FLORIDA SWIMMING, INC
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING
Barceló Hotel, Orlando, FL., September 30, 2006

MINUTES

Chairman Bill Vargo called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM following a technical planning meeting. Those in attendance were as follows: Bill Vargo, Helen Kelly, Gay Wright, Stuart Michelson, Steve Lochte, Sherwood Watts, Peter Banks, Larry Shofe, Terry Maul, Jack Goltz, Dan Jimar, Jim Kelly, Mitzi Tighe, Randy Johnson, Scott Kimmelman, Fred Lewis, Mike Yearwood, Graig Fischer, Don Henshaw ,Ian O'Neal, Cashel Mack ,Ryan Woodruff, Jon Sakovich, Tom Kerr, Duncan Sherrard, Rick Bishop, Steve Altheimer, Frank Bradley, Mark Wilson, Rocco Aceto, and Steve Fenning.

The motion was made & seconded to approve the minutes of the last meeting, motion carried.

REPORT OF OFFICERS:

General Chairman: Bill Vargo Bill announced the dates the Board will meet in 2007: Jan 20, Saturday; April 14, Sunday; Aug. 18 (probably a conference call) and October 13-14. Locations will be announced with Open Water now being an Olympic event; FS is being very supportive and proactive in asking Gregg Cross to chair our newly created Open Water Division. Also, brought up in Technical Planning, Helen Kelly mentioned contracts need to accompany the bid packages for teams wanting to host championship meets. Contracts will be mailed from the FS office next week for 2007, this because they had not been required earlier. The host team will have 30 days to sign and return. Tarn Thompson has been asked to give an overview of Zones tomorrow.

Admin. Vice Chairman: Chuck Burgess – Not in attendance

Senior Vice Chairman: Peter Banks-Sectional Qualifying Times have been toughened; this will make it a faster meet and raise the bar. Peter recommended qualifying standards for all championship meets be reinstated. Larry seconded motion and it passed. Peter and technical planning committee recommend opening Summer Senior Champs to include Florida Gold Coast. The purpose is to build the meet and improve the level of swimming. **Motion passed.** Florida Swimming needs to take a leadership role in developing Senior swimming to be recognized throughout the country Fred Lewis asked in looking at the 2007 calendar and the placement in December of Nationals, how that affects sectionals. Peter said that is not a FS or FGC decision but a technical planning decision. Peter and others agree it should be a long course meet. Peter further explained that was the direction of Mark Schubert with USAS. Peter feels we're doing what's right for our athletes Steve Lochte pointed out the sectional committee made that adjustment for three years thru the Olympic year. Peter said the talk and comment was to possibly making it permanent. Fred asked if the Grand Prix had been awarded for 2008. Larry explained that USA Swimming is planning to do one monthly. Fred asked if we couldn't take the $10,000 from a sectional meet and look at making it a Grand Prix meet. Peter said we would need to look at the expense of bringing the National level swimmers in. People will come to Florida in the winter to swim in a Grand Prix, that's a "no-brainer". He plans to make calls and get the ball rolling. A discussion followed on by laws being in place to help govern the sectional committee. Jim Kelly suggests the by-laws be rewritten so that chairman isn't decision maker if he benefits from decision. Peter will put by-laws together and present at next sectional meeting.

Age Group Vice-Chair: Sherwood Watts – Congratulated coaching staff for All-Stars and Zones; also Indian River Staff for making All-Stars a special event. He announced he had done a 180 degree on how he felt about the value of Zones. He recommends the LSC needs to encourage coaches and athletes to get involved. He'd like to see Florida Swimming # ONE! Tarn Thompson has been asked to give an overview at the HOD. Sherwood stated Junior Olympics would be scoring 16 places. He plans to work with Graig on the details for the Open Water Junior Olympics to be held May 17-21, 2007 all other items are in the book. He pointed out that the Zone Selection will be done earlier (like it was several years ago). This will give athletes an opportunity to see what they need to do and family's adequate time to make plans.

