

Western Zone Business Forum MINUTES

August 9, 2018

Location: Legends @ Woodcreek Golf Course, Roseville, CA

1. Welcome
2. Introductions
3. Thank you to California Capital Aquatics for hosting this year's Age Group Champs
4. Preview of 2019 Age Group Meet by Oregon Swimming (August 7-10, 2019)
 - a. Debbie Lauderoute and Jody Rash said Oregon Swimming is excited to host the 2019 meet and plan to distribute a packet to each LSC at convention with information about the pool, hotels and transportation to help teams plan.
5. Interest in hosting 2020 zone meets?
 - a. Hawaii expressed interest hosting the Age Group meet in 2020. They still need to confirm with club to see if it's possible.

Zone Business

Proposed Bylaw Changes (Sean Redmond)

1. Remove 101.1.1 (talks about electing representatives to USA Swimming Board of Directors. No longer applicable under new USA Swimming leadership structure.)
 - i. There are other bylaw changes which will need to take place to comply with new USA Swimming structure as well. For example, the national organization tells the zone who their Safe Sport and Diversity and Inclusion coordinators are. They not zone appointed positions.
2. Update the Bylaws to reflect current practice and make bid process consistent between Age Group and Senior Zone Championship Meets by adding the following to 106.2 (Note: The proposed addition is exactly the same as the requirements for the Age Group meet bid in the previous section, 106.1)
 - a. Bids must be made two (2) years in advance at the Annual Meeting
 - b. All bidders shall present their bids at the first session of the Annual Meeting.
 - c. All bidders shall be given equal time to present bids.
 - d. The vote shall be taken at the second session of the Annual Meeting. iv. A majority vote is required to award the bid.

Proposed Policy & Procedure Changes

1. **Age Group Meet Related** (Sean Redmond)
 - a. Simplify process for meet admin. Remove requirement for 800 and 1500 positive check-in. (Remove IV.5.3 + IV.5.3.a-c, the note below IV.5.3.3)
 - b. Amend scratch policy to accept electronic scratches up to 15 minutes after the close of the General Meeting. (This means coaches may email scratches to admin up to this initial deadline.)
 - c. New motion and second from the floor: Starting in 2019, for all events at Age Group meet, seed fast to slow.
 - i. Discussion: There were several instances where heats almost overran each other. Seeding this way, helps prevent this problem. (It was pointed out that the last heat of one event would finish before starting the first heat of the next to prevent this problem between events.) It also gets the faster swimmers, who will likely swim in Finals more

rest in between sessions. It also helps facilitate admin producing prelim results. RELAYS would continue to run slow to fast (in Finals) to give rest to athletes.

II. VOTED to seed fast to slow with top heat of 11-12 200 of stroke and 400 IM to swim in Finals. Motion passed: 14:1

III. New motion and second from the floor: For 400 Relays only, swim all B relays in prelims with the 400 Medley swum at the end of prelims on Friday, and the 400 Free swum before the 800's on Wednesday.

IV. Discussion: The 400 Relays add about 2 hours to Finals. Concern expressed that the break would be too short. Some swimmers on B relays may swim in Finals and need a break. – **This was voted down**

V. Proposed: Putting relays 1st in prelims. Dismissed as being too hard on admin. This would mean relay cards would need to be turned in the night before. **This was voted down**

VI. Proposed: No B relays in 400's. Still have A and B relays for 200's and have all relays in Finals. Dismissed: Coaches felt the swimmers needed the opportunity to swim on relays. Concern expressed that if the session was not yet over 4 hours (none were) why were they looking at eliminating these? **This was voted down**

VII. Proposed: No 10-under 400 relays. This would cut out about ½ hour of relay time. Concern expressed that no athletes were present to share their feeling and that 10 and under athletes paid the same fees for their meet experience but now would get less.

VIII. Motion and second: Have A and B for all 200 length relays at night. Have 400 Relays (all ages) A relay only, all swum in Finals. **Motion defeated: 5 in favor, 8 against.**

IX. Point of order note was inserted here: A vote here does not finalize, it only makes a recommendation to HOD who will make the decision. Athletes will be present and will vote there.

