

Wyoming Swimming, Inc
November 17, 2019
House of Delegates Meeting Minutes
Courtyard by Marriot, Casper, Wyoming

Cindy O'Dwyer called the meeting to order at 8:05 a.m.

Board member attendees: Cindy O'Dwyer, Clint Beaver, Brent Moore, Teresa Gross, Zoe Robison, Hannah Gross, Kellen Chadderdon, Jennifer Hudson Schaff, Mark Miller, Wendell Robison, George Mathes, Teri Oursler, Joan Kulow, Sarah DeLay, Jennifer Page.

HOD Athletes-at-large: Rayelle Brewer, Berkeley Christensen, Caden Morton, Jackson Fouras, Allison Granat, Jonny Kulow

Clubs in attendance:

Buffalo Swim Club

Cody CKATs

Gillette Swim Team

Kemmerer Swim Club

Laramie Swim Club

Powell Swim Club

Sheridan Swim Team

SWAT

Capital City Aquatics

Converse County Waves

Jackson Hole Stingrays

Lander Swim Club

Newcastle Stingrays

Riverton Swim Club

Sublette County Swim Team

Casper Swim Club

Old business:

Minutes from summer HOD meeting presented for approval. They had been emailed to all teams and are posted on the WYSI website. Mark Miller moved to approve summer HOD minutes. Teri seconded. Vote held, motion passed.

New Business:

1. Proposals from the floor. All proposals are incorporated into these minutes by this reference.

Proposal #2 : Article IV, Section H of the P&P manual: Qualifying times for the WYSI Championship Meets

Sarah DeLay and Cindy explained their proposal. Currently, qualifying times for the State Championship Meets are prepared every year, averaged from the previous 5 years' results. This proposal would change this to a 3-year cycle for a set of Q-times, corresponding to the schedule of USA Swimming published motivational times. Once USA-S publishes the new motivational times, the WYSI Championship Q-times times are to be out/published by the following September 1 for the subsequent three year period. Additionally, averaged times would be from the previous 3 years' results, rather than 5.

Mark made a motion to accept, Brent seconded. Vote held, motion PASSED.

Proposal #1 : Article IV of the P&P manual: WSI Championship Meets

Clint Beaver presented this proposal which he drafted, the BOD amended yesterday, and the Board now recommends for acceptance by the HOD. Clint gave background information as to why he drafted this proposal- in part from local clubs wanting to gain influence on the WYSI Board to secure local venues for state meets. Clint emphasized that Championship Meets belong to the LSC, not any particular club. Clarified that this proposal would put the responsibility of organizing the Championship Meet onto a Meet Organizing Committee. This committee would, of course, not do all the work, but would delegate and select skilled and knowledgeable people from across the state to perform the necessary tasks to run a successful meet. Implementation would begin 2021 Winter Championship. Clint explained the BOD's amendment regarding the right of first refusal for the local club to provide certain elements of the meet, specifically programs, concessions, and the swim store. He again noted that the BOD recommends HOD approval of this proposal.

Sarah stressed that this model will provide opportunity for mentoring of the specific, skilled positions necessary for hosting a championship meet.

Teri noted that in the past, there've been three instances where WYSI has had to come together to host a championship meet at an out-of-state pool, most recently this past summer in Rapid City, SD. We had excellent collaboration from people across the state
Teri moved to accept this proposal. Brent seconded. Vote held, motion PASSED.

Proposal #3 : Article III, Section H. Conduct of Meet .7

Jennifer Schaff presented this proposal regarding flyover starts. Flyover starts were implemented a few years ago. DQ's for Delay of Meet have been the tradition, especially at the State meets, if the swimmer leaves the pool prior to the start of the next heat. Jennifer expressed concern that swimmers were losing valid times for swims in which no stroke infraction had occurred; additionally, individual and team points are also lost. She has not observed this ruling at meets hosted in other LSC's as the Starter continues with the next heat, and the swimmer is not delaying the meet. Jennifer also noted that any Delay of Meet from a swimmer exiting the pool before the start of the next heat usually comes from the Starter or the Referee enforcing a DQ, This proposal would provide an addition to Section H Conduct of meet .7 to state that disqualification of a swimmer can happen only if there is willfulness of the athlete to deliberately delay the meet. Jennifer referenced USA Swimming rule 101.1.5
Scott Priebe moved; BJ seconded.

Discussion:

Wendell stated that from a Referee standpoint- he doesn't DQ a swimmer as a general rule, but will warn them. Wendell added that he does DQ a swimmer if they are an advanced swimmer and they are ignoring repeated instructions. He doesn't think this proposal is necessary, thinks

that it doesn't change what a Referee is already doing, and it actually takes away the judgement of the Referee.

Cindy asked for examples, noting that she'd not witnessed the DQ penalty. Coaches and an athlete spoke up with examples from the past couple years. It was reported by a coach that it happened at a recent BHB conference meet. Zoe noted that it happened at State and ultimately kept a swimmer out of a spot in the Finals. Jennifer stated that 2 swimmers were DQ'd at State just last year.

George clarified that meets leading up to state are generally treated as trainings, and then at state, we try to enforce the rule. Referees try to be consistent with this call.

Nick Hobson noted that kids (boys) coming off High School swim season are not "trained" for Flyovers at Winter Championships. Doesn't Jennifer's proposal protect the kids and allow them to participate? Isn't her proposal more "pro-athlete?" Roy Runnion, Kemmerer, stated coaches should coach this to the kids, and this should be trained into them. BJ mentioned that the history of implementation was for meet management to keep timelines tight, and to allow meets to run faster. He doesn't see any reason to DQ anyone as a flat decision.