Scott Kimmelman made one more comment on sectional committee meetings. He feels like we need to know in advance who is representing FS at these meetings. Bill said they are set; it's the General Chair, Senior Chair, the Coaches Rep and Athletes Rep.

Treasurer: Stuart Michelson - Passed out year to date financial report stating we are on budget then explained several areas on the budget report. Pointing out the increase in Senior Chair expenses, this due to reimbursements which had been approved. He plans to rework the budgeted amount and present at the next meeting. There were comments on the $380,000 balance. Helen explained USA Swimming recommends a LSC have at least one year's budget in the bank. Jim added that as long as an LSC can show a reason for having a large balance, it's not a problem. Money Market and Mutual Funds are up slightly, however better months ahead. Peter asked if Stuart could provide the coaches portion of expense by the next meeting. Don Henshaw pointed out travel expenses would be less next year due to location. Larry suggested considering requiring teams go to championships within the LSC in order to receive reimbursement for Nationals. Suggested we look into ways to put more money into the "pot" for reimbursement purposes. Peter said possibly add a surcharge to the Senior Champs just to be earmarked for that fund.

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OTHER REPORTS:

Executive Director: Helen Kelly Report is in the book. Pointed out LSC is financially sound. National times are available on line. Times from this season have not been entered due to a glitch in the data base. Rosters will no longer be mailed out at the end of each month. Coaches can check on-line for updates on the 1st and 15th of each month. Helen stated she's encouraged about the FS and FGC connection. Helen explained beginning Jan 1, 2007, all coaches will be required to go thru a background check. More info is forthcoming after the task force reports back. Tentatively, in 2008 all non-athlete members will be required to do so. She emphasized that no personal data would be shared only a statement indicating cleared would be returned. The check will go back 10 years, will need to be specific and will need to be redone every two years at a charge of $20.00-$25.00. After notification, check must be completed in 30 days. A high school check is not acceptable.

Officials: Jack Goltz- Report is in the book. Highlighted topics discussed from the 4 hour marathon meeting held earlier in the day. They had identified teams needing officials. Officials have been assigned for the 2007 championships. They had also discussed lessoning the time to become a stroke and turn judge and to create a deck referee position to encourage more current starters to advance. Proposals for these will be brought forward at next meeting. Steve Altheimer added there are many starters that don't want to be a referee. The creation of new position would help free-up the referee to do more things.

Two rules change discussed. First, the officials chair position and the appointment thereof: Bill would like officials to be involved with the appointment process. They can give a recommendation, however; appointment would be made by General Chair. Bill explained that the /rule Change can't be made until the By-Laws are changed. He will pull what he needs to submit at HOD. It will state "The Officials Chairman will be appointed by the General Chairman upon the recommendation of the Administrative Vice Chairman and the Officials Committee with the consent of the BOD." Secondly, Jack made a proposal to increase the number of officials. The goal is to have enough officials on deck to make the competition better. Jack stated that coaches have commented they want the calls made so the swimmer can learn from it Current proposal is 1 certified official for 50, 2 officials for 51-100 and 3 certified officials for 101+.He had proposed 2for 50, 3 for 51-100, 4 for 101, and 5 for 150+. Now would like to amend. Bill explained we had to have a second to Jack's motion before we could discuss .Proposed a club with 30 swimmers have 1 official, with one additional official for every 30 swimmers up to 6 officials for 180 swimmers, this to be applied to numbers as of August 31st of each year. Peter seconded the motion, **motion passed.** Fred questioned if the number of officials should be higher if you're team is hosting meets where two pools are being ran simultaneously. He suggested if a sanction is requested for dual pools, they should have at least 2 starters and enough stroke and turn for both pools. Jim pointed out this should be a separate proposal brought back at a later date. Jim also pointed out that the USA Swimming Rules Committee had recommended not having a set minimum for officials. Jack tabled his last proposal until the next meeting.

