

**WESTERN ZONE MINUTES**

**Hyatt Regency Riverfront Hotel**

**Jacksonville, Florida**

**September 16-21, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:13 pm by Ben Britten, Western Zone Coach Director. All Western Zone LSCs were represented. Elected and appointed officers present were: Ben Britten, Western Zone Coach Director, Dave Coddington, Western Zone Non-Coach Director, Linda Eaton, Western Zone Championship Meet Coordinator, Debbie Baldwin, Secretary/Treasurer, Steve Sholdra, Athlete Representative.

**Recognition:** Those in the meeting who have served on the Board of Directors of USA Swimming and/or the Western Zone Board were Bruce Stratton, Current USA-S President, Vickie Marsh, past Western Zone Coach Director, Jon Hayashida, Western Zone Meet Coordinator 2009-2013, Bill Krum, Western Zone Sport Development Coordinator.

**M/S/P** Motion to approve the minutes from September 12-13, 2013 as presented.

There will be only one Western Zone meeting this year.

The bidder for the Age Group Zone Championship meet was Utah Swimming. Josh Williamson, General Chair of Utah Swimming presented along with Clay from the Utah Sports Commission and Visit Salt Lake. Utah was awarded the meet. The meet dates are August 10-13, 2016.

2016 Senior Zones Championship meet was awarded to Clovis, the only bidder. The meet dates are August 3-7, 2016.

Candidates for offices within USA-S Swimming were introduced. Those running for the office of President were Jeff Gudman (OR), Jim Sheehan (NJ) and Mary Jo Swalley (CA). Running for his second term in office office as Treasurer was Stu Hixon (GA). Running for Administrative Vice President was Robert Broyles (IE) who was unable to attend Convention due to family illness. Candidates for Program Development Vice President were John Bitter (PS) and Dave Berkoff (MT) who withdrew his name. Candidates for Program Operations Vice President were Dan McAllen (NT by way of SI) and John Dussliere (CO). Candidates for Technical Vice President were Tim Bauer (GU) and Steve Morsilli (PC).

**ELECTIONS – NOMINATIONS**

Western Zone Coach Director Ben Britten (CA) and Sean Redmond (SI)

Western Zone Meet Coordinator\* Linda Eaton (CO)

Western Zone Athlete Representative Conner Anderson (UT), Jackie Kenny (CO),

Tanner Martinez (PN), Andrew Gromley (NM)

Michala Roan (PC)

\*Note: Linda Eaton was appointed and filled the position of Western Zone Meet Coordinator after the position was vacated. This election will be to complete the second year of a two year term.

**REPORTS OF OFFICERS**

**Coach Zone Director, Ben Britten**. The Senior Zone Meet was once again larger than the year before. The competition was held in two facilities and swimmers made cuts for both Junior and Senior Nationals. The Age Group Zone Meet was the largest it’s been in a long time and Southern California Swimming was welcomed back to the meet. Many records were broken as reported in the Meet Coordinator’s report. New programs underway are the Zone Board of Review and the Zone Sanctions Appeal Board.

**Secretary/Treasurer, Debbie Baldwin**. A written report was distributed and reviewed. (Attachment 1) **M/S/P** Motion to approve the 2014 Treasurer’s Report.

**Zone Swimming Championship Meet Coordinator, Linda Eaton**. A written report was distributed. (Attachment 2) No questions from the floor.

**Officials Coordinator, Don Hougardy**, thanked everyone for their support. Julie Carpenter (OR) was the meet Referee for the Age Group Zone Championship meet. Dave Warren (PN) served as Admin. Referee and Lee Lierz (CO) was Team Lead Chief Judge. Mary Jo Swalley (CA) was again the Meet Referee for the Senior Zone Championship meet. Gloria Schuldt (NT) served as Admin. Referee. Don Hougardy served as Team Lead Chief Judge with Paul Reidl (PC) assisting. Don Hougardy was the Referee for the CA/NV Sectional meet in East Los Angeles. The Referee for the Blue Section Spring Sectional Meet was

Bob Keller. The meet was held in Federal Way. Renee Patterson was the Referee for the CA/NV Summer Sectional Meet.

**Officials Mentoring and Assistance Programs**. The first of the two programs is the Mentoring Program. It is designed bring together both junior and senior officials from throughout the Zone. This program is available at both the Age Group and Senior Zone meets. Between the two meets, each LSC would be able to send four officials. This year we had 28 officials qualify meaning they worked at least 80% of the meet sessions and we paid out $11,500.00. The other program is simply a reimbursement for expenses program. We had 18 officials qualify for this program and paid out about $4,500.00.

**Diversity and Inclusion, Kent Yoshiwara**. Thanked the Zone for supporting the Diversity Camp. The camp and summit were held at the centrally located Cal State East Bay with many LSCs represented.