Clint noted that kids rarely leave the pool and delay the meet "willfully", and doesn't want that to be the language/judgement that Referees must address. Dan Diver stated that if we add this language, down the road, there may be less emphasis on this with coaching, and meet delays will increase. He approves leaving it at the discretion of the Referee with current language.

Jennifer Schaff referenced the USA swimming rule/language of "willful" in rule 101.1.5..She expressed appreciation for the Referees who do allow athletes to make the mistake of leaving the pool without a DQ.

Wendell wants to keep the Referee's judgement allowed. An infraction of flyover starts should not be an automatic DQ, and it should not be an inability to DQ. He asked to keep the current language.

Vote held: 13 votes for the proposal--motion FAILED. The proposal needed 18 votes to pass.

Proposal #4 : Article VIII, Section E

Jennifer Schaff proposed that we change the method for Coach of the Year selection. She presented language to change from 1 vote/team (established in 2018) to 1 vote/coach, including unattached coaches. Jennifer referenced that all officials vote for Official of the Year. All athletes at Summer Championships vote for Athlete of the Year. Shouldn't all coaches have a voice and be able to vote for Coach of the Year?

Scott moved; Joan seconded

Discussion:

Wendell wondered if a coach could vote for a nominated coach from their own team. Jennifer stated there was no language prohibiting that.

Sarah wondered if a coach from a small team would ever have a chance to be recognized. Would small clubs get an equal voice? A large club with multiple coaches would be in a much stronger position to vote one of their own coaches as Coach of the Year. Jennifer stated that fears it would be a popularity contest did not play out with electronic voting. Last year, when each coach could vote, there was an instance where one coach from a team did not cast a vote for the coach from the same team. Prior to 2018, the vote was held at Summer Championships, and only coaches who attended that meet voted, and there was no equity for clubs. Vote held: 14 votes for the proposal -- motion FAILED.

2. ByLaws

Cindy updated the HOD on the status of Wyoming Swimming with regards to USA Swimming requirements. In 2018, USA-S sent out a template for new bylaws which all LSC's need to adopt. LEAP 1 has been renewed, and we already have LEAP 2 certification in place.

Cindy reported BOD met via ZOOM meeting to establish the new bylaws including choosing provisions, etc. These bylaws are/have been posted on the website for Club review. These bylaws are somewhat cumbersome with extensive committees, etc. especially for a small LSC such as Wyoming, but many committees and much of the language is mandated, and WYSI must comply. The BOD recommends HOD approve the bylaws. USA-S states these bylaws must be in effect by January 1, 2020.

Mark Miller moved to approve the new bylaws as posted. Teresa seconded. No discussion. Vote held, motion PASSED. New By-Laws accepted.

3. Elections

Cindy gave an overview of the elections, including reviewing the election cycle and the governance committee and administrative review board which are now both mandated by USA Swimming.

General Chair: Cindy re-elected as General Chair, no dissent.

Administrative Vice Chair: Cathy Fisher elected with unanimous vote. Clint's term is up

Secretary: Joan Kulow re-elected, unanimous consent.

Sr. Vice Chair: Nick Hopson elected with unanimous vote. Brent stepping down as his term is up.

DE&I Chair: Amber Boysen elected, unanimous consent.

Per our new Bylaws, this is a Board position that must be filled. DE&I's role is to promote swimming to populations/individuals who may not be immersed or exposed to swimming due to financial, cultural, racial, disability, etc. status.

Governance committee: Please refer to new bylaws for duties, responsibilities. Made up of 4 members, no more than half can be on the Board, which is up to 2 members.

The elections are staggered, so this year's election will initiate the process for staggering membership. Also, there must be one athlete.

Athlete: **Jackson Fouras** (2 year term)

Jennifer Schaff (2 year term, BOD member)

Jill Robertson (1 year term)

Dan Diver (1 year term)

All members elected with unanimous consent.

Administrative Review Board: (members cannot hold a Board position)

Chair: **BJ Harris**

Athlete: **Jonny**

Caleb Cohoon

Brent Moore

Eric Robinson

All members elected with unanimous consent.

4. Reports from Chairs: Posted on website

Sarah DeLay: Safe Sport

Sarah reported she needs updated emails from Clubs, and she needs Clubs to send her their Safe Sport Coordinator. Sarah needs proof of Club Compliance. She would appreciate both compliance and feedback. She is considering a proposal next year involving MAAPP Meet Credential Compliance fines. Wants to send out SSRP (Safe Sport Recognized Program) information to clubs, but she needs accurate contact information! Please let Sarah know what you are doing as a club to comply with MAAPP, or ask for assistance/direction if you need help. The website is a valuable resource.

Teresa Gross Age Group Chair:

She also needs updated contact lists for clubs. She has plans to change the athlete registration deadline for Age Group Zones up to April 15. She is considering a progressive/incentivised fee: \$700 if registered by April 15, then it goes up to \$750 until June 1. Early and timely registration makes apparel ordering, chaperone selection, hotel reservations--all planning--much easier, Teresa did send out names of qualifiers by the registration deadline last year, and there were still instances of swimmers registering late.

Kellen made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Zoe seconded Vote held, PASSED..

Meeting adjourned at 9:14 a.m.