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

	2005	**2006**	
ATHLETE MEMBERS	9612	9827	(+215)
NON-ATHLETE	713	751	(+38)
CHARTERED CLUBS	101	99	(-2)

Helen reported everything looks good.

Safety: Tish Kimball-Not in attendance has moved out of area. Thanks Tish for a job well done.
Bill announced (should he be re-elected), he will recommend Corey Welbes from CFM for the Safety position.

Disability Swimming: Mitzi Tighe-Passionately spoke of her dedication to this program. She mentioned the teams that have integrated disability into their programs: Gator, Temple Terrace, St Pete, Area Tallahassee and Team New Tampa. Two individuals competed at the National level, Miranda and Juan. Both are doing very well. If interested please contact Mitzi. She mentioned USA Swimming is in strong support of this program. She explained if you host a meet and have a disabled athlete compete, you have the referee sign off and you will receive $40 from USA Swimming. She further

explained a team hosting a disability meet could earn $1000 through August 8, 2007. Mitzi asked for financial support for the disabled athletes qualifying to attend National Meets. She explained the medical costs and financial burden these athletes have. The CAN AM Meets are in March and July. Scott Kimmelman recommended $700; Mitzi was reluctant to have a set amount. Peter said Mitzi should determine the travel amount and then double that in order to cover housing. Bill again mentioned that we need to be proactive as an LSC on establishing guidelines. Peter said we should follow the same reimbursement criteria as with other athletes. Larry requested time standards be brought to the next meeting. Ryan Woodruff commented on how having integrated this into his program, having a disabled swimmer inspires the able bodied to try harder.

Technical Planning: Steve Lochte – Reviewed the schedule changes from technical planning meeting (see attached)

Coaches: Larry Shofe- Announced the Coaches Assn meeting would follow the Board Meeting. They plan to discuss the direction the group will take as they move forward to help grow the program and become better coaches.

Athletes: Gina Mayer- Not in attendance. Bill introduced a proposal prepared by Senior Athlete Rep, Gina Mayer The proposal to create an athletes committee to be an integral part of all Florida Swimming decisions. The requirement is 20% representation on all committees. This will give athletes more voice and promote age groups. Bill explained the background of this proposal and encouraged members to again be proactive and react favorably when proposal is made on Sunday at the House of Delegates. The creation of this committee must be done within 90 days of the National Convention. Helen will send out info to the teams, the coach will select one athlete for the committee. Voting members will be determined from the group. Jim explained they must be 16 yrs of age and live in our LSC. Bill stated to be ready for changes, athletes like to get involved and make things happen.

OLD BUSINESS:

.Nominations for 2006-2007 are:

General Chairman-	Bill Vargo
Administrative Vice Chairman	Terry Maul
Senior Vice Chairman-	Peter Banks
Age Group Vice Chairman-	Sherwood Watts
Treasurer-	Stuart Michelson
Secretary-	Gay Wright
Technical Planning Chairman-	Steve Lochte
Registration/Membership Chairman	Helen Kelly
Coaches Representative	Elected by FS Coaches Association
Board of Review	Frank Bradley Graig Fischer
	Mitch Norton Jeff Wright
	Terry Maul Sr. Athlete Rep.

NEW BUSINESS:

FS By-Law Jim Kelly explained there are several by-law changes mostly "housekeeping" that will be addressed tomorrow.

FS Rules and Regulations Proposals-

Fred Lewis proposed that **Article 221.1** be changed so that the site selection and event dates for LSC Championships would be decided at the House of Delegates annual meeting and not by the Board as it currently is done. Seconded by Graig Fischer. Terry said it's easier for a small body to make decisions than a large body of members. **Motion was defeated.**

Fred Lewis proposed that **Article 225.2** involving entry fees and surcharges be changed to raise the entry fees on Senior and Open events by $.25, $2.25 for timed finals and $3.25 for prelims and finals. This increase is to be used to enhance Senior Swimming by creating a travel fund to pay for National A&B level swimmers to attend a Grand Prix Meet hosted by a FS member club. This would go into effect Jan 1, 2007.

