, FS Senior Athlete Rep.)
   a) Create an Athletes' Committee with representation from all year-round FS registered clubs.
   b) 20% voice on all FS Committees, Board of Directors & House of Delegates.
   c) Allow for Athletes' Committee to have input on the Athlete selections to the Committees, Board & House. This to ascertain compliance of the Sports Act of 1978
2. House Keeping (from Mark Wilson, WVY): re-insert Alachua County to Boundary description of FS LSC. County was inadvertently omitted when by-laws were updated last year.
3. Open Water Coordinator Proposal (From FS Board of Directors): Create and Open Water Coordinator position on the Board of Directors. The position will be ex-officio and report to the Senior and Age Group Vice Chairmen.
4. Terms of Election Proposal (From FS Coaches Association): a) Change FS Board of Directors Officer terms of office to 2-year terms. b) In the even years the following would be elected: General Chairman, Secretary, Age Group Vice Chairman, Technical Planning Chairman, and Safety Chairman. c) In the odd years the following would be elected: Administrative Vice Chairman, Senior Chairman, Treasurer, Membership/Registration Chairman, and FS Board of Review.
5. Officials Chairman Appointment Proposal (From Jack Goltz, FS Officials Chairman): Gives Officials Committee input to the selection of the Officials Chairman.

Another motion was made and seconded that authorized Jim Kelly to clean up other areas of the bylaws that are affected by the aforementioned changes to save time and remove any ambiguities. This was **approved** by vote.

Bill Vargo then publicly thanked Jim Kelly for all the hard work he had done, this inspired a heartily applause from the HOD.

Jim Grazier proposes that for championship meets that entries can be emailed and in lieu of faxing additions send email in MS Word to eliminate discs. This was a motion and was seconded. After a discussion the **motion passed**.

Ian Neal asked what we will do with the money from fines due from clubs not in attendance. Bill Vargo explained that it went into the General Fund of FS.

Jim Kelly commented that USA-S was looking into VISA as a payment method since they are a sponsor, this was discussed with questions such as cost and how it would work. No further action taken on this matter.

Rocco Aceto proposed that the $2.00 entry fee be increased, Bill Vargo appointed Rocco Chairman of the task force/committee to review this matter and to present a formal motion to the BOD in January. Gina Meyer will also serve on this task force with others to be added and announced later.

Fred Lewis will chair the task force/committee to research the details on bringing a Gran Prix event to the LSC, Laura Nightingale will also serve with him.

Jim Grazier announced that the Sunshine State Games will be held in Polk County June 15-17 and it will be a timed finals meet.

AWARDS

Short Course **Long Course**

10 & Under Girls		Chelsea Britt	Merrill Wilson
10 & Under Boys		Ryan Murphy	Ryan Murphy
11-12 Girls	Tie	Tina Papadopoulas Megan Fonteno	Tina Papadopoulas
11-12 Boys		Nicholas Caldwell	Nicholas Caldwell
13-14 Girls		Megan Romano	Lauren Pipin
13-14 Boys		Mac Montgomery	Nicholas Caldwell
15-16 Girls		Caitlin Geary	Megan Romano
15-16 Boys		Omar Pinzon	Omar Pinzon
17-18 Girls		Chelsea Nauta	Jamie Marks
17-18 Boys		Shaune Fraser	Shaun Fraser

Peter Banks stated that Great Athletes need to be recognized at a proper Awards Ceremony such as a Banquet. He announced that the Senior Athletes of the Year were **Ryan Lochte** and **Corrine Showalter**, this was based on world rankings.

Bill Vargo announced the meeting schedule for next year;

Board Meetings – Saturday, Jan 20th, Sunday, April 20th a conference call Aug 18th and Saturday October 13th.

House of Delegates – Sunday, October 14th .
Meeting was adjourned at 12:15pm

Respectfully Submitted,
Gay Wright, Secretary