X. Motion and second: Eliminate the 10 and under 400 relays. Motion passed 14:1

2. Senior Zone Meet Related

i) Insert the following into VII.1: Facility Criteria (Sean Redmond)

- i. Shall have sufficient venue space to host a meet of up to 1500 athletes in 5 days of competition
- ii. Shall meet requirements outlined in IV.1.1.1 and IV.1.1.2

ii) Entry Related (Dale Ammon)

1. Insert the following into VII.10:

- a. Late entries may be accepted according to meet announcement criteria. All late entries are subject to a \$500 per swimmer administrative fee, in addition to regular meet fees.
 - i. Clarification: This is only for adding a swimmer, not for adding events to a swimmer already entered in the meet.
 - ii. Discussion: Question asked: Why use \$500 as a fee when there is a precedent of \$150 late fee for Futures? Answer: This is just a proposal, the actual fee can be discussed and changed. It was pointed out that admin can set up a 3rd event in Online Meet Entry system (OME) to handle the late entries, and late fee. (1st OME event: entries before the entry deadline. 2nd: Late qualifiers, 3rd: Late entries) The final late entry deadline would be the same as the late qualifier deadline. There was a question about late qualifiers and if the late fee applied to them. Answer: No, they are separate from late entries. Late entries are for those with qualifying times from

before the entry deadline. Late qualifiers have qualifying times achieved after the entry deadline and before the late qualifying deadline.

iii. Motion and second to present above for discussion at HOD. Motion passed: 14 in favor, none opposed.

b. Late Qualifier Period. New qualifying times (no updates to previously qualified times) achieved between the date of the original entry deadline and the Sunday prior to the meet may be entered according to meet announcement instructions.

3. Western Zone Officials Reimbursement Policy Modification (Mike Dilli)

- a. NO change in funding is being proposed
- b. Goal: Simplify administration of the program, and make it more accessible to qualified officials. (Though 4 years old, the program has never been fully utilized.)
- c. Eligibility: Must be a Western Zone LSC, certified official in good standing who works at least 80% of the sessions of either the Age Group or Senior Zone Championships
- d. Presented by Mike Dilli: The Western Zone is the only zone who has an officials reimbursement program. The proposal combines the 2 current programs into 1. The current mentoring program allows for 34 officials, 2 from each LSC, to receive reimbursement. It has never filled up. The new proposal will get more officials involved. We still want to maintain the mentor/mentee aspect.
- e. Motion and second to bring this forward for more discussion at HOD. The proposal is to combine the 2 current programs into 1 and to make the necessary adjustments in the Policies and Procedures. Motion passed: 16 in favor, none opposed.

Informational (No policy or bylaw change needed) (Dale Ammon)

Proposed Change to Senior Meet Event Format: Swim all 1500's on Tuesday in 3 pools. Swim all 800's on Saturday in 2 pools. (Currently swim men's 1500 and women's 800 in two pool on Tuesday, and women's 1500 and men's 800 on Saturday.)

Summary

Please take this information back to your voting LSC delegates and encourage them to vote in favor of these proposed changes at the Zone HOD meeting in the fall.

Addendum

The next day after the Zone Business Meeting, Sean had discussions with coaches and officials about the proposals that were made during the meeting. The discussions included the following ideas:

- 1) The reason for changing or eliminating the relays was due to the length of time that the finals took on the days that there were 400 relays; 2 hours of relays. Many felt that this was too long for the swimmers to have finals last as long, or longer, than the prelims did.
 - a) This is why it was voted to eliminate the 400 relays for the 10-under swimmers.
 - b) The 10-under relays were not part of the meet program until 2013. That same year was also the first year that the 15-18 year old swimmers were taken out of the Age Group meet and made part of the Senior Zone meet.
- 2) There was more discussion the day after and one of the proposals was to add a 200 mixed relay event(s).
 - a) Eliminate all the 400 relays and replace with 200 mixed relays.
 - i) Options were to keep it at 2 relays per team or to allow teams to have 3 or 4 relays for the mixed relay only.
 - b) Eliminate the 10-under 400 relays and replace them with the 200 mixed relays; this would still save about 30 minutes on the timeline for finals.
 - c) To allow the Admin Referee the opportunity to combine relays to allow full heats.