**STSI Board of Directors Conference Call Meeting**

**Tuesday, February 10, 2015**

**9:00 p.m.**

**Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order at 9:03 PM.

**Board Members Present:**

Mark Parshall, Jessica Evans, Janet Risser, Rachel Woodard, Kaila Byerly, Doug Donofrio, Don Walker, Ellery Parish, Trey Prinz, Didi Byerly, Annette Duvall, Robert Coleman, Kay Gerken, and Frank Swigon (ex-officio)

**Board Members Absent:**

Blaine Stapleton

**Others Present:**

Ron Zolno, Tim Byerly, Lorna Anaya, Kathy Hartman and Angella Woodard.

**Verify Quorum**

A quorum was verified.

**Announcements**

Kathy Hartman spoke to the BOD regarding the Can-Am Para-Swimming Championships (IPC Approved - International Classification) being held this year in Toronto, Ontario Canada. Can-Ams is the Disability Swimming equivalent of USA Swimming’s Junior Nationals. Two South Texas athletes and one coach are attending Can-Ams this year, however one athlete will not qualify for funding under the STSI National Funding policies, as she did not participated in a required STSI Sanctioned meet. Last year when the meet was held in Florida, STSI provided funding for a chaperone to attend this meet. Kathy requested that the BOD provide financial assistance again this year for a chaperone to attend this meet. Kathy’s request will be further discussed under New Business.

**Reports of Officers**

**Treasurer Didi Byerly**

39 athletes were eligible for funding for Short Course Junior Nationals. 37 applied for funding. After calculating the entitlements under the STSI policy for the athletes, the total exceeds the $20,000 allocated for Short Course National Reimbursements.

Seven coaches requested funding for Short Course Junior Nationals. After calculating the entitlements under the STSI policy for coaches, the total exceeds the $5,000 allocated for Short Course National Reimbursements. A clarification from the board is needed on Coach’s funding.

Interpretation and resulting clarification is needed in our Policies and Procedures manual on this paragraph:

With the exception of the Olympic Trials, coaches may receive financial assistance for
up to two meets per season. If a single team has up to eight athletes competing at the meet, one
coach will be covered from that team. If a single team has between 9 and 16 athletes competing at the meet, up to two coaches will be covered from that team. If a team has 17 or more athletes
competing at the meet, up to three coaches will be covered from that team.

The STSI Funding Policy does not cover "relay only swimmers".  Should “relay only” swimmers be included in the athlete count when determining the number of coaches being funded from a single team?

Annette DuVall moved that “Relay Only” Swimmers not be included in the athlete count when determining the number of coaches funded from a single team. The motion was seconded and passed.

**Coaches Representative Kay Gerken**

BB Champs North, co-hosted by LCA and TST, was a very successful meet. For Sunday finals, there were a large number of scratches due to a conflict with the Super Bowl. Several coaches suggested making next year’s BB Championships a timed finals meet. The Technical Committee will be asked to review this request

**Senior Vice Chair Janet Risser**

Janet reported that because STSI purchased bag tags for STSI Championship meets, the vendor is offering a discount to other South Texas Teams wanting to purchase bag tags for the meets they are hosting. Janet will provide more detailed information for posting on the STSI website.

**Technical Chair Jessica Evans**

Jessica is working on the templates for the Long Course Championship meets and will provide same to the meet hosts once they are completed. Per STSI Policies and Procedures, Long Course Championship meet information must be sanctioned and posted on the STSI website no later than April 15th.

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

**Open Water Chair Tim Byerly**

Tim reported ten athletes, representing the South Texas Swimming Open Water Team, will be attending the April 24-26 Open Water Festival in Ft. Myers Florida. So far, two athletes have qualified to compete in the USA Swimming Open Water Nationals on April 26th.

Two Open Water Clinics for swimmers and coaches are being held in March at Walker Pool in San Antonio.

**Board of Review Chair Ron Zolno**

Procedures for submitting Zone Board of Review Request are still being developed. For the present, Zone Board of Review Request should be submitted to Clark Hammond or Herb Schwab. Ron will have the procedure and contact information posted on the STSI
 website.

