



Mission: Developing, Improving, and Supporting Competitive Swimming in the Inland Empire

Vision: Provide a safe and positive atmosphere for all swimmers of all abilities to achieve and sustain lifelong success

Inland Empire Board of Directors
August 17, 2020

Call to Order: 5:02 pm by John Pringle via Blue Jeans Video

Roll Call: Present: April Walkley, Don Hougardy, Holly Howard, Jade Sobek, , Jeff Sutton, Jody Rash, John Pringle, Keith Lambert, Laurel Skorina, Nicholas Walkley, Riana Scott, Todd Stafek, Not present: Jennifer Tonkyn, Russell Whitaker, Sean Munchie

Request for Additional Items for New Business Consent Agenda:

Jody Rash: The need to discuss renew the Blue Jeans platform.

Approval of July Minutes-Distributed by Holly. Final minutes to be posted on website by Jody Rash.

Old Business:

Fall Swim Meets- virtual, single team. Jeff Sutton spoke that with so many new scenarios and new uncertainties that regular club and LSC meets cannot be expected until 2021. There are other options for non-standard pools, virtual meets and the best ways to run these meets. Logistics and how best to move forward.

- Todd Stafek spoke to the loss of income for the LSC and the “swimmer pipeline” for higher level meets will not be affected. Time Standard: has been made then it shall stand for inclusion into meets. If someone ages up, then they can swim 50s at a meet.
- Monetary loss - with no meets happening, no splash feed and the income coming to the LSC.
- Budget- a drastic rehauling of the next budget will be needed. Perhaps seriously considering a budget reorganization based on a percentage of the income brought in, versus a set dollar amount. Don Hougardy agreed to revisit this budget concern in late September to work through the mechanics of drawing up a new budget for 2021. The new budget needs to be approved at the fall HOD.

The board talked about if time standards are lowered then potentially more swimmers will qualify, which means more numbers for a meet, which brings on its own raft of concerns. Perhaps having just one Short Course Championship meet is an option and will need to be discussed in the next month. It was relayed

that the Washington State high school boys season would be just finishing, and the girls just beginning, so that the Champs meet would not need to be changed from the last weekend in February.

Keith Lambert brought the discussion back around to the need to present the Technical Planning Committee with all of these questions to work through and report back to the board. The budget can be reviewed. Technical Planning committee chair, Jeff Sutton, was agreeable to the proposal and will draw his committee together and report back to the board.

Athlete Update: Senior Representative, Laurel Skorina, reported to the board that via Zoom Calls (extra thanks to Jody and April) that the athletes have been meeting regularly. Some times with speakers and other times for game nights. Nick Walkley, junior representative, stated that these meetings should continue and that in the fall he thinks that even more swimmers will participate. Both Laurel and Nick expressed that having coaches advertise the meetings helps with attendance. It is vital to keep swimmers involved in the sport and their teams.

Staff Update:

- Jody Rash stated that a decision needed to be made regarding the Blue Jeans platform \$160/annual. The other option is to get the Zoom Pro platform \$15/month or Zoom Business \$20/month or Zoom Enterprise. After brief discussion it was decided to support Jody to cancel Blue Jeans Platform and begin on Zoom.
- Jody sent out to all club leaders the updated schedule for registrations. A shout out to Todd Stafek for already completing and returning the registration for TCCC. The rest of the clubs were requested to complete new swimmer, non-athlete registration, club registrations before October, and then the renewal of athletes all done before Thanksgiving.
- 8/27/20 7 pm Juan Caraveo, from USA Swimming will be presenting a zoom meeting with the focus to help clubs with budgeting over the next 15 months.
- Western Zone Business Meeting is via Zoom on September 13th - for General Chairs, AG Chairs, Zone Team Coaches primarily. IES role as Co-Host to discuss what we need to bring to that meeting as the hosts for the 2021 meet.

Safe Sport: April Walkley

- April reported that 5 clubs have been certified as Safe Sport and that 7 clubs are in the process of being approved. April is certainly willing and eager to help all teams to move forward with Safe Sport.
- Safe Sport national Training is coming up this week Wednesday for parents, Thursday for swimmers and Friday for coaches.

Operational Risk: Jeff Sutton

- Jeff stated that there need to be disclaimers in the meets and that meets having a Covid-19 incident are inevitable. The key is how will teams handle the issues.
- There are plenty of templates for teams to adopt ahead of time so that they have their plans set up. Jeff is happily willing to assist any club if they need assistance. Coach Jade Sobek also expressed a willingness to help other clubs get prepared.
- Each county also has a list of mandates to adhere to and that clubs and county health departments need to work together.

Administrative Vice Chair Report: Keith Lambert

- Keith Lambert reported that John Pringle is stepping down, and Keith Lambert assumes the mantle of leadership. Then the position of Administrative Vice Chair needs to be filled for at least a year.
- Keith floated the idea (Jeff Sutton wore his poker face) that the Operational Risk Chair be folded into the Administrative Vice Chair portfolio and that Jeff absorb those duties.
- Keith requested other names or ideas to be submitted to him for discussion.
- Currently there are 3 athlete representatives, Riana Scott, at-large athlete representative, Laurel Skorina, senior representative, Nick Walkley, junior Representative. All 3 need to be replaced in the spring and if the Operational Risk position is eliminated, then might only need to replace 2 athletes.
- John Pringle did note that our focus is for the swimmers and having a strong athlete presence on the board is beneficial for IES.
- The matter will be readdressed in the September meeting.
- Keith thanked John for all of his services over the past four plus years. John submitted his letter of resignation as Age Group and Senior Zones coach and Governance Committee Chair, though will continue as Past Board President. There is no doubt that John's leadership will be missed.

Fall HOD: John Pringle

- John Pringle stated that the Fall HOD will be online on Sunday October 4th. More details to follow.
- The Budget for 2021 needs to be approved
- The voting mechanism utilizing the upgraded Zoom platforms should be easier to achieve- though only one person per club has a vote.
- Keith Lambert suggested the possibility of having a half day board retreat on Saturday, October 3rd with Jessica Cooper from USA Swimming who assisted last fall. Keith will follow up and report.

State of IES: John Pringle

- John Pringle wanted to present a State of IES report. He was sincerely appreciative and thankful for all the wonderful work that has been accomplished throughout the IES region.
- Everyone is a volunteer and that our cordial, professional actions arise from responsibility of service, love of swimming and quest to develop the sport and our swimmers. And a deep thank you to all the athletes who work so hard in the water and on deck.
- John hopes that in the future that our Committees will be allowed to work more independently and that questions will be asked beforehand by the board and then turned over to Committees for their expertise and recommendations.
- We all need to remember that the board makes some hard decisions. And that as a board, the members need to support the board's decision and not to undercut actions. We must ask questions beforehand and then abide by the board's decision.
- Remember we are all volunteers that that we are working towards the common good. Of course, board members (as all people) should have respect for each other and that bullying will not be tolerated.
- IES is a strong LSC though there are certainly areas that we could improve upon.

Meeting adjourned 6:06 pm

Next Meeting Scheduled for Monday, September 21st, on Zoom, time TBD.

*Respectfully submitted,
Holly T. Howard, Secretary*