**Disability Coordinator, Gene Mielke**. Reported that there is an increasing number of swimmers with disabilities participating in meets. These swimmers are competing at all levels including Zone Championship and Sectional Meets. The United States sent 43 swimmers, 3 coaches and 4 officials to the Pacific Para Pan Meet. Of the 43 swimmers, 15 were from the Western Zone.

**Athletes’ Representative, Steve Sholdra**. Western Zone Athletes were pleased with the Zone and the Zone Championship Meets. We had 14 athletes from the Western Zone participate in the Junior Pan Pac Meet, 2 athletes went to the Youth Championship in China and 23 to Pan Pac Meet.

**REPORT OF CHAMPIONSHIP COMMITTEE**

See Attachment 2.

Update on 2015 Age Group Zones in Hawaii. See Hawaiianswimming.org, the website is updated as information becomes available.

Update of 2015 Senior Zone Championship meet. Clovis West renovations will be complete by the time of the meet.

**REPORTS OF NATIONAL COMMITTEES MEMBERS**

**Governance, Clint Benton (PC)**. The Governance Committee is looking to impose term limits on some Committees in order to provide more opportunities for interested volunteers.

**Senior Development, Rick Shipherd (CA)**. Overall spacing of the Championship meets at the senior level is the main issue. The Senior Development Committee has developed a four tier system. The first is the Zone Senior Championship Meet which meets the needs of an end of season Championship Meet. The next is the Legends series meets which will be held on the Junior Nationals weekend with a time standard 2½% below that of Junior Nationals. The next tier is Junior Nationals followed by our National Championships. This legislation was voted on at the House of Delegates Meeting.

**Age Group Development, Jade Sobek (MT)**. The Age Group Development Committee is updating documents to help with coaches education. Surveys will be sent to LSCs requesting ideas for future projects.

**ELECTIONS**

Ben Britten was elected to his second term as Western Zone Coach Director

Linda Eaton was elected by acclimation as Western Zone Championship Meet Coordinator

Jackie Kenny was elected to the position of Athlete Representative

**M/S/P**  Motion to destroy the ballots

**NEW BUSINESS**

**M/S/P** Many updates were proposed for the Western Zone Policies and Procedures Manual, see attached Policies and Procedures Revision Summary. (Attachment 3) With three exceptions, which can be found on page 3 of the Summary, all proposed changes were adopted. The three exceptions are:

Section I. 2.12 The elected Western Zone positions – Senior Zone Director, Junior Zone Director, Swimming Championship Coordinator, Secretary/Treasurer, and Athlete Representative – shall be required to attend the USA Swimming Annual Convention. Reimbursement requirements outlined in the respective position’s Duties and Responsibilities will apply. After a friendly amendment was made and accepted the wording is as follows:

Section I. 2.12 The elected Western Zone positions – Senior Zone Director, Junior Zone Director, Swimming Championship Coordinator, Secretary/Treasurer, and Athlete Representative – shall be required to attend the USA Swimming Annual Convention. Reimbursement requirements outlined in the respective position’s Duties and Responsibilities will apply and proper receipts will be required. **M/S/P**

Section 5.8.6 Delete: Relays shall be entered as no times; times shall be entered at the meet prior to seeding. Replace with: Entry times for relays (achieved or composite) are required when entries for the meet are submitted. After a friendly amendment, the wording was:

Section 5.8.6 Delete: Relays shall be entered as no times; times shall be entered at the meet prior to seeding. Replace with: Entry times for relays are required when entries for the meet are submitted. The words (achieved or composite) have been removed. **M/S/P**

Section V, 1.4.1 All participating LSCs are required to provide a minimum of two (2) officials for each Zone Championship. **M/S/F**

Ben Britten requested each LSC to provide three people (one coach, one athlete and one volunteer) to serve on the Western Zone Board of Review and the Western Zone Sanctions Appeal Board.

**M/S/P** The Age Group Time Standards were not available as some revisions were required. Motion was made to accept the Time Standards submitted with the exception of all 11/12 age group boys and girls 200 butterfly, 200 backstroke, 200 breaststroke and 400 Yard Individual Medley. The Board was authorized to approve those adjusted times and publish them within 30 days of acceptance.

**RESOLUTIONS, ORDERS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Ben Britten requested support for Robert Broyles (IE) candidacy for the position of Administrative Vice President.

Dave Coddington thanked Gene Mielke and Don Hougardy for their service to the Western Zone. Anyone interested in filling these two positions were requested to speak to Dave ASAP.

A Task Force was appointed to develop the meet format for the Senior meet. Those interested in participating were encouraged to speak with Dave or Ben ASAP.

Bill Krumm suggested that any LSC interested in a Swimposium should contact Cathy Durance.

**M/S/P** Motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Debbie Baldwin, Secretary/Treasurer