

Virginia Swimming Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, May 9, 2020
10:00 am
Zoom Conference Call

MINUTES

Call to Order

Bryan Wallin

The meeting was called to order at 10:01 am

Approval of Minutes from April 26 and May 3 board meetings

- The minutes from the April 26 and May 3 board meetings with corrections as suggested by Dave Henderson were approved.

Treasurer's Report

- The treasurer's report for April was approved.

Updates from USA-S/LSC Communications

- USAS Town Hall meeting was available for members to view.
- The 2020 Convention will be nontraditional with the final format to be determined. Committee meetings will take place between June and September. Members will need to register in order to vote.
- Two hundred clubs applied for financial relief from USA Swimming as of May 7. The relief program will reopen later.
- Zoom calls were suggested as a means of engagement for the athletes.
- The schedule for the regional meets in August is tentative. Greensboro, NC is a potential location.
- Virtual Leadership Summit for Athletes is now available.
- The return to practice plan was released by USAS last week with consistent guidelines across the sport.
- VSI needs to determine what the Swimposium plan will be as a leadership summit is also planned.
- The regular series of national meets is planned for summer of 2022.
- Swim practice is not banned for insurance to be valid, but teams must follow state and local guidelines.
- Hanover has started practicing. QSTS will start on May 18. TIDE is finalizing availability with the YMCA. NOVA will start with senior groups outdoors on May 11. Phase one allows for outdoor pools with lap swimming only. SRVA is creating an operation manual to share with teams in the LSC.

Senior Committee Task Force Reports

- Four of the five task forces have met and created reports. The region champs task force has not yet met since the scope of the committee is less time sensitive.
- **Senior Champs Review.** The committee approved the following plan:
 - Alternative order of events. One of the 100s on Saturday has now moved to Sunday.
 - All heats of relays events will swim in the same session except on Sunday where teams will get a choice to swim in the AM or PM for that relay.
 - 200 relays will start the finals session on Friday and Saturday.
 - Rotation between the old and new order of events with short course and long course. The proposals were passed with unanimous support.
 - SC 2021 – new order
 - LC 2021 – old order of events
 - SC 2022 – old order of events
 - LC 2022 – new order of events

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- **Senior Champs Date:** Moving Senior Champs to the fall was ruled out. Instead, Senior Champs will continue in the Spring and a new meet, the **Virginia Classic**, meet in November is proposed. Details include:
 - Qualifying times are like Senior bonus cut times.
 - The meet will take place the weekend before Thanksgiving.
 - The meet format will be a Prelims/Finals meets with two heats in finals of each of these age groups: 13/14, 15/16, 17/18.
 - Proceeds from the meet will be used to help seed the funding for a Virginia Swimming select camp.
 - The next phase of the working group is to set up the order of events, determine needs from VSI, determine the financial feasibility for a host club, and funding sources for the select camp.
 - Chad added that the discussion centered around whether the senior champ meet is not perfect, but good changes were not proposed. The committee agreed that the age group and senior champs meets should remain aligned.
 - The Virginia Classic meet may be a protected weekend. The committee will report back.
- **Senior Circuit Working Group**
 - Survey the LSC coaches to see what is desired from a circuit meet. The survey will go out soon and will be the basis for the work of the committee.
- **Return to Play Plan Working Group**
 - The 30/60/90 plan phased approach was the platform for the working group.
 - 30 days: virtually 100% of the teams in the district must be able to practice. At that point, the count of the 30 days forward begins for the next phase. Districts are used because of facility limitations. Teams that cannot practice would be identified and offered help with available water space at facilities that are open.
 - 60 days: Phase 2 would allow for sanctioning of meets most likely time trials, intrasquad and virtual meets.
 - 90 days: looks more like normalcy with regular meets. Time may run out so we may not get there. Transition from there into SC 2020-2021.
 - The Age Group Committee will work on their plan now that the senior committee has proposed a plan outline. Drew reported that he wanted to wait to see what guidance came out before moving forward.
 - Morgan noted that much has been achieved from the working groups. She looks forward to feedback from the Age Group committee.
- **Travel reimbursement policies for the Regional Meets**
 - The Senior Committee will make a suggestion once more information is available about the plan for the regional meets.

