**STSI Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting**

**Tuesday, October 14, 2014**

**9:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:04 PM.

**Board Members Present:**

Mark Parshall, Jessica Evans, Trey Prinz, Didi Byerly, Annette Duvall, Janet Risser, Rachel Woodard, Blaine Stapleton, Ellery Parish, Kaila Byerly, Doug Donofrio, and Don Walker.

**Board Members Absent:**

Robert Coleman and Kay Gerken.

**Others Present:**

Frank Swigon and Angella Woodard.

**Verify Quorum**

A quorum was verified.

**Reports of Officers**

**General Chair Mark Parshall**

Mark challenged the STSI BOD to become more of a service organization doing all that we can to help out coaches, officials, and swimmers. Members need to be kind to one another and accept the decisions of the majority. We need to increase the level of customer service we provide to the membership.

**Admin Vice Chairman**  **Doug Donofrio**

No report.

**Senior Vice Chair Janet Risser**

No report except one item to be discussed under new business.

**Age Group Chair Rachel Woodard**

Leah Woodard has taken over the responsibility for Championship Awards. She and Rachel will be ordering medals for championship meets in the near future.

Rachel is in desperate need of coaches for All Stars, November 14-16 in Dallas. She has sent out some emails to coaches with no success. If anyone has a coach who might be interested in coaching at All Stars, please let her know.

**Tech Planning Chairman** **Jessica Evans**

Jessica is working on the Championship Meet Templates and the associated Meet Manager Files. She is looking for a copy of the new Sectional Standards so that she may include them in the Meet Manger files along with the new TAGS Standards. If anyone has access to the Sectional Standards, please let her know.

Once Jessica receives the HOD Meeting Minutes she will initiate any necessary Policy and Procedures and/or Bylaws Changes resulting from the meeting.

The Planning Calendar has been updated on the website. Teams should send their updates to our webmaster, Mindy Lewis.

Jessica is working on setting up group emails so that targeted email blasts may be sent to the membership. She is also continuing working on additional functionality items on the website.

**Officials Chair**  **Trey Prinz**

No report.

**Treasurer Didi Byerly**

Didi has sent out/will be sending detailed Treasury Reports to the BOD. Please let her know if there are any areas of concern.

**Trustee At Large** **Annette DuVall**

No report.

**Coach's Representative** **Don Walker and Kay Gerken**

No report.

**Safety Coordinator Robert Coleman**

No report.

**Athlete Representatives** **Kaila** **Byerly Ellery Parish Blaine Stapleton**

The BOD Athlete Reps have met and would like to propose holding a food drive during Short Course and Long Course STAGS. The athletes will be responsible for coordinating with the meet host; however, the meet host is not expected to lead this effort. Response to this suggestion was positive from members of the board. Rachel Woodard suggested that we might do a test run at the December SASA ‘Tis the Season meet.

Ellery Parish suggested meet hosts might want to consider doing some type of promotion such as allowing athletes to bring four or five cans of food to pay for their Heat Sheet. Don Walker pointed out that some teams really need their heat sheet income to pay their expenses. The consensus was such a decision should be left up to the Meet Host.

It was expressed that it would be really neat if the athletes would take this lead on promoting and organizing this project. Blaine Stapleton suggested it would be nice if the championship meet host could find a way to distribute donations to the various food banks located in various parts of our LSC that are representative of the athletes competing at STAGS. The athletes would organize, collect, and coordinate with the local food bank.

Ellery Parish pointed out that the Planning Calendar shows an overlap next summer between STAGS and Sectionals. As there are many senior athletes, who traditionally rely on STAGS to achieve new Sectional Time Standards, it would be nice to find a way to prevent such an overlap next summer. One of the difficulties encountered this year was finding a meet host with pool availability for STAGS to be hosted on a different weekend. As the date of STAGS was approved by the HOD, it would be difficult to change the dates except in an instance where the pool became unavailable for the already approved date. A suggestion was made that the Athlete Reps come up with proposed legislation for next year’s HOD Meeting to prevent such overlaps in the future.

Blaine Stapleton reported that the BOD Athlete Reps would like to establish an Athlete Committee. Proposed demographics would include the named Athlete Rep from each team. Each Team Athlete Rep would be encouraged to contact a BOD Athlete Rep with any suggestions or concerns. Ellery Parish would be responsible for teams in the North, Blaine Stapleton for teams in the Central area, and Kaila Byerly for teams in the South. Jessica Evans asked Blaine to write up this proposal and she will publish it as a news item on the STSI website so that the Team Athlete Reps will be aware of the designated point of contacts and the desire to attain input from all Team Athlete Reps.