**Registration and Membership Angella Woodard**

For 2015 to date, 7134 athletes, 39 Others, 284 Coaches, and 156 Officials have been registered for a grand total of 7613 registrations. These registration numbers are consistent with both the January 2013 and January 2014 registration numbers.

**Old Business**

**Approval of the January 13, 2015 BOD Meeting Minutes**

Minutes were approved by email vote and posted to the STSI website.

**Website Update, Electronic Payments**

Jessica Evans will be sending out a request to Club Contacts providing information regarding establishment of online accounts. She will be work with Mindy Donofrio to ensure accurate accounting. Work still needs to be done to establish processing procedures.

**Conference Call Provider**

The BOD expressed satisfaction with the new conference call provider presently being evaluated. Didi Byerly will contact our previous conference call provider and close the account.

**LEAP I Frank Swigon**

Frank and Doug Donofrio met and established a LEAP Level I implementation schedule, which has been shared with the BOD. Assignments for completion of the requirements have been arbitrarily assigned. Everyone is requested to complete their assigned area on or before March 6, 2015. Once the LSC has completed recertification of LEAP Level I, we will move forward towards completion of Leap Level II.

**New Business**

**Hartman Request**

The BOD discussed Kathy Hartman’s Can-Am request. The BOD decided to follow the established STSI Policies and Procedures and only allow reimbursement for the athlete and the coach as outlined in the National Reimbursement Policy.

**Open Water Judge/Open Water Referee Trey Prinz**

On behalf of the Officials Committee, Trey Prinz moved to include additions to the PPGO’s to incorporate requirements for Open Water Officials.

**OW Judge**

A.  Prospective Open Water Judges must attend an Open Water Judge’s Clinic led by, or approved by, an Officials Committee Member.

B.  Prospective Open Water Judges must pass the USA-S Open Water Official examination.

C.  Apprentice Open Water Judges must work at least 1 meet under the direct supervision of more experienced and fully certified Officials.  They must attend the pre-race briefing and then work as a Timing Judge, Finish Judge, Turn Judge, or Feed Station Judge.

**OW Referee**

D.  Candidates for certification as an Open Water Referee must have been previously certified as an Open Water Judge for a minimum of three months.

E.   Prospective Open Water Referees must attend an Open Water Referee’s Clinic led by, or approved by, an Officials Committee Member.

F.   Prospective Open Water Referee must pass the USA-S Open Water Referee examination.

G.  Apprentice Open Water Referees must work at least 2 meets under the direct supervision of more experienced and fully certified Officials.

The annual re-certification requirement for both positions is working 1 meet.

After discussion, the motion was seconded and passed.

**Zone Sanction Appeal Board Frank Swigon**

If STSI denies a Sanction Request, the Meet Host has the right to submit an appeal to the Zone Sanction Appeal Board. The board will review the STSI Sanction Policies and Procedures to see if there is basis for an appeal. Jessica and Lorna are working on reviewing the current STSI Sanction Policies and Procedures to make sure they are up to date and include all of the sanctioning procedures currently in place.

**National Reimbursements Don Walker**

At the last BOD Meeting, the board decided to allocate the HOD approved national reimbursements 50/50 by season. Earlier in the meeting, Didi Byerly reported that due to the large number of athletes, who have applied for Short Course Reimbursements, based upon the decision at the previous BOD Meeting, their anticipated share will be reduced. STSI has interest money in the STSI Investment Account which, by the Investment Policies and Procedures, could be used to reimburse swimmers attending Short Course Junior Nationals at their anticipated rate. Doug Donofrio moved that we allocate, on a one time basis, an additional $15,000 for National Reimbursements, with funding being provided by the interest income in the Investment Account. After discussion, the motion was seconded and passed.

**Winter Nationals Ron Zolno**

Ron reported that Short Course Winter Junior Nationals will be held in Austin, TX and Atlanta, GA. Short Course Nationals will be held in Federal Way, WA.

**Future Agenda Items for Discussion Didi Byerly**

Didi has had multiple inquires about possible funding for the new Futures Meets. Didi requested this topic be an agenda item for the next meeting.

**Adjournment**

Being no additional business, it was moved and seconded to adjourn. The motion passed and the meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM

**Next BOD Meeting**

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 at 9:00 PM.