

STSI Board of Directors Zoom Meeting
Tuesday February 9, 2021
9:00 p.m.
Approved 3/9/21

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order 9:04 p.m.

Board Members Present:

Chris Kjeldsen, Jessica Evans, Randy Teeters, Mindy Donofrio, Mike Witt, Harold Christiansen, Mary Evelyn Bowling, Mark Parshall

Board Members Absent:

Kyle Valdez, Bill Spurgeon, Marc Digby, Thomas Wu

Others present

Jason Schmeltzer, Tim Byerly

Verify Quorum

A quorum was verified.

Approval of Minutes

Chris Kjeldsen moved to pass the January 2021 BOD meeting minutes as posted. Motion **PASSED**.

Report of BOD Officers

General Chair – Chris Kjeldsen

USAS BOD- Current Oct. 2020 USAS guidelines for sanctions extended to April 30th.

GC (notes from LSC leadership meeting Jan. 14)

Joel Shinofield – National- No secondary spread at practice or competition. Biggest problems with democrat run states- working with them directly, also using Dr. testimony.

Shana Ferguson- January 14 San Antonio meet- mandatory for every coach, officials, athletes prior to meet. CDC getting much more involved with USA Swimming

Eric Skufca- PPP second round- very similar to round 1. Can do it again. If using QuickBooks Payroll services, you can apply through there.

From **Michael Switalski** to Everyone: 11:20 AM coachmike@buffaloracers.org EIDL's will be considered separately from PPP now. It will not be considered an advance on PPP. If you started paying your EIDL back, you will be reimbursed. EIDL is Economic Injury Disaster Loan...

From **Juan Caraveo** to Everyone: 11:20 AM

The US Chamber of Commerce has great information on the new relief programs:

<https://www.uschamber.com/report/guide-small-business-covid-19-emergency-loans>

Jane Grosser- New LEAP Program is out. Every two years. LEAP is now part of LSC affiliation agreement. LSC services, about Zone workshop is virtual.

January 26th 6pm ET all about LEAP. Tim attended

2021 Swimposiums will all be virtual.

Athlete Leadership grant can be used to assist athletes host a virtual event.

357 clubs requested zoom licensing. Billing will come out January 18th

Poolside chat.

From Abby Howard Safesport Leaderboard update- We should promote it on our website- recognition of those that have done it. Goal is 100%

From Abby Howard to Everyone: 11:43 AM

<https://usaswimmingbrandstore.com/products?s%5Bf%5D%5Bc%5D%5B%5D=%2FSafe+Sport>

All notes for USAS since March

<https://drive.google.com/drive/u/1/folders/1IMPbWXzXrg2BtzuvE56OFIAIaEbe2TgJ>

Governance Committee – Tim Byerly

LEAP renewal is due by the end of September. Tim Byerly and Jessica Evans will work together to gather information.

Coaches Rep – Mark Parshall

A coaches' zoom meeting was held where the coaches discussed options for future championship meets.

Old Business

Deck Entries

USA Swimming is now allowing deck entries, at the discretion of each LSC. Chris Kjeldsen moved to allow South Texas teams to accept deck entries at sanctioned meets through April 30, 2021. Motion **PASSED**

Bag Tags

Chris Kjeldsen moved to approve 200 more bag tags to be purchased for the short course season championship meets. Motion **PASSED**

Championship meets

All championship meet information is posted on the South Texas website. Randy Teeters and Mark Parshall will prepare certificates to recognize athletes achieving top 8 times at each championship meet.

Data from B champs North (AQTX/Round Rock, Jan 16-17)

8 teams attended: AQTX, COTA, RUSH, LCA, NTRO-CP, FISH, WHAC, YMCA

253 athletes

683 splashes

64% best times (439 swims)

Earning new BB times and qualifying for STX Champs: 106 athletes in 192 events

Data from B champs South (SRG/New Braunfels, Jan 16-17)

13 teams attended: AAAA, AQSA, HSC, HOT, HPAC, NTRO-BC, SAS, WAVE, SYS, SASA, SRG, VTAC, WWAC

229 athletes

696 splashes

75% best times (523 swims)

Earning new BB times and qualifying for STX Champs: 129 athletes in 241 events

New Business

Board/Governance Training Seminar

Chris Kjeldsen moved to conduct a board/governance training seminar via Zoom with Jessica Cooper to continue transition of our LSC operating model from reactive to proactive and to lay the groundwork for the strategic plan requirement by LEAP. Cost is around \$2500. Invitees will be the current BOD members and the Governance Committee Chair, to be held in sessions in March and April. Motion **Passed**.

Olympic Trials

South Texas will cover travel expenses for coaches and athletes attending Wave 1 and Wave 2 of the U.S. Olympic Trials, as specified in the STS Policies and Procedures.

Camp/Clinic Committee Chairs

The Governance Committee recommends the appointment of Hector Barrera (MSC) and Leigh Ann Fetter-Witt (AAAA) as camp/clinic committee co-chairs. The BOD consents.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:19 PM.

Next BOD Meeting

March 9, 2021 at 9:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Email Vote 1/20/21 from Mindy Donofrio – PASSED

USA Swimming has passed authority back to the LSCs to make the decision about allowing deck entries during Covid. Mindy moved to approve allowing deck entries at South Texas meets for January and February.

Email vote 1/25/21 from Jessica Evans - PASSED

I want to make sure that there is transparency and it's clear that these recommendations are being made with discussion and collaboration with Surge, the meet host, the Senior Vice Chair, the general chair and the sanction chair, and on a case-by-case basis, as the LSC works through the challenges of hosting champs meets during a pandemic.

Here are the issues:

1. SRG stepped up to host the meet to help the LSC. To make the ST meets financially viable for them, based on their facility expenses and in the context of an unknown number of teams and athletes participating, they need to also host a separate meet in the afternoons.
2. SRG would like to host the STX meet in morning sessions only, age and gender combined, by event, to facilitate their timelines.
3. SRG was expecting to only host this meet over two days (instead of 2.5 days). Upon further discussion, they have worked it out with the rec center so they can run the 1650 on Friday night. The other two distance events (400 IM and 10&U 500 FR) will be held on Saturday and Sunday.
4. The max number of swimmers they agreed to host is 250, so that will be the session limit sizes. (See data below.) If they have more than 250 in a session, they are able to manage the meet in two sessions, if necessary, in the early morning and then later in the morning, and still provide warmups for both groups and cleaning between sessions.

Per SWIMS, the maximum number of athletes from the South teams who could potentially enter this meet is approximately 1740. Per our LSC portal, approximately 20% of these athletes have BB times. Per our data from last year, in terms of the number of athletes actually attending this meet, the percentage is approximately 14% attendance. Based on this data, we estimate that a meet size for the South teams would be somewhere between 250-350 athletes, at the maximum. The number of athletes actually attending could potentially be smaller, but should not be bigger, based on available data (and also based on pretending to have a crystal ball, which we don't really have).

Randy and I would like to move forward with the meet format change, as presented by SRG, so that we can ensure that the athletes in the South are provided with meets. Comments from the South teams attending B Champs at SRG indicates that they ran a successful meet, using this same format.

We would like to sanction the STX South meet, as described, with the BOD's consent, and would like to reassure everyone that the safety of the athletes and the flexibility needed to host these meets to provide that safety are of paramount importance for the end goal of providing opportunities for the athletes to compete.

Our motion (from Randy and me) is to move forward with STX South and STAGS South, as described herein, so these meets can be sanctioned and posted without further delay.

If this motion fails, then the BOD will need to locate another South club to host STX and STAGS South, ASAP.