**Ex-Officio Member Frank Swigon**

As per the STSI Bylaws, 605.4 EX-OFFICIO MEMBERS, Frank plans to remain involved with South Texas Swimming and will attend BOD Meetings as his schedule allows. He informed the board that in such capacity, he shall have voice but no vote in meetings of the Board of Directors and its committees. Mark stated that under the same section of our Bylaws, Regina Prewitt-Campbell, as the previous General Chair, has the same privilege extended to her.

**Report of Committee Chairs, Coordinators, and Others**

**Registration and Membership Angella Woodard**

For 2015 to date, 4764 athletes, 16 Others, 140 Coaches, and 61 Officials have been registered for a grand total of 4978 registrations.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**Ratify Email Vote Approvals**

On Oct 7, 2014, at 12:12 PM, Rachel Woodard <coachrachelwoodard@yahoo.com> wrote:

All,

I would like to make a motion to reduce the cost for our swimmers to attend the All-Star Select Camp in November.  Currently, the budget calls for the athletes to pay $250.00 each. Last year the athletes paid only $100.00 each.  With the guidance of Didi, she has suggested that the athletes pay $125.00-$150.00. I'd like to make a motion that the athletes this year only pay $125.00 each. Thank you for your support.

Thanks,
Rachel Woodard

Received 6 votes in favor via email. It was moved and seconded to approve an All Star Select Camp Fee of $125.00 per athlete. Motion passed.

**HOD Meeting Minutes Mark Parshall**

Mindy should have the minutes ready in a week or two. They will be sent out for review prior to posting on the website.

**New Business**

**Recap of HOD Fall Meeting Mark Parshall**

The 2014 Annual HOD Meeting was way too long. Next year, Mark plans to bring a whistle or a bull horn to better control the meeting. This year things got a little heated.

Annette suggested that we consider moving back to two meetings a year so that there would not be an entire year’s worth of business to address at only one meeting or alternately that we consider redistributing the order of the meeting between the two days. Didi pointed out only one meeting was provided for in our bylaws so changing back to two would require approval from the HOD. Frank thought staying with a better organized agenda for two days was a better option.

Mark announced that the Annual TSA Meeting is being held in Austin in 2015 so we may need to change the previously announced location for the 2015 HOD Meeting from South Padre to Austin.

Jessica would like to see the Annual HOD Meeting move to more of a planning meeting rather than a recap of the history. She left the meeting feeling she did not know what we are doing moving forward this year. The Annual Meeting needs to be more strategic in nature.

Mark would like to hold a series of meetings in various parts of the LSC prior to the next HOD Meeting so that everyone will have a better understanding of the issues and proposals when they walk into the Annual HOD Meeting.

**STSI Website Job Posting Jessica Evans**

A request came in via Team Unify Contact Us to post a job located out of LSC. She requested clarification on STSI Policies. Previous protocol has been to only post jobs for STSI teams. No motion was made to change previous protocol. Jessica was advised to direct out of LSC job requests to the USA Swimming or ASCA Job Boards.

**Late Junior National Reimbursement Didi Byerly**

Didi received a Junior National Reimbursement request from a coach, after the deadline. She had sent deadline reminders to both the coach and the team prior to the deadline. The coach had asked for an exception to the deadline. No motion was made. Request denied.

**Treasury Reports Didi Byerly**

Some folks have asked for more detail on the Treasury Reports than what has been provided. In addition to the P&L Detail Report Didi sent out prior to this meeting, Didi will provide the Bank Reconciliations and Balance Sheet to all BOD Members. Anyone with questions, should call her.

**Conference Call Service Provider Jessica Evans**

Jessica would like to suggest that we move our conference call service to another provider as it appears we have been spending a large amount of money with our current provider. Jessica has had a good experience with another provider that is quite less expensive and offers additional features. As the biggest complaint at his year’s HOD Meeting was the lack of transparency of the BOD, Mark would like for STSI to have the ability to video conference our monthly BOD Meeting and live stream them on YouTube so that all members of the LSC would have the ability to watch and/or review at a later time. Email blasts could be sent out to all STSI Non-Athlete Members inviting them to watch the meetings. Mark suggested in addition to the service Jessica is currently using with another organization, she also investigate Google Hangouts. That is the service that Mark’s school uses for video conferencing.

**Championship Meet Bag Tags Janet Risser**

The numbers from the 2014 STSI Championship Meets have been pulled and pricing has been investigated to provide Bag Tags to all STSI Championship swimmers. This proposal was made at the end of the STSI Annual HOD Meeting but was not provided for in the approved budget. Didi said that due to an over allocation in the All Stars line item, sufficient funds could be moved from there to cover the cost of the Bag Tags.

**Reconciliation Statement Didi Byerly**

Didi has two checks issued to teams for National Reimbursements that have never cleared. She is trying to make contact with the teams to determine the status.

**Adjournment**

Being no additional business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:07 PM

**Next BOD Meeting**

Tuesday, November 11, 2014 at 9:00 PM.