Stuart seconded. Larry suggested $.50 increase; Jon suggested $2.50 across the board. Bill said the vote is on the $.25 increase as proposed. **Passed**

Officials Proposal- Mark Wilson submitted a proposed rule change stating all forward moving stroke events use a "fly-over" start during meets. This will no longer have to be mentioned specifically in the meet letter. The "flyover" is very common-place. The official can decide at the meet if he/she needs to use this start. **Motion passed.**

OTHER:

Zones, Spirit Award and Parent Responsibility-Sherwood announced that he will be working on more rules for athletes and parents to be in place for the Zone trip. He also plans to add a team manager and one more chaperone, having chaperoned and enjoyed several Zone trips: I can attest to how helpful a team manager can be. Mitch Norton and I worked together and relieved the coaches of all the food scheduling and refreshment issues. Larry asked about parent participation?

Bill explained that would be addressed on Sunday. Fred stated some parents had heard lectures from USAS. Bill further explained that Tarn will recommend tomorrow that if parent is out of control then parent and/or athlete will be asked to go home. Coaches are there to focus on all the athletes. Terry Maul said that Parent Responsibilities need to accompany the registration paperwork. Selecting teams early may help. Terry suggested more communication.

Cashel Mack asked if a team can enter a swimmer in a meet that's not on his team and have the swimmer
on the other teams team manager? She further mentioned the swimmer at the meet was included on relays of the other team. A discussion followed on different situations existing on teams regarding parents and coaches. Larry, Jim, Peter, Steve and others all agreed that it comes down to integrity and doing the right thing. Jim did indicate that the rule does not state that the coach has to sign off for his swimmer to attend a meet without him. Mike suggested when a transfer of an athlete is sent in that the coach of the team person is leaving needs to sign off that the family is leaving in good financial standing. Bill asked Cashel to bring a proposal to the January meeting.
Scott Kimmelman addressed the BOD on non-payment of last award bill. He stated he thought it had been voted that FS cover costs. After research of several months' minutes we could not find vote info. Scott will get back with Helen on this matter.

Jim Kelly announced Swimming World Magazine had contacted him about an upcoming article on the 5 Top LSCs in the country. WAY TO G O FLORIDA!

Next Board of Directors Meeting will be Saturday January 20, 2007; location to be announced.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:48 P.M. **GOOD NIGHT!!!**

Respectfully submitted,

Gay Wright, Secretary

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FLORIDA SWIMMING TECHNICAL PLANNING MEETING

ORLANDO, FLORIDA
September 30, 2006

- **Long Course Grand Prix added February 17-19, 2007, Missouri.**
- **FS vs. FGC, March 23-25, 2007, at Indian River Community College.**
- **USA Swimming Spring Senior Nationals is Long Course.**
- **Open Water Festival has moved to May 17-21, 2007.**
- **Southern Zone AG Championships, July 31 – August 5, 2007, Houston, Texas.**
- **Florida Swimming Convention & House of Delegates meeting October 13-14, 2007.**
- **FS Open Water J.O.'s, date TBA. Greg Cross and Sherwood Watts will create OW J.O event structure to be held in Fort Myers possibly during the 2007 OW National Championships.**
- **Summer Southern Zone Sectional time standards were presented. Top 30 athletes will be in finals, with heats of A, B & 18 & under in finals.**
- **It was moved and passed to allow FGC to enter our summer Senior Championship. Time standards will stay the same.**
- **SZAG team selection for 2007 will be 70% to 80% off the short course season. The remaining SZAG team athletes will be selected from long course.**
- **The J.O. Spirit Award will have additional members and procedures for choosing the team award winner.**
- **It was mentioned that rooms, in Orlando, for the 2007 Spring J.O. meet are few because there is a city wide convention.**
- **It was moved and passed that J.O.'s will be scored to 16th place.**
- **It was brought up that the FS entry fees are set to low. Discussion. Nothing was brought forward.**

Respectfully submitted,

Fred Lewis
Technical Planning Member