Administrative Division Meetings

- **Officials Committee:** Officials committee sat in on the PVS meeting this week. They hope to start officials training using Zoom.
- **Technical Planning:** At last week's meeting, the committee discussed the assignment of hosts for state championship meets especially in the SE district. They also discussed the calendar that is typically released in June with meets for the SC and LC 2020-2021 season. A question arose if posting a calendar is prudent given that it is likely fluid. The committee agreed to post the calendar with a disclaimer that timing and structure of meets may change. They will also wait for information from senior, coach and age group committees to incorporate their recommendations into the overall schedule. There will be a task force to evaluate sanctioning meets with maximum flexibility since these are uncertain times. They seek to create a plan to hold meets in a safe and sustainable way for the athletes. Jessica offered that a proposed meet schedule will be released on June 1. Tech planning

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will meet again on May 20 at 7:00 pm. Mary that we may need to consider requiring teams will be required to swim within their district.

- **Athlete Committee:** The committee is working on a proposal for the t-shirt design.

Grants – Second Stage

- The Treasurer's Report showed year to date revenues of \$88,000, remaining expenses of \$62,000 with an estimated YTD profit of \$26,000 available. The Stage 1 of the grant program offered \$27,000. Stage 2 would be the same as stage 1 - \$500 per club and \$2 per athlete registered as of May 1. The application deadline would be June 30.
- The Finance Committee proposes a Stage 2 of grants for clubs with \$500 per club and \$2 per athlete registered as of May 1 with an application deadline of June 30. The proposal passed.

Discussion:

- Chad expressed gratitude from the VSI teams for the grant offered to date. He thought there would be more available from reserves for clubs in Stage 2 of the grant.
- Bill answered that by late summer/early fall reserve funds would be reviewed in a Stage 3 and offered on as needed basis. There is concern about financial issues with teams in the fall given the uncertainty faced right now. A needs assessment will be created for Stage 3. Dave Henderson suggested ways to manage the reserves. The committee will come back with a plan for taking funds from reserves.
- Forty four clubs were eligible in Stage 1 with thirty teams requesting grants. To date, no teams have reached out to ask about additional funds.
- Chad asked if Stage 2 funding could be tied to whether clubs applied for Stage 1. The committee opted to allow all clubs the same opportunity to apply in Stage 2.
- Dave asked if Stage 3 should be offered sooner than the fall. Bill answered that it needs to be decided if there should be a needs-based requirement. Phase 2 will end on June 30 which will allow a better assessment of available funds. There is concern about registration numbers for the fall. John is concerned that registration and meets will be smaller than in the past. As a result, the LSC and team revenues may be lower than normal.
- Bryan asked if there a cumulative issue with the grants. Bob responded that any money of \$5000 per club requires a Form M tax form.
- Mary offered Stage 2 is an intermediate grant with a Stage 3 grant possibility looming.
- Morgan agrees that the fall will look very different than what we are accustomed to in the LSC. She recommends that the Board continue to reach out to clubs to determine if there are any in dire need of assistance. She likes Stage 2.
- Safe Sport: There are 12 teams who have submitted safe sport applications. Maureen called every club last week. Teams are taking advantage this time to complete their safe sport requirements. Safe Sport grants are separate from the relief grants offered by the LSC.

New Business

At Large Athlete Members: The athlete committee would like to bring two additional athletes to the board with one as a sophomore for a total of five athletes at the board level. VSI bylaws state that the board has to have at least twenty percent of its members as athletes. More discussion at our next meeting.

Virginia Phase 1: Chad asked if the board could get clarification about the Virginia Reopening Phase 1 plan with regard to pools from state officials. Mary already sent a letter outlining the VSI position to one member of the Governor's Task Force but asked for assistance with contact information for additional individuals so she can send the letter to them as well. but is having

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difficulty getting contact information for members of Governor's Task Force so she can send the letter. Teams are going to their local boards of health with plans to get back into the water. The board hopes to get clarification about the order as it relates to pools.

Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 11:47 am

In attendance: Drew Hirth, Dave Henderson, Bryan Wallin, Chad Onken, Morgan Cordle, Maureen Tolliver, Emily Fagan, Bill Geiszler, Mike Salpeter, Steve Hennessey, Mary Turner, Maddie Wallin, Jack McCann, Logan Euker, Jenni Ryniewicz, Bob Rustin, Jessica Simons

Our next meeting is Saturday, May 16, 2020 at 10:00 am